



**NY Power
Authority**

**Canal
Corporation**

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

JOHN R. KOELMEL
Chairman

JUSTIN E. DRISCOLL
President and Chief Executive Officer

BRIAN U. STRATTON
Director, Canal Corporation

February 21st, 2024

AGENCY NAME: New York Power Authority/New York State Canal Corporation

Deliverables Achieved since 2021

1. In 2023, along with NYPA, NYS Canals released the 2022 [Integrated Report](#). The framework identifies a broad base of capital, or resources, from which companies create value, ranging from financial, intellectual, and manufactured, to human, social and relationship, and natural. By mapping inputs and outcomes to these capitals and tying investments to impacts across ESG, the report provides a more comprehensive view of value creation that will be available to the public.
2. Created by the New York State Legislature in 2017 and amended in 2022 under Article XIII-B, Section 139-c (1) of the Canal Law, the [Upstate Flood Mitigation Taskforce](#) will identify and recommend reasonable measures that can be taken to enhance flood management and mitigation along the Erie Canal. The task force hosted a series of public meetings over the past two years and is subject to open meeting law.
3. Developed campaign webpages that provide clear and objective information on programs and projects that affect canalside communities and the public (i.e., this [dedicated page](#) for the Earthen Embankment Integrity Program that takes complex regulatory information and makes it more accessible for concerned citizens through contextualized case studies, photos, and presentations – currently in draft)
4. Leveraged geotargeted paid media to inform customers in a specific geographic area of opportunities (i.e., let people know if a free cycling or paddling event occurred near them)

Initiatives to Be Implemented in 2024

The NYS Canal Corporation commits to the following actions to improve the transparency of our work:

1. **On the Canals Boater App** - Evaluate results from a new Boater App pilot to make it easier for users to travel through locks and under lift bridges and provide better data on Canal usage. The pilot, launched in July 2023, utilized a smartphone app called On the Canals that was available for both commercial and recreational boaters. Testing the app allows the NYS Canal Corp. to learn how the technology will benefit boaters and Canal staff, identify any issues before expanding the use of the app, and collect data that will drive operational efficiency.

2. **Public Engagement for Bicentennial** - In preparation for the celebration of the Erie Canal's Bicentennial in 2025 along with the 2025 World Canals Conference in Buffalo, Canals will be hosting a series of information-gathering public workshops across the state. Public input will be critical to appropriately celebrate the Erie Canal's rich and complex legacy. Information about the Bicentennial planning and celebration will also be shared via a microsite and across social media platforms.
3. **Updated Notice to Mariners System** – Canals is deploying a new ReGroup system to push out the Notice to Mariners (NTMs) which will replace legacy antiquated software. The new system is more streamlined and will allow for additional functionality with additional information that will help mariners better navigate the Canals.