

NEWS



Hudson River Park

From: Hudson River Park Trust

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HUDSON RIVER PARK'S PIER 64 OPENS IN CHELSEA

***-- Latest Section Brings 550-Acre Waterfront Park Past Halfway Mark;
80% Park Completion Expected by 2010 --***

NEW YORK, May 1, 2009 – Hudson River Park's Pier 64 in Chelsea and the upland between 24th and 26th Streets are now open to the public. This brings the construction of Hudson River Park past the halfway mark and provides the city with another jewel in the emerald necklace of waterfront parks.

Pier 64's innovative design by Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates features a higher elevation at the western end that rises 15-feet above the bulkhead. This rise, in addition to the pier's unique location at a bend in the Hudson River, provides spectacular views of New York Harbor and the river to the north and south. The entirely passive green recreational pier is characterized by sloping lawns and a grove of English Oaks that extends from the bulkhead out to the pierhead line, enticing park-goers to explore the pier's western end.

"Each addition to Hudson River Park makes this magnificent treasure an even greater gift to our city and state," said Diana Taylor, Chair of the Hudson River Park Trust Board of Directors. "It is thrilling to witness the continued construction progress as the park becomes a beautiful finished product."

Pier 64 is one of three piers that will make up the Chelsea section of Hudson River Park. Two other piers, Pier 62 and Pier 63, are currently under construction and scheduled to open next year. When complete, Chelsea's new waterfront park will measure more than nine acres in total and offer a wonderful variety of activities.

The rebuilt Pier 62 will include a Hudson River animals carousel complete with a green roof as well as a new skate park. Pier 63 will feature a wide waterside esplanade, a "great lawn" bowl, a public garden designed by Lynden Miller, and

a unique sculptural landscape with large boulders set in wildflowers created by the artist Meg Webster.

“Pier 64 and this breathtaking new green space provide an extraordinary amenity to our neighbors in Chelsea as well as to visitors from all over New York City and the world”, said Connie Fishman, President of the Hudson River Park Trust.

“This new addition to the park was a wonderful collaboration between the designers, community – particularly the Chelsea Waterside Park Association, elected officials and the Trust.

The entire Park is being built by the Hudson River Park Trust, the state-city entity responsible for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the new 5-mile waterfront park that is revitalizing the west side of Manhattan.

The Hudson River Park Act, adopted in 1998, calls for the state and city to share equally in funding and oversight of the park and the Trust. While capital funding is provided by the State, City and Federal governments, funding for park operations and maintenance is 100 percent generated from private sources through leases, fees, sponsorships and concession revenues. No government funding is used to support the Trust’s maintenance and operation, or free public events, education and recreation programs.

About the Hudson River Park Trust

Hudson River Park Trust is a partnership between New York State and City charged with the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the five-mile Hudson River Park.

The Trust is as a public benefit corporation and 501(c)(3) and is governed by a thirteen-member Board of Directors. We employ a focused, diverse staff with experience in parks, design, finance, public policy, operations and maintenance. The Trust is governed by the Hudson River Park Act, a 1998 law that established both the park and its governing requirements.

The Trust works with a 50-member Advisory Council, the local elected officials and Community Boards 1, 2, and 4, as well as civic and environmental groups in the park planning process.

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