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**MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO AND MAYOR RAS J. BARAKA
HEADLINE THE WATERFRONT CONFERENCE ON MAY 10, 2017**

One Harbor, Two Mayors: A Multitude of Waterfronts

New York, NY—On Wednesday, May 10, this year's [Waterfront Conference—Measuring Our Harbor: Strong, Healthy, and Open](#)—will feature the **Mayor of New York City, Bill de Blasio**, and the **Mayor of Newark, New Jersey, Ras J. Baraka**, leading an all-star lineup of participants and panelists discussing waterfront issues and opportunities of the two states that share New York Harbor. The keynote address will be given by **Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez**, Member of Congress.

Following Mayor de Blasio's address, a plenary session titled "What Now? Navigating uncertain waters ahead for our waterfronts" led by Mayor Baraka will explore how decisions in Washington, DC, will affect our waterfronts. The day-long conference will continue with "Get Wet When You Want, Stay Dry When You Need: A scorecard for strong, healthy, and open waterfronts," a presentation about the region's first-ever Harbor Scorecard; and a series of panels addressing crucial waterfront topics, ranging from solution-oriented climate change communication, to building pathways to maritime careers, to applying the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines program to a variety of sites.

The Waterfront Conference takes place aboard the *Hornblower Infinity*, dockside at Hudson River Park, Pier 40, in the morning, and cruising New York Harbor throughout the afternoon. Nearly 600 waterfront advocates, policy-makers, and professionals are expected to attend.

"NYC Ferry is already bringing thousands more New Yorkers back to the water," said Mayor de Blasio. "We believe every New Yorker has a right to experience their waterfront, and that's why we're investing in affordable ferry transit, in new greenways and esplanades, and in resiliency measures to keep our waterfront communities strong. We are excited to join our friends at the Waterfront Conference to celebrate this extraordinary progress."

"The City of Newark is pleased to join the dialogue on our shared waterfront at the Waterfront Conference," said Mayor Baraka. "Just like the three-mile-long strait that connects the waters of Newark Bay with the Upper New York Bay, those of us in leadership in this region are irrevocably joined in matters which affect the environment and its effects on our citizens. I believe that a discourse on the value that our waterfront brings to the economic viability and health and well-being of our communities is both critical and necessary."

"As we celebrate NYC Ferry in New York and the revival of the Passaic River in New Jersey, we are galvanized," said Chris Ward, chairman of the Waterfront Alliance. "We know that these two strong mayors of New York City and

Newark will lead us forward to even greater endeavors at and on our precious waterways, absolutely essential to our regional economy and to our quality of life.”

[Hornblower Cruises & Events](#) is the venue sponsor of the Waterfront Alliance, and [Arcadis](#) is the premier sponsor. Arcadis is also the sponsor of [Arcadis Waterfront Scholars](#), a program that invites more than 70 undergraduate and graduate students to participate in the conference and engage with professional mentors.

[Learn more about the Waterfront Conference and purchase tickets](#) (\$150 regular ticket; \$75 government agencies and nonprofits; \$50 students; press is free). Registration and breakfast is 8am to 8:45am; the boat is dockside at Pier 40, Hudson River Park until 1pm; the afternoon harbor cruise returns at 5pm. Continuing education credits will be offered (AIA CES; with APA AICP CM, and LA CES credits pending).

The Waterfront Conference is generously sponsored by:

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