

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2006

CONTACT:

Rachaele Raynoff, Press Secretary (City Planning) -- (212) 720-3471

**CITY PLANNING ADDS ONLINE INFO TO ENHANCE THE PUBLIC'S ABILITY TO TRACK
LAND USE PROPOSALS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS**

March 21, 2005 - City Planning Director Amanda M. Burden today announced the latest in a series of enhancements to the Department of City Planning's (DCP) award-winning web page designed to enable the public to track the progress of development proposals and facilitate informed participation in the land use review process. The web site now includes new environmental impact statements for which the City Planning Commission is the lead environmental agency as well as scopes of work for EISs and announcements of upcoming scoping meetings. Among the first such postings are notifications of scoping meetings in coming weeks for a proposed NASCAR race track in Staten Island and the First Avenue Properties Rezoning proposal in Manhattan.

Recently the Department also added [Land Use Application Status Reports](#), a mechanism for the public to check active applications that have been filed at DCP along with information about the applications' status in the City's land use review process. To respond to increased interest in development and its effects, DCP is developing new materials to explain elements of the environmental review process.

City Planning Commission (CPC) reports adopted since July 2003 are also now online and searchable by keyword, date, location or type of application. [CPC reports](#) detail the determinations of the Commission with respect to land use applications, including those subject to the [Uniform Land Use Review Procedure](#) (ULURP), and others such as zoning text amendments and 197-a community-based plans. (Reports of earlier decisions may be obtained by calling DCP.)

"City Planning's web page is a one-stop resource for all land use developments subject to review by the City Planning Commission," said Director Burden, "Not only is the City's zoning text online along with zoning maps, but we also post illustrated descriptions of most large DCP rezoning initiatives early in the process to ensure that communities can visualize the objectives of each proposal. The web is an excellent tool to further the Bloomberg administration's commitment to transparency in government and to enable members of public to be informed participants in planning and decision making for their communities."

Elements of DCP's much-anticipated new Zoning Handbook will also be incorporated into the web site in a format suitable to the internet, enabling the Department to update the information as new zoning districts are approved. A link enables a visitor to the site to print out an order form for the Handbook as well as for the many maps and useful publications carried in the DCP Bookstore.

In addition, DCP Census analysis provides a wealth of information on demographics of the City and its many neighborhoods. Much of this information can be found in the Population section of the web site. On DCP's home page, www.nyc.gov/planning, a "Census Factfinder" enables users to create detailed demographic profiles of neighborhoods by simply entering an address. And an address translator, also on the home page, will give not only the block and lot for an address, but also political and school districts and the local police precinct.

As part of the Department's ongoing efforts to make it easier for the public to navigate the complexities of development in the city, it has also added a number of links to its land use section to direct users to the other city agencies with a role in approving development proposals and monitoring compliance with regulations.

About City Planning

The Department of City Planning is responsible for the City's physical and socioeconomic planning, including land use and environmental review; preparation of plans and policies; and provision of technical assistance and planning information to government agencies, public officials, and community boards.