

## **NEW MEADOWLANDS**

## MIT CAU + ZUS

## MEADOWLANDS USA

The Meadowpark is a large natural reserve made accessible to the public that offers flood protection. It connects and expands marshland restoration efforts by the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, and makes them available. Around and across the Meadowpark the team proposes an intricate system of berms and marshes. These protect against ocean surges, and collect rainfall, reducing sewer overflows in adjacent towns. The Meadowpark adds value to surrounding development through its views and recreational offerings.

The low-lying Meadowlands, a flood-prone area, located across the Hudson River from New York City, is home to critical power, wastewater treatment, and transportation infrastructure for the region. These facilities include two airports and thousands of acres of rail yards, as well as 14 separate municipalities and 150,000 jobs. Interventions here need to address the combined effects of flooding, heat islands, pollution, social vulnerability, and vital

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network protection.

Almost 10 miles from the coast, parts of the Meadowlands were inundated by Hurricane Sandy. Flooding affected both warehouses and residences. Because the municipal sewer system cannot handle rainwater runoff, the area regularly floods during intense rainstorms.

The Meadowland defines the edge of the Meadowpark, offering flood protection, connections between towns and wetland, and opportunities for cities to grow.

Bringing together different systems (such as transport, ecology, and development) and different scales (from local to regional), as well as residents and visitors, the park and the band protect existing development areas. The propose shifting land-use zoning from suburban to more urban. In this way, the project offers development opportunities such as new, mixed-use housing, enhancements to public transportation, new energy sources and distribution systems, and creating a series of public spaces and