THE NORTH SHORE BRT AND COVID-19

The North Shore BRT project team is doing their part to help flatten the curve in the face of the COVID-19 global pandemic. We halted and postponed all project field work. We shifted our work to focus on tasks we can accomplish safely from home. There is plenty to be done, such as drafting first iterations of draft EIS chapters and conducting analysis digitally, such as shadow assessments.

PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

This moment is a good time to reflect on the Purpose and Need statements of the North Shore BRT. The North Shore of Staten Island is in need of enhanced transportation to move its growing number of residents – from educators and students to first responders, healthcare workers, and other essential workers. The North Shore BRT aims to address that need by providing faster, higher capacity and dependable transit service for Staten Island.

EIS TECHNICAL SPOTLIGHT: SHADOWS

One of the EIS analyses worked on remotely is the shadows assessment. The BRT project team must determine if the North Shore BRT will cast shadows on sunlight-sensitive resources such as parks, natural resources, or even stained-glass windows. Using maps and digital modeling, the project team can determine the longest shadow that could be cast by a proposed BRT structure, and if there are any sunlight-sensitive resources within the radius of that shadow. One such area that is being studied is the area of the Kill Van Kull around Snug Harbor, shown in the image to the right. If you are interested in learning more about how the shadows assessment is being completed, check out the Shadows chapter of the CEQR Technical Manual, which is the framework guiding the shadows assessment of the North Shore BRT.

CHECK OUT THE PROJECT WEBSITE

The project website is continuously updated with the latest project information and resources for the North Shore BRT. If you haven’t visited it in a while, or maybe you’ve never seen it, be sure to check it out.