

## CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

424 West 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 580, New York, NY 10001 tel: 212-736-4536 www.mcb4.nyc

JEFFREY LEFRANCOIS

Chair

JESSE R. BODINE District Manager

November 15, 2023

The Honorable Kathy C Hochul Governor of New York State NYS Capital Building Albany, NY 12224

The Honorable Eric L. Adams Mayor of New York City City Hall New York, NY 10007

Re: West Side Waterfront Task Force

To the Honorable Governor Kathy C. Hochul and Mayor Eric L. Adams,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) supports a call to form a West Side Resiliency Task Force to address the intersection of infrastructure, coastal resiliency, and environmental conditions along the Hudson River.

At its November 1<sup>st</sup> Full Board meeting, MCB4, by a vote of 37 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions and 0 present but not eligible, approved the following comments.

The Board recognizes government efforts underway to address rising sea waters and storm surges, but we implore this cannot be done in isolation. A West Side Task Force made up of relevant stakeholders would address overlapping issues, agencies, and community groups as we tackle coastal concerns facing our district.

MCB4 is steadfast in its opposition to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) NYNJHAT study Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) Alternative 3B, which houses concrete walls dividing the Hudson River and Hudson River Park from the rest of Manhattan and only benefits 63% of the

study area at direct risk. We stress and reiterate our support for coastal storm risk management elements of alternative plans 2 and 3A, utilizing an offshore barrier system, which may include sea gates.<sup>1</sup>

To be sure, any future mitigation will need synchronization amongst material stakeholders. We expect this Task Force to work with Hudson River Park Trust, The US Army Corps of Engineers and relevant organizations to help coordinate efforts moving forward on a renewed and comprehensive vision for the West Side.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey LeFrancois

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Chair

Manhattan Community Board 4

Maarten deKadt

Maarten de Lant

Co-chair

Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee

Leslie Boghosian Murphy

Co-chair

Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://cbmanhattan.cityofnewyork.us/cb4/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2023/03/10-WPE-Letter-to-USACE-re-Coastal-Storm-Protection-Project.pdf</u>