

Project Sunlight

Project Sunlight increases government transparency and accountability by allowing the public to see who interacts with New York State employees, including certain Hudson River Park Trust employees.

This project, a part of the Public Integrity Reform Act of 2011, requires certain Hudson River Park Trust employees to report appearances by individuals or firms that are intended to influence the Trust's decision-making process.

The public is able to view a list of appearances in a database hosted on the Office of General Services web site. To use the Project Sunlight database, go to <http://projectsunlight.ny.gov/>

Project Sunlight covers appearances between covered individuals that concern one of these subject areas:

- procurement
- rate making
- regulatory matters
- judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings
- adoption or repeal of a rule or regulation

A reportable appearance is an in-person meeting. Written communications such as letters, faxes, forms, and emails are not considered appearances.

Project Sunlight at Hudson River Park Trust

Covered employees

Project Sunlight applies to Hudson River Park Trust employees who have the power to exercise Trust discretion or advise someone who has that discretion.

These employees must report appearances by all representatives of an entity including:

- outside representatives, such as a lobbyist
- inside representatives, like an officer or general counsel
- individuals appearing on their own behalf

Reportable appearances

What is an APPEARANCE under the law: An appearance must be a substantive interaction that is meant to have an impact on the decision making process of a state entity. For Project Sunlight purposes, it does not matter WHO initiated the appearance, the formality or the location of the meeting.

Appearances that will be reported	These appearances will not be reported
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • procuring a Trust contract for real property, goods, or services valued over \$25,000 • regulatory matters (related to Trust enforcement of its regulations) affecting a broad category of park users • adoption or repeal of a rule or regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • routine license and permit processing for use of Park property • Park facility informational inquiries • Discussion of legislation or budget issues • contacts with Legislators/legislative staff and other government officials • contacts with the press and media • appearances related to procurements under \$25,000 • appearances related to procurements during the restricted period • interaction with the Trust that are confidential under applicable law, rule or regulation • participation in meetings are open to the public or where a record of the meeting is otherwise available • market research outreach • ministerial contacts such as scheduling of meetings

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