



N E W S A D V I S O R Y

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NOTED ARCHITECTS TO CREATE A VISION FOR MIDTOWN'S EAST RIVER WATERFRONT

Manhattan has a rare opportunity to open up public access to Midtown's East River waterfront, create a new park and complete a greenway connecting the Battery to Harlem. Six of the world's leading landscape architects will convene tomorrow for an intensive 12-hour design workshop organized by the **Municipal Art Society, City Council member Dan Garodnick and Community Board 6** to create a vision for the East River waterfront from 34th Street to 63rd Street.

A briefing session will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 8, at 866 UN Plaza. Enter at E. 48th Street, just east of First Avenue. The vision will be unveiled at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 10, in the Rotunda at the Hunter College Brookdale Campus, 425 E. 25th Street, just east of First Avenue. The briefing session is open to the news media; the unveiling is open to the public.

The architects will include **Ken Smith**, designer of the roof garden at the Museum of Modern Art, **Ricardo Scofidio**, designer of the High Line, and **Matthew Urbanski** from Van Valkenburgh Associates, designer of Brooklyn Bridge Park. The architects will work collaboratively to create a unified vision and a single set of ideas. The design workshop, known as a *charrette*, is not a design competition.

The state is planning to rebuild the midtown section of FDR Drive, the former Con Ed power plant site is being redeveloped, and the city is planning to facilitate the expansion of the U.N. campus and create an adjacent waterfront esplanade. The *charrette* will explore how the projects can be planned together to create an integrated vision.

Representatives from the state's Department of Transportation, the city's Department of Parks and Recreation and East River Realty Company, LLC — the developer of the former Con Ed site — will participate in the briefing.

The cosponsors of the *charette* are Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, state Senators Liz Krueger and Thomas Duane, state Assembly members Jonathan Bing and Brian Kavanaugh, City Council members Jessica Lapin and Rosie Mendez, Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance and East Midtown Rezoning Alliance.

The Municipal Art Society of New York is a private, non-profit membership organization whose mission is to promote a more livable city. Since 1893, the MAS has worked to enrich the culture, neighborhoods and physical design of New York City. It advocates for excellence in urban design and planning, contemporary architecture, historic preservation and public art.

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