



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

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MANAGER

New York City
Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination

The Phased Redevelopment of Governors Island
Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement
11DME007M

Public Scoping Meeting

Testimony by Catherine McVay Hughes
Chairperson
Manhattan Community Board 1

Tuesday, January 8, 2013
22 Reade St, New York, NY
6:00 PM

Good evening. I am Catherine McVay Hughes, Chair of Manhattan Community Board One (CB1). Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scoping of the Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SGEIS) for the proposed phased redevelopment of Governors Island.

Transportation to Governors Island occurs from the two ferry portals, one in Manhattan and one in Brooklyn. We are particularly concerned about the area surrounding the Battery Maritime Building in Lower Manhattan. CB1 has specific concerns regarding the potential negative impacts on the neighborhood of Lower Manhattan from the North Island Re-tenancing plans. CB1 therefore requests that the following factors be considered as potential impacts of increased use of Governors Island in the preparation of the SGEIS.

- 1. Air quality and noise issues resulting from ferries transporting to and from Governors Island* -- Ferries should be retrofitted using the best available technology and industry standards and use ultra low sulfur diesel fuel.
- 2. Pedestrian and vehicular flow at the Governors Island Ferry Terminal* -- Sidewalks and bike paths must to be wide enough to accommodate increased traffic, and vehicular and pedestrian traffic must be separated in order to reduce pedestrian-vehicular conflicts. CB1 also requests more information about increased transportation opportunities such as additional bus stops when the terminal is built out.
- 3. Garbage removal from Governors Island* -- CB1 requests a plan for how garbage will be handled including whether or not composting will be utilized for minimizing garbage.

4. *LEED certification* -- New or renovated construction should be LEED rated.

5. *Consideration of possible future storms* -- New Governors Island construction and terminal development must be built to the highest industry standards to withstand storms similar to Superstorm Sandy.

6. *Balanced retail uses* -- Future development at Governors Island should seek a balance of retail uses that will attract residents of CB1 as well as tourists.

7. *Maintaining sufficient open space* -- Sufficient open space must be ensured as part of any new construction on the island in order to maintain its park-like setting.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.