

November 29, 2010
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GOVERNMENT WATERFRONT SUMMIT
AT METROPOLITAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE'S 2010 WATERFRONT CONFERENCE

*Senior State, Federal, and local officials to share stage, thoughts, and visions
for future of region's waterfront*

New York, NY: On Tuesday, November 30, senior officials and representatives from over 14 government agencies will join over 500 waterfront advocates, educators, and planning experts for the [Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance's 2010 Waterfront Conference](#) at Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in New York, the George Gustav Heye Center.

Dozens of agency officials, politicians, and other experts will be on hand to offer their perspectives on the future of the NY-NJ Harbor, including: NYC Deputy Mayor Robert Steel, Bob Martin of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Col. John R. Boulé II of the US Army Corps of Engineers, Capt. Linda Fagan of the US Coast Guard, Peter Davidson of the Empire State Development Corporation, David Bragdon of the NYC Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning & Sustainability, Adrian Benepe of the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, Amanda Burden of the NYC Planning Commission, Cas Holloway of the NYC Department of Environmental Protection, and Seth Pinsky of the NYC Economic Development Corporation.

"Together with the City Council, our Administration continues to make major progress on the Waterfront Vision and Enhancement Strategy – a two-pronged effort to revitalize New York City's waterways and waterfront through short-term initiatives and long-term goals established through City Planning's [Comprehensive Waterfront Plan](#)," said Mayor Bloomberg. "The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance 2010 Waterfront Conference provides our City's civic, planning, development and environment leaders an opportunity to engage in an open discussion about the critical waterfront issues we face how best to proceed, and it couldn't come at a more important time."

The conference will feature a preview of New York City's new [Comprehensive Waterfront Plan](#) (CWP)—the culmination of a year-long public process by the Department of City Planning. More important, it will focus on how we as a region can fund and effectuate far-reaching plans like the CWP and the [Comprehensive Restoration Plan](#) for the Hudson Raritan Estuary (CRP), prepared by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

"The Corps of Engineers remains committed to contributing to the economic and environmental sustainability of the metropolitan area and I am honored to participate in this important conference", said Col. John R. Boulé, II, the Army Corps' New York District Commander. "I look forward to discussing how we are locally executing our important mission of aquatic ecosystem restoration. As the district's environmental mission and partnerships grow, we strive to preserve, improve and restore the abundant water resources with which this area has been blessed."

"This conference is an opportunity for stakeholders to participate in panel discussions and seminars that will be very beneficial in advancing understanding and efforts to safely and securely develop the harbor of New York and New Jersey," said Captain Linda Fagan, Sector Commander of The United States Coast Guard Sector, New York. "There will be a tremendous experience and knowledge base brought together during this conference with a focus on waterfront development."

"A treasured part of our history and heritage, our waterways are an essential part of the future of New York City," said John Haworth, the director of the National Museum of the American Indian in New York, the George Gustav Heye Center. "We are honored to have this important day take place here at the museum."

"New York City's waterfront and waterways are a key component of the City's identity and among our greatest resources," said Amanda Burden, Chair of the New York City Department of City Planning. "This past year, City Planning has been working on Vision 2020: The New York City Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, and the

Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance has been a great partner in this effort. Hundreds of knowledgeable and passionate waterfront stakeholders have helped us craft this plan, and I am thrilled to be at this year's conference to share our work as we move towards finalizing these important recommendations. This is an exciting opportunity to acknowledge the role our harbor plays in shaping our City and it furthers the Bloomberg administration's mission of revitalizing New York City's waterfront."

"New York City's port and maritime businesses provide 31,000 jobs and generate \$1.3 billion in tax revenue annually," said New York City Economic Development Corporation President Seth W. Pinsky. "Investing in the working waterfront is critical to the growth of our City's economy, and the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance's 2010 Waterfront Conference provides us with an excellent opportunity to discuss strategies for ensuring that we continue to make those investments, while of course simultaneously expanding other uses along this valuable natural resource."

"The NY-NJ Harbor is poised for an era of reimagining and revitalization," said Roland Lewis, President and CEO of the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance. "The 2010 Waterfront Conference will be a touchstone for this important work. We are thrilled that so many forward thinking advocates, government officials, and business leaders will be joining the discussion about how to further implement and fund these great plans for our waterfront."

In addition to two boat tours and plenary sessions focused on the CWP and CRP, the conference will feature fifteen breakout panels, including:

- Why is the NY-NJ Harbor Missing the Boat?
- Ecology and Economy – A Workshop
- A Plan to Bring Our Harbor to Life
- Future of the Port
- Getting 2 Million Kids ON and IN the Water
- Recreation Revolution
- Opportunities for Green Infrastructure in Underserved Neighborhoods
- The Rising Tide from the Bottom Up
- Everyone Else Gets the Mud Out--Why Cant We?
- The Oyster and the Clean Water Act
- Support for Our Urban National Park
- Show Us the Money
- Edge Design for the Rising Tide & Aquatic Life
- A Green Working Waterfront Works
- Water Mass Transit

The 2010 Waterfront Conference is presented by the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance with support from Con Edison, New York – New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program, Entertainment Cruises, National Parks Conservation Association, New York Container Terminal, The Durst Organization, HDR Engineering, Hudson River Foundation, New York City Economic Development Corporation, New York Shipping Association, Port Authority of New York – New Jersey, Statue Cruises, AKRF, Bimmy's Food Made With Love, Halcrow Group, McLaren Engineering Group, MWH Global, and SF Marina USA.

About the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance

The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance works to transform the New York and New Jersey harbor and waterways to make them clean and accessible, a vibrant place to play, learn and work, with great parks, great jobs and great transportation for all.

(www.waterfrontalliance.org)

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