

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT; NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD; NOTICE OF NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REVIEW; NOTICE FOR EARLY PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSAL IN THE 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

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), as lead agency, intends to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (“DEIS”) for the **East River Waterfront 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, will conduct the environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act. The New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, New York City’s City Environmental Quality Review, and their implementing regulations will be referenced as appropriate. Additional reviews for the Proposed Action will be undertaken in coordination with the environmental review described above, including those required under Section 106 of the National Historic Presentation Act and HUD regulations.

The Proposed Action would improve a two-mile-long stretch of the East River waterfront 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 to East River Park, as well as specific piers. Included in the Proposed Action would be Pier 15, the New Market Building pier, Pier 35, and Pier 42. Approximately \$139,500,000 of HUD funds will be allocated for the Proposed Action.

The Proposed Action may significantly affect one or more of the following environmental factors: Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy; Socioeconomic Conditions; Open Space; Shadows; Historic Resources; Urban Design and Visual Resources; Neighborhood Character; Natural Resources; Hazardous Materials; Waterfront Revitalization Program; Floodplain Impacts; Infrastructure, Solid Waste, and Energy; Traffic and Transportation; Air Quality; Noise; Construction Impacts; and Environmental Justice. In the DEIS, LMDC will consider a no-build alternative and a reasonable range of other alternatives.

A Draft Scope of Work outlining the proposed content of the DEIS (“Draft Scope”) has been prepared and a public scoping meeting has been scheduled for April 11, 2006. The meeting will take place from 3 PM to 8 PM, with a one-hour break from 5 PM to 6 PM, at the Woolworth Building, 15 Barclay Street, New York, New York 10007. The public meeting location is accessible to the mobility impaired. The public scoping meeting will

also serve as an opportunity for the public and interested persons to comment on historic resources and Section 106 review under the National Historic Preservation Act.

Notice for Early Public Review of a Proposal in the 100-Year Floodplain: This notice also serves as the Notice for Early Public Review of a Proposal in the 100-Year Floodplain. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order 11988 for Floodplain Management and 24 CFR § 55.20(b), regulations of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), concerning financial assistance for activities that are within and/or affect a floodplain. LMDC intends to submit a request for funds to HUD as described above. The acreage of the Esplanade Project that is located in the 100-year floodplain is 17 acres.

Written comments on the Draft Scope or early floodplain notice may be submitted to LMDC but must be received by LMDC by 5 PM on April 27, 2006 or they will not be considered. Comments should be directed to Seth Myers, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, Attention: East River Waterfront Esplanade and Piers Project; One Liberty Plaza; New York, NY 10006; Telephone: (212) 962-2300; Fax: (212) 962-2431. Requests for information about the Proposed Action 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."

Stefan Pryor
President
LOWER MANHATTAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION