



WATERFRONT ALLIANCE

2016 Waterfront Conference

Defining and Delivering
Equity at the Waterfront

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Hornblower Infinity, Hudson River Park, Pier 40, New York

MORNING SCHEDULE

8am–8:45am **REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST**

8:30am–9:45am **FIELD WORKSHOP**

Oyster Anatomy and Water Quality at The River Project

Location: Pier 40

Note that this workshop is open only to pre-registrants

Workshop Leaders:

Elisa Caref, Education Programs Coordinator, The River Project

Nina Zain, Wetlab Manager, The River Project

The River Project (TRP) is a marine science research and education station on Pier 40 of the Hudson River that conducts research studies like fish monitoring and a citizen science water quality testing program, and field trips for students of all ages. Participants will join TRP's education programs coordinator Elisa Caref and wetlab manager Nina Zain for a tour of its wetlab, to see ways that hands-on environmental science can foster stewardship and open career opportunities to students. The workshop will include exploration of oyster anatomy and physiology through the living oyster reef ecosystem exhibit, and a demonstration of bacteria testing for its Citizen's Water Quality Testing program, conducted in partnership with New York City Water Trail Association.

8:45am–10am **WELCOME AND KEYNOTE CONVERSATION**

How Do We Define—and Deliver—Equity at the Waterfront?

Location: Main Deck

WELCOME

Roland Lewis, President and CEO, Waterfront Alliance

Terry MacRae, CEO, Hornblower Cruises & Events

Peter Glus, Director of New York City Business Development, Arcadis

Kate Sinding, Secretary, Board of Trustees, Waterfront Alliance

KEYNOTE CONVERSATION

Michael Sorkin, Director of the Graduate Urban Design Program, The City College of New York and President, Terreform

Maria Torres-Springer, President and CEO, NYC Economic Development Corporation

10am–11:15am **PANEL 1A: WHO FOOTS THE BILL? FINANCING AND MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC WATERFRONTS**

(LA CES: 1.25 HSW PDH) (APA AICP CM Credits: 1.25)

Location: Main Deck

When a bulkhead collapses into the waterways, what happens when there is disagreement on responsibility for its repair? Who has the expertise—and the budget—to deal with what's fundamentally

different about waterfronts relative to other public spaces? Through a focused discussion on long-term maintenance strategies, this panel poses a conversation on building sustainable governance models, financing mechanisms, and management plans for our region's waterfront parks, public waterfront infrastructure, and marine environments. This will include a review of governance models used to program and maintain waterfront parks and associated sub-surface infrastructure across the region. Panelists will offer diverse perspectives on the challenges and opportunities associated with maintaining our public waterfronts, including the use of alternative resource- and revenue-generating tools that can address maintenance and operations budget shortfalls.

Facilitator:

Stephen Whitehouse, Principal, Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects and Planners

Panelists:

Robert Freudenberg, Director, Energy & Environment, Regional Plan Association

New York State Senator Daniel Squadron

Tupper Thomas, Executive Director, New Yorkers for Parks

Madelyn Wils, President and Chief Executive Officer, Hudson River Park Trust

PANEL 1B: WHAT IF? THE POLITICS AND PSYCHOLOGY OF “MANAGED RETREAT”

(APA AICP CM Credits: 1.25)

Location: Infinity Lounge

Sea level rise—with oceans rising faster now than at any point in the last 28 centuries, and set to rise by as much as three to four feet by the year 2100—poses wrenching challenges across the globe. Hurricane Sandy highlighted the vulnerability of New York City's waterfront communities. Innovative approaches to strengthening our shoreline have begun to increase the resilience of our built environment. At the same time, conversations around the potential relocation of vulnerable communities are fraught with concerns in both at-risk and potential recipient neighborhoods..

What do policy makers and community leaders need to understand about the psychology of displacement if relocation is to be introduced as a potential component of our resilience strategy? What is necessary to engender real community participation toward building consensus on the future of coastal communities?

Facilitator:

Bennett Brooks, Senior Mediator, Consensus Building Institute

Panelists:

Liz Koslov, Ph.D. candidate, New York University

Gina Pollara, President, The Municipal Art Society of New York

Joseph Tirone, Community Organizer, Oakwood Beach Buyout Committee

Daniel A. Zarrilli, Senior Director, Climate Policy and Programs and Chief Resilience Officer, NYC Office of the Mayor

11:15am–11:30am BREAK

11:30am–12:45pm PANEL 2A: GETTING US ALL TO CARE: A CAMPAIGN FOR WATER QUALITY?

(LA CES: 1.25 HSW PDH) (APA AICP CM Credits: 1.25)

Location: Main Deck

Vision Zero. Critical Mass. Zero Waste. Can “fishable and swimmable” join the ranks of other consensus-based, goal-oriented approaches to street safety, environmental conservation, and other issues? With some notable exceptions, water quality in New York Harbor has improved markedly. But are we ready to make the leap from water that is good enough to stand next to, to water that is clean enough to swim in? A presentation on the current state of water quality and planned infrastructure improvements will precede a dialogue about public perception, communications, regulations, funding, and management, and how monitoring can be improved to help get us wet. Audience participation will help refine definitions of clean water and access, and propose communication strategies to deepen the public’s demand for engagement with the waterfront.

