



# Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Contact Information

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The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance Presents the 2015 Waterfront Conference

**May 7, 2015: Shaping Your 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 <i>Hornblower Infinity</i>
8:45am-9:30am	Welcome and Keynote
9:30am-10:45am	<b>Plenary: Ship to Shore—A Multi-Modal Transportation Network for 21<sup>st</sup> Century New York</b> <i>Transportation experts and progressive advocates discuss how to achieve a truly multi-modal transit network</i>
11am-12:15pm	<b>Panel 1A: Preserving “Blue” Collar Jobs at the Working Waterfront</b> <i>How can job-training and workforce development programs be shaped for the future of the industrial waterfront?</i> <b>Breakout Session 1B: Deep Dive into the Coney Island Creek Feasibility Study—Exploring Access, Resiliency, and Ecology</b>
12:15pm-1:30pm	Lunch
1pm	<i>Hornblower Infinity</i> leaves the dock
1:30pm-2:45pm	<b>Panel 2A: How Are We Really Doing? An Assessment of Long-term Needs and Progress on Climate Change Adaptation</b> <i>Long-term planning and funding to ensure that we are prepared for the future</i> <b>Panel 2B: Implementing Greener Shorelines for Resiliency and the Environment</b> <i>Incorporating nature-based features into shoreline design is gaining traction. What are the knowledge and regulatory gaps, and how do we measure their effectiveness</i>
3pm-4:15pm	<b>Panel 3A: Resilient Waterfronts, Resilient Communities: Adapting Capital Projects to Improve Coastal Protection and Benefit Communities</b> <i>How can public projects in coastal protection leverage community participation?</i> <b>Panel 3B: 21st Century Development at the Water’s Edge: Can We Have it All?</b> <i>Current and future trends, including case studies that incorporate MWA’s Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG)</i>
4:15pm–5pm	<b>Heroes of the Harbor Awards</b>
5pm	<i>Hornblower Infinity</i> 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*

Panelists participating in the 2015 Waterfront Conference include: Douglas E. Adams, Richard Anderson, Timothy Beatley, Colonel (Ret.) John R. Boulé, Pippa Brashear, Joan Byron, James Cervino, Cameron Clark, Elizabeth Codner-Smith, Kevin S. Corbett, Curtis Cravens, Roni Deitz, Anthony DiLernia, Jessica Fain, Adam Freed, Esther R. Fuchs, Peter Glus, Bram Gunther, Elijah Hutchinson, Nancy Kete, Vincent Lee, Roland Lewis, Clay Maitland, Tricia Martin, Emily Maxwell, Hon. Carlos Menchaca, Seth Myers, Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Ellen Neises, Clare Newman, Catherine Seavitt Nordenson, Michael Porto, Julie Pullen, Hugh J. Roberts, Hon. Ydanis Rodríguez, Gene Russianoff, Matt Ryan, Matthew Schuerman, Sam Schwartz, Elizabeth C. Smith, Jamie Springer, Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Daniel Tainow, Jay Valgora, Niek Veraart, Chris Ward, Roberta Weisbrod, Stephen Whitehouse, and Daniel Zarrilli.

[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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