FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 13, 2010

CONTACTS:
Rachaele Raynoff (City Planning) -- (212) 720-3471

CITY PLANNING TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING ON DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VISION 2020: THE NEW YORK CITY COMPREHENSIVE WATERFRONT PLAN

September 13, 2010 – City Planning Commissioner Amanda M. Burden today announced that as part of the Department of City Planning’s (DCP) continuing public engagement process to develop Vision 2020: The New York City Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, there will be a public meeting on October 12th, 2010, at which draft recommendations will be discussed. The draft recommendations are available for review at nyc.gov/waterfront, where the public can also submit comments online. The public meeting, which follows a year of extensive outreach and discussions with community and waterfront stakeholders, will provide an opportunity for public comment on the plan’s goals and draft recommendations. Vision 2020 is part of the New York City Waterfront Vision and Enhancement Strategy, a citywide initiative that will create a new sustainable blueprint for the City’s more than 500 miles of shoreline, which Mayor Bloomberg and City Council Speaker Christine Quinn formally launched in April 2010.

Commissioner Burden urged interested members of the public to attend the meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, October 12th, at 6 p.m. at Rosenthal Pavilion in the NYU Kimmel Center for University Life – located at 60 Washington Square South in Manhattan. Vision 2020’s draft recommendations, which range from expanding public waterfront access to promoting green technology for maritime operations, were prepared to foster further discussion, and are anticipated to be refined based on public input.

Commissioner Burden said, “We have had incredibly successful public workshops in all five boroughs to inform Vision 2020. I was so impressed and excited that hundreds of knowledgeable and passionate New Yorkers attended our workshops, and I hope everyone who cares about the City’s waterfront continues to work with us to finalize these important recommendations. This is an exciting opportunity to acknowledge the role our harbor plays in shaping our City, and with your help, we can further the Bloomberg administration’s mission of revitalizing New York City’s waterfront and waterways.”

For the past year, DCP has been surveying every inch of the waterfront and meeting with hundreds of community members and waterfront stakeholders. Together with numerous partner agencies, DCP has held seven public visioning workshops throughout the five boroughs to refine the project goals and foster a dialogue about the future of our waterfront and waterways. City Planning will return to each Borough Board in the coming weeks to present the draft recommendations.

Since DCP first authored the City’s original Comprehensive Waterfront plan in 1992, a significant part of our waterfront has been transformed from an untapped resource to one of our City’s greatest assets. Charged by City Council legislation, Vision 2020 will draw upon the City’s extensive work and experience over the past 18 years in order to set forth long-range goals for a 21st century waterfront and establish a sustainable framework for future land use decisions along New York City’s shoreline. The final plan is expected to be released by the end of the year.

Department of City Planning
The Department of City Planning (DCP) promotes strategic growth and development in the City, in part, by initiating comprehensive, consensus-based planning and zoning changes for individual neighborhoods and business districts. It supports the City Planning Commission and each year reviews more than 500 land use applications for actions such as zoning changes and disposition of City property. The Department assists both government agencies and the public by providing policy analysis and technical assistance relating to housing, transportation, community facilities, demography and public space.