

**Lower Manhattan Development Corporation
Arts, Education & Tourism Advisory Council
Monday, July 29th 2002
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Held in the Offices of Downtown Alliance
120 Broadway
LMDC Board Members – Madelyn Wils & Howard Wilson**

LMDC Board members Madelyn Wils and Howard Wilson made welcoming remarks and asked each Advisory Council and ex-officio member to introduce themselves for the record. LMDC updates included the appointment of a director for the LMDC's memorial efforts, a report on the LMDC & Port Authority's efforts regarding the six concept plans, the Listening to the City forum, and the update to LMDC's website www.renewnyc.com.

The Advisory Council was informed of the appointment of Anita Contini as Vice President and Director of the Memorial, Civic, and Cultural Programs. Ms. Contini, who official starts August 5th, served as Merrill Lynch's First Vice President of Global Sponsorships and Events Marketing and founded Creative Time, Inc., an award-winning public arts firm. The LMDC's preliminary thoughts regarding the memorial process include an international design competition, open to professionals and amateurs alike, and a jury that will serve as the selection panel. Ms. Contini will be working with this Advisory Council and other stakeholders to direct LMDC's memorial development process.

On Tuesday, July 16th, the six concept plans were formally unveiled at a press conference attended by over 200 reporters and broadcast live on CNN. This event marked the beginning of a "listening period" for LMDC and Port Authority to take in comments from the public. Also on July 16th, the LMDC and the Port Authority held a briefing of the plans at Pace University for Advisory Council members, civic groups, elected officials, and government officials which was attended by approximately 150 people. Members of the Board thanked the Advisory Council members who were in attendance at the event.

The Advisory Council was also informed of the success of the Listening to the City forum held on Saturday, July 20th, attended by over 4,000 people. A second Listening to the City forum was held

on Monday, July 22nd for 200 participants who could not attend the Saturday event. The feedback received from these events and from other sources will prove invaluable to the LMDC and Port Authority as they move forward with the redevelopment of the site and its adjacent areas.

As a final update related to the site concept plans, Council members were informed of the update to the LMDC web site, www.renewnyc.com. Board Member Madelyn Wils informed Advisory Council members that the web site would not only provide images of the various concept plans, but also be an interactive tool to help improve LMDC's ability to collect public input.

This past week marked the beginning of the exhibit at Federal Hall, which showcases the concept plans and the urban design principles that guided their development. Council members learned that the exhibit offers participants an opportunity to view the concept plans in a setting that includes three-dimensional displays, a flat screen TV providing aerial views of the concept plans, and historical pictures of Lower Manhattan. Survey brochures are also provided to give exhibit participants the opportunity to learn about the concept plans and provide their input. Council Members were encouraged to visit the exhibit, which will run through August 30th.

With the updates completed, Ms. Wils informed Council members that the agenda would begin with a discussion of the LMDC off-site program and Port Authority on-site program requirements, including goals for a framework for the planning effort and the contractual obligations of the World Trade Center site. These would be followed by a brief discussion of the Transportation elements of the concept plans and finally a presentation of the concept plans as a whole. Before turning the discussion over to off-site and on-site programs, Board Member Wils, reminded Members of the Advisory Council that during the planning process the most important program element was the memorial - the planners' approach to the memorial was the first consideration in the development of the concept plans.

Alex Garvin, LMDC's Vice President of Planning, Design and Development, began the discussion with a description of the off-site program and how it was developed. The off-site program

and concept plans include a variety of ideas, many of which were collected and synthesized via the input from advisory councils, other stakeholders and the general public. All of these were taken into consideration and included, as much as possible, in the development of the site plan concepts. Mr. Garvin reminded Council members that these concept plans were not meant to include architectural designs of any of the buildings, and are not final blueprints. With the off-site discussion concluded, Mr. Garvin opened the floor to Ron Pisapia of the Port Authority to discuss the on-site program.

Mr. Pisapia stated that the World Trade Center site and its adjacent areas are vital to the future of Lower Manhattan. As a result, the destroyed transportation services will have to be restored and improved, along with the commercial, retail, and hotel space. The WTC contained 11 million square feet of Class A commercial space that was nearly 97% occupied, as well as retail and hotel space.

With that discussion concluded, Mr. Pisapia introduced Bob Davidson of the Port Authority to present the transportation elements of the concept plans.

Mr. Davidson informed members of the Council that much of Lower Manhattan's transportation system was damaged or destroyed as a result of September 11th. He reiterated the importance of developing a 21st Century transportation system that can meet the needs of visitors, workers and residents. A crucial component to be restored is PATH, which moved over 80,000 people per day between New Jersey and Lower Manhattan. The former PATH station sat at the center of the site and is currently proposed to remain at or near that location. Replacing and creating a new transportation infrastructure— including improved north-south and east-west connections – is critical. Mr. Davidson informed Advisory Council Members that more detailed options for transportation improvements in Lower Manhattan would be issued in the future for further discussion. Mr. Davidson then opened the floor to Mr. Garvin to go into greater detail about the six concept plans.

First, Mr. Garvin began by describing those elements that are common to all of the plans, such as the restoration of the skyline, north/south connections through the site, and public open spaces—all based on input received from the public. Mr. Garvin reminded members of the Advisory Council that

each of the concept plans represents a package of proposed ideas that can be refined and recombined based on public input, with elements in each to be mixed and matched. Ideas from the different schemes may be combined or completely new ideas may emerge, as no final decisions have been made. He further reiterated as mentioned previously, the approach to the memorial was the first consideration in the development of the six concept plans. The titles of the plans reflect the memorial ideas that they convey.

Once completed, Ms. Wils thanked Mr. Garvin and opened the floor for questions from Members of the Advisory Council. One Advisory Council Member asked about educational facilities in the redevelopment. Mr. Garvin responded by stating all of the buildings included in the designs have multiple levels in which educational services could be provided. One Advisory Council member inquired about protection from the weather of any new public spaces, given the history of the original plaza during the winter months. Port Authority representatives indicated they are conducting on-going studies to map out the best landscaping and building placement to address the issues of wind and weather. A Council member also indicated a wish to preserve the tower “footprints.” Another member remarked that the proposed Intermodal Transportation Center would be a great place to support local artists through public art. One member expressed her hope that the LMDC and Port Authority would find ways to demonstrate the American spirit through imaginative and remarkable architecture. Other suggestions included: development of an “Info Box” building for Lower Manhattan, similar to the one in Berlin, to keep the public informed of the redevelopment effort; and more proactive thinking and work to prepare a master plan for Lower Manhattan with respect to cultural innovations. Ms. Wils expressed her belief that the most important thing is not necessarily creating new cultural facilities and museums, but rather being able to identify the ones that currently exist.

As a final note, Tara Snow, LMDC’s VP of Community Affairs and Governmental Relations, informed Council members that she and Mr. Davidson have put together a Working Group to discuss

the Viewing Wall, with particular attention to the information panels which will include historical elements and tribute zones. She also indicated that she is in the process of identifying a map of Lower Manhattan that will show the location of historical landmarks and provide general information about Lower Manhattan.

With the agenda and final comments completed, Board Members Madelyn Wils and Howard Wilson thanked members for attending and adjourned the meeting.