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The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance Presents the 2015 Waterfront Conference
May 7, 2015: Shaping Your 21st Century Waterfront
#MWAConference2015

Examine The Current and Future Trends of Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines,
Discuss Integrating Five-Borough Ferry Service Into NYC’s Transportation Network,
Address Preserving and Reinforcing the Working Waterfront,
Honor the Heroes of the Harbor

New York, NY—The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance’s 2015 Waterfront Conference, Shaping Your 21st Century Waterfront, on Thursday, May 7, 2015 aboard the Hornblower Infinity, will offer a day’s worth of dynamic, interactive sessions featuring more than 50 prominent speakers from arenas of government, academia, design and architecture, engineering, development, environmental conservation, and the working waterfront.

Panelists and attendees, including New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer, Council Members Ydanis Rodriguez and Carlos Menchaca, U.S. Congressman Jerrold Nadler, Colonel (Ret.) John R. Boulé, and others, 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 and recognize various community groups and individuals who pushed the city for increased and expanded ferry service as Heroes of the Harbor.
“As our thinking about the waterfront evolves, so do the many opportunities and challenges in and around the harbor,” said Chris 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.”

The conference will begin promptly at 8:45am (registration and breakfast from 8am-8:45am) on board the *Hornblower Infinity*, Hudson River Park, Pier 40 at Houston St. Members of the media may select individual sessions to attend, or choose to come aboard the boat for the full day. The boat will stay docked in the morning and cast off at 1pm, during lunch, for an afternoon of cruising New York Harbor and returning to Pier 40 by 5pm.

“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.”

Please visit the MWA website for ticket information, the full conference schedule and a list of participants.

The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance works to protect, transform, and revitalize our harbor and waterfront.

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WATERFRONT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8am-8:45am  Registration at Pier 40; breakfast aboard the Hornblower Infinity
8:45am-9:30am  Welcome and Keynote
9:30am-10:45am  Plenary: Ship to Shore–A Multi-Modal Transportation Network for 21st Century New York  Transportation experts and progressive advocates discuss how to achieve a truly multi-modal transit network
11am-12:15pm  Panel 1A: 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?
   Breakout Session 1B: Deep Dive into the Coney Island Creek Feasibility Study—Exploring Access, Resiliency, and Ecology
12:15pm-1:30pm  Lunch
1pm  Hornblower Infinity leaves the dock
1:30pm-2:45pm  Panel 2A: 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
   Panel 2B: 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
3pm-4:15pm  Panel 3A: Resilient Waterfronts, Resilient Communities: Adapting Capital Projects to Improve Coastal Protection and Benefit Communities  How can public projects in coastal protection leverage community participation?
   Panel 3B: 21st Century Development at the Water’s Edge: Can We Have it All?  Current and future trends, including case studies that incorporate MWA’s Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG)
4:15pm–5pm  Heroes of the Harbor Awards
5pm  Hornblower Infinity returns to Pier 40

Heroes of the Harbor recipients representing all five boroughs include:
- Bronx Community Board 9 Ferry Service Committee Accepting: Nancy Key
- Brooklyn Community Board 10 Accepting: June Johnson
- Joe Hartigan
- Rockaway United to Save Our Ferry Accepting: Laura Deckelman
- Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez
- Roosevelt Island Community Coalition Accepting: Ellen Polivy
- Staten Island Ferry Riders Committee Accepting: Richenda Kramer and Nicholas Zvegintzov

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.

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.

**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, Parsons Brinckerhoff, and STUDIO V Architecture.

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