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For Immediate Release:

**Statement from Melissa Baldock for the Municipal Art Society
on the Dock Street Development, DUMBO, Brooklyn:**

The Brooklyn Bridge, as David McCullough has so eloquently articulated, is one of the most beloved structures in New York City, if not in America and the world. It is one of only 11 National Historic Landmarks in Brooklyn – as such it has been afforded the highest level of recognition in our country.

It is incumbent upon New Yorkers to ensure that this precious resource is protected from encroaching development. Along with the Statue of Liberty, the Brooklyn Bridge is one of the most visited tourist destinations in New York City. It is our responsibility to ensure that New Yorkers and visitors from around the world can experience the bridge and its views uninhibited.

There are two very important public views that must be protected on both sides of the bridge, the iconic views of the Bridge from our neighborhood streets and the views of Manhattan, Brooklyn, the East River, and the other East River Bridges from the public walkway of the Brooklyn Bridge.

MAS calls upon the City Council to join their fellow Council Member David Yassky in stopping this encroachment on the Brooklyn Bridge. We urge the City Council and the Mayor to reject this development.

In 2007 the National Trust for Historic Preservation named the industrial heritage of the Brooklyn waterfront to its annual list of the nation's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places, based on a nomination made by the Municipal Art Society. The DUMBO neighborhood was featured in that nomination. The MAS has created a website, www.saveindustrialbrooklyn.org that highlights the history of more than 100 important buildings and structures on the Brooklyn waterfront.

The Municipal Art Society of New York, founded in 1893, is a non-profit membership organization that fights for intelligent urban planning, design and preservation through education, dialogue and advocacy. For more information, please visit www.mas.org.

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