

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STATEMENT BY MAYOR BLOOMBERG ON NEW YORK CITY RECEIVING THE 2009 URBAN LAND INSTITUTE
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE FOR THE WEST CHELSEA/HIGH LINE PROJECT**

One of Ten Awards Distributed to Projects throughout North America

"Over the last seven years we have successfully catalyzed billions of private investment dollars throughout all five boroughs by adopting land use policies that support development in specific transit-oriented areas, creating thousands of new housing units and acres of new open space. That's a central component of our Five Borough Economic Opportunity Plan, and our [West Chelsea](#) project is a great example of its success. Our plan is creating new housing, commercial and cultural space, and the High Line, once an abandoned elevated rail line, is fast becoming one of the City's – and world's – most innovative new parks.

"For thirty years the Urban Land Institute has been recognizing excellence in land use and development and I want to congratulate the teams from the Department of City Planning, Parks and Recreation, Housing Preservation and Development and Economic Development Corporation and Friends of the Highline on this achievement."

Department of 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.