

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT; NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING; NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

The Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (“LMDC”), a subsidiary of the Empire State Development Corporation (a political subdivision and public benefit corporation of the State of New York) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (“DEIS”) for the East River Waterfront Esplanade and Piers Project (“Proposed Action”). LMDC, pursuant to federal statute and as the recipient of United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) Community Development Block Grant program funds, is acting as lead agency for the environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act. The City of New York is a cooperating agency. Additional reviews for the Proposed Action are being undertaken in coordination with the environmental review described above, including those required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and HUD regulations.

The Proposed Action would improve a two mile portion of the East River waterfront in Manhattan and create a City-owned public open space. The area of the Proposed Action would generally encompass the waterfront, the upland area adjacent to and under the elevated Franklin Delano Roosevelt Drive and South Street extending from the Whitehall Ferry Terminal and Peter Minuit Plaza on the South to East River Park on the North, as well as Pier 15, the New Market Building pier, Pier 35, Pier 36, and Pier 42. Approximately \$139,500,000 of HUD funds will be allocated for the Proposed Action. The DEIS analyzes the Proposed Action’s potential impacts on Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy; Socioeconomic Conditions; Open Space; Shadows; Historic Resources; Urban Design and Visual Resources; Neighborhood Character; Natural Resources and Floodplain Impacts; Hazardous Materials; Waterfront Revitalization; Infrastructure, Solid Waste and Energy; Traffic and Transportation; Air Quality; Noise; Construction Impacts; and Environmental Justice. The DEIS considers a reasonable range of alternatives including a no action alternative, esplanade development alternatives, Battery Maritime Building plaza alternatives, an alternative without the BMB plaza and the Pier 42 beach, alternative in-water configurations south of Pier 15, and an alternative retaining a portion of the automobile parking beneath the FDR Drive.

A public hearing on the DEIS, where comments on the DEIS may be submitted, has been scheduled for March 5, 2007. The hearing will take place from 4:30 PM to 8 PM at Pace University, Multipurpose Room, One Pace Plaza, B Level, Spruce Street Entrance, New York, NY 10037. The public hearing location is accessible to the mobility impaired; interpreter services will be available upon request. The public hearing will also serve as an opportunity for the public and interested persons to comment on the draft Programmatic Agreement for the Proposed Action that has been prepared pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and is included in the DEIS.

Written comments on the DEIS and draft Programmatic Agreement may be submitted to LMDC but must be received by LMDC by 5 PM on March 19, 2007 or they will not be considered. Comments should be directed to Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, Attention: Avalon Simon; One Liberty Plaza; New York, NY 10006; Telephone: (212) 962-2300; Fax: (212) 962-2431. Requests for information about the Proposed Action or copies of the DEIS can also be directed to the same address. Information about the Proposed Action will be available during regular business hours at the offices of LMDC and will be available on LMDC’s website: www.RenewNYC.com in “Planning, Design & Development.”

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LOWER MANHATTAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION