



Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance

April 15, 2015
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#MWAConference2015

Shaping Your 21st Century Waterfront

Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) Presents its Annual Floating Conference on May 7, 2015

New York, NY—The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance’s [2015 Waterfront Conference](#) on Thursday, May 7, 2015, aboard the [Hornblower Infinity](#), will offer a day’s worth of dynamic sessions geared toward **Shaping Your 21st Century Waterfront**. **Timothy Beatley, Ph.D.**, Teresa Heinz Professor of Sustainable Communities, School of Architecture, University of Virginia, and author of *Blue Urbanism: Exploring Connections between Cities and Oceans*, will launch the day with a welcome and keynote address. The interactive conference features more than three dozen prominent speakers from the arenas of government, academia, design and architecture, engineering, development, environmental conservation, and the working waterfront. [ARCADIS](#) is the premier sponsor of the 2015 Waterfront Conference.

MWA’s annual Waterfront Conference is the region’s premier forum for discussion of waterfront issues, each year attracting 600+ attendees from a wide range of disciplines. The popularity of the conference points to its remarkable influence on progressive harbor policies and initiatives.

The 2015 conference—Shaping Your 21st Century Waterfront—will explore waterfront topics critical to the metropolitan region today, from integrating five-borough ferry service into the city’s existing transportation network to the state of the working

waterfront to implementing greener shorelines. The conference will also highlight MWA's recently released [Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines \(WEDG\) program](#). Plenary and panel topics (dockside in the morning, cruising in the afternoon) include:

- **Ship to Shore: A Multi-Modal Transport Network for 21st Century New York**
Transportation experts and progressive advocates discuss how to achieve a truly multi-modal transit network
- **Preserving “Blue” Collar Jobs at the Working Waterfront**
How can job-training and workforce development programs be shaped for the future of the industrial waterfront?
- **How Are We Really Doing? An Assessment of Long-term Needs and Progress on Climate Change Adaptation**
Long-term planning and funding to ensure that we are prepared for the future
- **Implementing Greener Shorelines for Resiliency and the Environment**
Incorporating nature-based features into shoreline design is gaining traction. What are the knowledge and regulatory gaps, and how do we measure their effectiveness?
- **Resilient Waterfronts, Resilient Communities: Adapting Capital Projects to Improve Coastal Protection and Benefit Communities**
How can public projects in coastal protection leverage community participation?
- **21st Century Development at the Water's Edge**
Current and future trends, including case studies that incorporate MWA's Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG)

[Please view the conference program for additional details.](#)

“As our thinking about the waterfront evolves, so do the many opportunities and challenges in and around the harbor,” said Christopher Ward, Chairman of the MWA Board of Trustees. “The Waterfront Conference is the one day each year that hundreds of progressive thinkers, technical experts, and innovative planners from a wide variety of disciplines can assemble and confer about how best to go forward in our quest to shape a world-class harbor.”

Panelists participating in the 2015 Waterfront Conference include: Richard Anderson, Timothy Beatley, John Boulé, Pippa Brashear, Joan Byron, James Cervino, Elizabeth Codner-Smith, Kevin Corbett, Anthony DiLernia, Jessica Fain, Adam Freed, Esther Fuchs, Peter Glus, Bram Gunther, Nancy Kete, Vincent Lee, Clay Maitland, Tricia Martin, Emily Maxwell, Hon. Carlos Menchaca, Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Ellen Neises, Clare Newman, Catherine Seavitt Nordenson, Hugh Roberts, Hon. Ydanis Rodríguez, Gene Russianoff, Matt Ryan, Matthew Schuerman, Sam Schwartz, Jamie Torres Springer, Daniel Tainow, Jay Valgora, Christopher Ward, Roberta Weisbrod, Stephen Whitehouse, and Daniel Zarrilli.

“At the waterfront, it’s all about collaboration,” said Roland Lewis, MWA President and CEO. “We learn from each other and challenge each other—and our collective wisdom results in better, more inclusive decisions for our coastal communities.”

A special *Heroes of the Harbor* ceremony, honoring community activists who have worked to bring ferry service to their neighborhoods, will take place at the end of the day, as cocktails are served and the *Hornblower Infinity* makes its way back to the dock.

The conference will begin promptly at 8:45am (registration and breakfast from 8am-8:45am). The *Hornblower Infinity* is located at Hudson River Park, Pier 40. [Individual tickets are \\$120 and government and student rate tickets are available \(\\$50 and \\$35 respectively\) for purchase.](#) Continuing education credits and discounts for the conference are available through our partnerships with the [American Institute of Architects New York](#), the [American Planning Association New York Metro Chapter](#), and the [American Society of Landscape Architects New York Chapter](#).

Venue Sponsor: [Hornblower Infinity](#); **Premier Sponsor:** [ARCADIS](#); **Conference Partner:** [General Contractors Association](#); **WEDG Sponsor:** [Dewberry](#); **Conference Supporters:** [AECOM](#), [Arup](#), [The Durst Organization](#), [East River Ferry](#), [Global Container Terminals](#), [Hudson River Foundation](#), [Industry City](#), [New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program](#), [NY Waterway](#), [Seastreak](#), [Sims Municipal Recycling](#), [Two Trees Management](#), and [United Metro Energy](#); **Conference Champions:** [AKRF](#), [CH2M Hill](#), [Entertainment Cruises](#), [HDR](#), [HR&A](#), [Louis Berger](#), and [Parsons Brinckerhoff](#).

The [Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance](#) works to protect, transform, and revitalize our harbor and waterfront.

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