

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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Staten Island

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Gateway National Recreation Area
Staten Island Unit



Public Input Period

The NPS has announced a 30-day public input period, from September 22, 2014 – October 22, 2014, to invite public comments on this proposal.

As part of the planning process the NPS will hold a public open house at Fort Wadsworth. The public is encouraged to attend the open house to learn more about the project. The open house will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center, 120 New York Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305.

Only written comments will be accepted. The NPS preferred method for receiving comments from members of the public is electronically through the Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gate>. Comment may also be mailed to: Office of the Superintendent, Gateway National Recreation Area, ATTN: Staten Island Unit Maintenance Facilities Relocation Project, 210 New York Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10305. Comments must be received by October 22, 2014.

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Newsletter

Relocate Hurricane Sandy Damaged Maintenance Facilities to More Sustainable Locations

Gateway National Recreation Area, Staten Island Unit

The National Park Service (NPS) is beginning a planning process in support of a project to permanently relocate maintenance operations that were damaged during Hurricane Sandy at Gateway National Recreation Area, Staten Island Unit.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the project is to make the Staten Island Unit maintenance facilities resilient to coastal storm surges and flooding through relocation to more sustainable locations out of the 100-year floodplain and repurposing and/or reusing some existing facilities to improve the efficiency of park maintenance and recovery operations.

This project is necessary because some existing maintenance facilities and equipment at Miller Field were significantly damaged during Hurricane Sandy resulting in loss of functionality. The proposed facilities will provide support to the Gateway maintenance staff and equipment while greatly reducing the potential for substantial damage during future catastrophic coastal storm surge or flood events.

You're Invited to the Public Open House!

Public involvement is a very important part of the planning process. As part of the planning process the NPS will hold a public open house at Fort Wadsworth. The public is encouraged to attend the open house to provide input. The date, time, and location of the public open house are as follows:

Thursday, October 9, 2014
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Gateway National Recreation Area
Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
120 New York Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10305

For further information please contact Gateway National Recreation Area Headquarters at (718) 354-4606.



Hangar 38 from Cedar Grove Avenue entrance to Miller Field

Proposed Action

Maintenance operations within the Staten Island Unit are divided between three park sites: Fort Wadsworth, Miller Field, and Great Kills Park. Generally, maintenance facilities at Fort Wadsworth and Great Kills received little to no damage during Hurricane Sandy. At Miller Field, equipment and materials stored in Hangar 38 received substantial flood damage. After the storm, equipment and materials stored in Hangar 38 were relocated to Fort Wadsworth and buildings at Miller Field, which are located outside of the 100-year floodplain. A temporary maintenance facility was recently completed at Miller Field in September 2014.

This project involves two Staten Island Unit sites: Fort Wadsworth and Miller Field. At Fort Wadsworth, the NPS is evaluating options to repurpose and/or reuse the existing maintenance facility and construct additional storage that will accommodate equipment previously located at Miller Field. Fort Wadsworth is the most sustainable location within the Staten Island Unit and the project boundary is entirely outside of the 100-year floodplain.

At Miller Field, the NPS is evaluating locations for a new maintenance facility within an area along the northwestern boundary that is outside of the 100-year floodplain. As a result of improving the efficiency of the existing Fort Wadsworth maintenance facility, the proposed Miller Field maintenance facility will be appropriately scaled to accommodate only the necessary day-to-day maintenance functions required for Miller Field.

Fort Wadsworth has been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Fort Wadsworth is one of the oldest military installations in the nation and its significance stems from its defense of New York Harbor for over 200 years. Each of the existing maintenance buildings at Fort Wadsworth are contributing structures to the National Register-eligible Fort Wadsworth Historic District.

The Miller Army Air Field Historic District is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Historic District, which includes Hangar 38, the Elm Tree Light, and immediate surrounding area, is significant for its representation of early experimental years in aviation history, air coast defense of New York, and early lighthouse service. The proposed project area at Miller Field is in the vicinity of the Miller Army Airfield Historic District.

Milestones

Public Input	September 22 – October 22, 2014
Public Open House	October 9, 2014
Alternatives Development	Winter 2014/2015



Building 309 at NPS Maintenance Facility, Fort Wadsworth



Building 305 at NPS Maintenance Facility, Fort Wadsworth



Building 3 at Miller Field



Building 303 at NPS Maintenance Facility, Fort Wadsworth

Fort Wadsworth

As a part of this project, the NPS is evaluating options to repurpose and/or reuse the existing maintenance facility at Fort Wadsworth and construct additional storage that will accommodate equipment previously located at Miller Field. Proposed project area boundaries at Fort Wadsworth are provided in yellow on the aerial map to the right.



Miller Field

Also under this project, the NPS is evaluating locations for a new maintenance facility at Miller Field within an area along the northwestern boundary that is outside of the 100-year floodplain. Proposed project area boundaries at Miller Field are provided in yellow on the aerial map to the right.

