

**Lower Manhattan Development Corporation
Meeting of the Development Advisory Council
Meeting Summary
March 6, 2002
One Liberty Plaza
5:30-7:00 PM**

LMDC Board Members: Roland Betts, Paul Crotty, and Ed Malloy

Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC) Board Members Roland Betts and Ed Malloy gave welcoming remarks and then asked each member and ex-officio member to introduce themselves. Members of the press were also asked to introduce themselves. Roland Betts spoke about the purpose of the Advisory Council and how important it will be for this group to advise the LMDC on rebuilding and revitalizing Lower Manhattan. Mr. Betts indicated that the purpose of the first meeting is to brief the Advisory Council on some of the LMDC's activities and also listen to ideas they may have. Mr. Betts briefly spoke of comments that were received at other Advisory Council meetings and solicited their views on what LMDC should dot create a vibrant place where people will want to live, work and play.

Eileen Midenberger from the Empire State Development Corporation gave a brief overview of the programs that have been established to help businesses that have suffered from the September 11th attacks. Ms. Mildenberger briefly explained the three programs totaling \$700 million that are currently being administered by the Empire State Development Corporation in conjunction with the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

Tara Snow, Vice-President for Government and Community Relations of the LMDC gave a brief overview of the Individual Assistance Plan that is being advanced by the LMDC. Both Ms. Mildenberger and Ms. Snow responded to questions from the

Advisory Council members on both programs. Mr. Betts then invited the participants to comment and offer thoughts and ideas to the LMDC.

Mr. Betts responded to a question from one of the members regarding what the feedback has been from other Advisory Councils. Mr. Betts responded saying that many of the Advisory Councils indicated that a new transportation system and a mixture of commercial, residential, retail space and an appropriate memorial should be part of any redevelopment efforts. Exploring the possibility of depressing West Street to give more access to the waterfront and reconnect the neighborhoods in Lower Manhattan was also brought up by other Advisory Councils and was encouraged by the Development Advisory Council. A member of the Council spoke about the need for off-street bus parking and the need for major transportation improvements as part of the overall redevelopment plan.

A member of the Advisory Council Brought up the New York New Visions organization, a coalition of 21 different planning, architectural engineering and landscape societies in New York City, and briefly described their activities and offered to make a presentation to the group at future meetings.

There was a brief discussion surrounding energy sources that would be needed to sustain new development and that the use of alternative energy sources should be considered. A suggestion was made to utilize similar guidelines that were used for Battery Park City.

Including high quality retail as part of the development was also suggested to attract new residents and employers to Lower Manhattan. Furthermore, if the goal is to create a vibrant community, consideration should be given as to where the retail should

be located, below ground or at street level, to achieve that goal. The addition of more amenities in the area was also suggested to encourage more people to move to Lower Manhattan.

Timeliness of the development was also discussed, and the need to have an open and transparent process to allow for, and encourage public input was also emphasized. Many members also expressed the importance of moving forward with the redevelopment process to ensure that there is a clear message to businesses who have remained in Lower Manhattan and others who are considering relocating that Lower Manhattan will be better than it ever was.

Members of the Advisory Council commended the LMDC for their efforts to create a temporary memorial and there was some discussion of the 7 World Trade Center project and its progress. Mr. Betts responded by saying that the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation continues work with Con Edison and Larry Silverstein to find an appropriate solution.

Mr. Betts thanked the members coming and indicated that the group would be meeting in April. The meeting adjourned.