Introductory Presentation:

Paul Gallay, President and Hudson Riverkeeper, Riverkeeper

Facilitator:

Robert Pirani, Program Director, New York–New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program

Panelists:

Archie Lee Coates, Executive Director, + POOL

Lynda Decker, President + Creative Director, Decker Design

Sean Dixon, Staff Attorney, Riverkeeper

Shino Tanikawa, Executive Director, NYC Soil & Water Conservation District, and Steering Committee, S.W.I.M. Coalition

PANEL 2B: THEIR WATERFRONTS: A(N INTER)NATIONAL FOCUS IN WATERFRONT EQUITY

(LA CES: 1.25 HSW PDH) (APA AICP CM Credits: 1.25)

Location: Infinity Lounge

A dialogue between leaders of waterfront projects and community

initiatives from other coastal cities, discussing environmental, economic, and social impacts in Boston, New Orleans, Toronto, and beyond. The panel will also incorporate—and attempt to refine—lessons learned in New York, where the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG) program has begun to establish a common language for access, resiliency, and ecology at the water’s edge.

Facilitator:

Jamie Torres Springer, Senior Principal, HR&A Advisors

Panelists:

William Gilchrist, Director of Place-Based Planning, City of New Orleans

Ken Greenberg, Principal, Greenberg Consultants

Olivia Stinson, Associate Director of City Relationships, 100 Resilient Cities

Julie Wormser, Vice President for Policy and Planning, Boston Harbor Now

AFTERNOON SCHEDULE

12:45pm–1:45pm LUNCH

Location: Main Deck

1pm

HORNBLOWER INFINITY LEAVES DOCK

1:45pm–3pm

PANEL 3A: FORGOTTEN WATERFRONTS: ACTIVATING AND ENGAGING THE SHORELINE

(LA CES: 1.25 HSW PDH) (APA AICP CM Credits: 1.25)

Location: Main Deck

What are some of the best practices to activate neglected, under-served, and under-resourced waterfronts, often disproportionately burdened with uses that not only impact human health but also restrict access to the water? This discussion will incorporate a review of successful organizing in waterfront neighborhoods with a forward-looking approach to engaging vulnerable communities, and a path to understanding strengths and addressing needs, both from within and without. Participants will explore how to build social infrastructure that can leverage resources, inform strategy, and influence plans for new physical infrastructure.

Facilitator:

Melissa Garcia, Senior Director of Operations and Finance, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health

Panelists:

Charles Denson, Executive Director, Coney Island History Project

Marcy S. DePina, Program Director, Newark Riverfront Revival
Eric Fang, Principal, Perkins Eastman
Eric Wilson, Assistant Commissioner of Planning &
Predevelopment, NYC Housing Preservation & Development
Randy Ng, Member, Guardians of Flushing Bay

PANEL 3B: THINKING AHEAD: THE NEXT COMPREHENSIVE WATERFRONT PLAN

(LA CES: 1.25 HSW PDH) (APA AICP CM Credits: 1.25)

Location: Infinity Lounge

Vision 2020: New York City Comprehensive Waterfront Plan was a clear statement that New York cares about the future of its waterfront, bridging a citywide community planning process with a broad focus on public access, water quality, maritime industrial jobs, ecological uplift, climate resilience, and more. Released in 2011, that plan is now at its midpoint, with another plan due statutorily by 2021. This session will be a facilitated, interactive workshop to generate ideas and guide planning for the structure, process, goals, and topics for the next iteration of New York City's Comprehensive Waterfront Plan.

Introduction:

Michael Marrella, Director of Waterfront and Open Space Planning, NYC Department of City Planning

Facilitator:

Jay Valgora, Principal, Studio V Architecture

3pm–3:15pm

BREAK

3:15pm–4:30pm

PANEL 4A: THE NEXT GENERATION: BRINGING URBAN YOUTH TO THE WATER

(APA AICP CM Credits: 1.25)

Location: Main Deck

This session will explore eliminating barriers to access to the harbor as a classroom, and preparing the next generation for environmental stewardship to mobilize whole communities to reclaim the waterfront for all. Together we'll tackle questions like: How can we make water access a necessary part of education in New York City? Can we achieve universality of water-based educational opportunities, embedded within both culture and curriculum? How can local youths become stewards of waterfront restoration, and public schools become agents of environmental transformation? How can we support pathways to maritime careers through hands-on training and workforce preparedness?

Facilitator:

Captain Maggie Flanagan, Maritime Operations Manager,
Waterfront Alliance

Panelists:

Alex Baum, Youth Programs Director, Hudson River Community
Sailing

Nancy Woods, Director of Technology and Engineering, New York
City Department of Education

Samuel Janis, Program Manager, Billion Oyster Project, New York
Harbor Foundation

Deputy Brooklyn Borough President Diana Reyna

PANEL 4B: RECAP OF DEEP DIVES SPEAKER SERIES EVENTS

(APA AICP CM Credits: 1.25)

Location: Infinity Lounge

How can art help activate waterfront places? Why should people care about their ports? What kinds of waterfront public access are available, and who is it serving? How can we facilitate waterfront stewardship, both ashore and afloat? How can communities shape Citywide Ferry Service? And how can data be used to advance waterfront policy? We'll hear from participants from *Deep Dives*—interactive discussions that were hosted weekly leading up to the 2016 Waterfront Conference. Participants will share the messages that emerged from each of these discussions—as well as common themes and overlapping challenges across the sessions—to help us collectively determine a set of priorities that the Waterfront Alliance can bring to our constituency.

Panelists:

Captain Jonathan Boulware, Executive Director, South Street
Seaport Museum

Kate Boicourt, Restoration Program Manager of the New York–New
Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program

Rob Buchanan, Steering Committee Member, New York City Water
Trail Association

Inna Guzenfeld, Assistant Director, Urban Planning and Historic
Preservation at Columbia GSAPP

Roger Meyer, Chair, Conservancy North

Nancy Nowacek, Artist, Citizen Bridge

4:30pm–5pm

HEROES OF THE HARBOR AWARDS AND COCKTAILS

Location: Main Deck (Aft)

Please join us to celebrate our 2016 Arcadis Waterfront Scholars as the next generation of waterfront stewards.

5pm

HORNBLOWER INFINITY RETURNS TO PIER 40