

**Lower Manhattan Development Corporation**  
**Meeting of the**  
**Restaurants, Retailers and Small Businesses Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**April 10, 2002, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**  
**1 Liberty Plaza, 39<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 3901**  
**LMDC Board Members: Roland Betts, Bob Harding**

Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC) Board Members Roland Betts and Bob Harding opened the meeting and gave welcoming remarks. Mr. Betts and Mr. Harding then asked each member and ex-officio member of the Restaurants, Retailers and Small Businesses Advisory Council to introduce themselves. Tara Snow, Vice-President for Government and Community Relations informed the Council that LMDC has recently launched a new web-site: [www.renewnyc.com](http://www.renewnyc.com). It contains press releases, Board Meeting schedules and minutes, plus links to other sources. Ms. Snow also spoke about the Family Room at LMDC.

Mr. Betts then invited Andrew Salkin from the Department of Transportation to give a briefing of the current status of transportation in Downtown. Mr. Salkin showed and distributed to the Council Members a new public transportation map of Lower Manhattan that was recently issued. In addition, he spoke about resurfacing roads in Lower Manhattan, moving shunts, and repairing subway lines 1 and 9. Some grievances about parking were raised. Members stated that it is not conducive to Downtown revival when parking remains a problem. Mr. Salkin explained that rush hour regulations are imposed on Broadway to keep the traffic moving, that the City has reduced parking permits by 30% and that the City Planning website at NYC.Gov has a guide to parking lots in Lower Manhattan.

Mr. Betts then asked Dr. James Miller of NYC Air Quality Task Force to provide an update on the Task Force activities. Questions were raised about the air quality, residues on building facades, and air conditioner filters. Dr. Miller responded to many of these questions and also indicated there is a hotline 212-221-8635 that can answer many health concerns.

Mr. Betts then updated the council members on the Draft Individual Assistance Plan and the changes that were made following the first comment period. A revised Partial Action Plan was approved by the LMDC board yesterday in draft form and will be subject to a 10-day review period. Zone #1 has been enlarged (mostly by extending east to Nassau Street) and a new Zone (#3) was created. Individuals are eligible for assistance for up to \$12,000 in Zone 1, \$6,000 in Zone 2, and \$1,000 in Zone 3. Families with children are eligible for \$1,500 in Zone 1 and \$750 in the other Zones. LMDC is communicating with IRS to see if the grants can be tax-exempt. To avoid landlords using the program to raise rents, eligibility will be restricted to units being rented at 90% of pre-9/11 rates in Zone 1, and 95% in Zone 2. The plan will provide grants to renters and homeowners who agree to remain or relocate in Lower Manhattan south of Canal Street for at least two years. It also provides job-training grants to eligible businesses south of 14<sup>th</sup> Street.

Brett Rubin, LMDC Planner, did a presentation on the Draft Principles and Preliminary Blueprint that was approved by the LMDC Board yesterday and is now available for public comment. The Draft Blueprint articulates goals for the site and proposals to achieve them. These Draft Principles and Blueprint were a direct result of consulting various stakeholders in Lower Manhattan, the Council being one of those

important stakeholders. Among many other stakeholders, LMDC consulted with eight Advisory Councils, and through the process many common themes emerged. Rubin pointed out that the document is a draft, and more input is welcomed from Advisory Councils, Community Board 1 and the public, through the LMDC web-site and a public hearing. A suggestion was made to include Governors Island in the plan. Questions were asked about assistance available to businesses. Richard Wager from the Economic Development Council gave a number, 212-312-3821 for businesses to apply for loans and grants. A question was raised about the extent of authority that LMDC has concerning the redevelopment.

Mr. Betts and Mr. Harding thanked the members for their participation and the meeting adjourned.