

News

For Immediate Release

FROM: HUDSON RIVER PARK TRUST (www.hudsonriverpark.org)

PRESS

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HUDSON RIVER PARK OPENS PIERS 62 AND 63 IN CHELSEA

-- Hudson River Carousel and "California"-Style Skate Park Star in 9-Acre Addition to Manhattan's Premier Waterfront Park --

NEW YORK, May 17, 2010 – The newest section of Hudson River Park, New York's premier waterfront recreational venue and the largest new open space to be built in Manhattan since Central Park – was officially opened to the public today. The two new piers and adjacent uplands join Pier 64 – opened last year – to form the largest new green space in Hudson River Park at just over nine acres. The new Chelsea construction includes a "great" lawn, a *Stonefield* landscape created by artist Meg Webster, a magnificent public garden designed by Lynden Miller, a new California-style skate park (already tested by Tony Hawk!), and the city's only Hudson River animals' carousel. The Chelsea section of the Park, including Piers 62, 63, and 64, designed by Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, is the newest jewel in Hudson River Park's emerald necklace of waterfront piers and promenades.

"For the past decade, the State and City's partnership in creating Hudson River Park has resulted in one of New York City's most spectacular new green spaces", said Governor David Paterson. "It has led the way to a revitalized far west side and created a new model for public/private collaboration in waterfront development. This will become a cherished resource for millions of New York residents."

"A new section of Hudson River Park helps reconnect New Yorkers with Hudson river and New York harbor," said Mayor Bloomberg. "This section of the Park will join the rest of Hudson River Park, the West Harlem piers, East River esplanade, Brooklyn Bridge Park, Williamsburg waterfront and Governor's Island as new waterfront parkland developed during our Administration."

With the opening of the new Chelsea area, the 550-acre Hudson River Park is more than two-thirds finished. Later this year, with the opening of Pier 25 in Tribeca and the upland from N. Moore to Chambers St., the Park will near 80% completion. Funding for the next part of the park will help finish Tribeca, including the Pier 26 boathouse/café, and initiate new construction in front of the Circle Line and World Yacht area between Pier 79 and Pier 84. The entire Hudson River Park is being built by the Hudson River Park Trust, the state-city entity responsible for the planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of the new 5-mile waterfront park that is revitalizing the west side of Manhattan. The very popular Hudson River bike path, running along the park from the

Battery to W. 59th St., was constructed by State DOT and is also maintained by the Hudson River Park Trust.

“The opening of Pier 62 and Pier 63 are a valued addition to the steady revitalization of Manhattan’s west side waterfront and provide increased access to one of our most treasured resources,” said Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer. “As a State Assemblyman, I was proud to help hammer out the law that turned Hudson River Park into a reality. Today, I am happy to witness the creation of these beautiful open spaces; they are a real testament to the leadership of the State, City, Hudson River Park Trust, Advisory Council, and Community Boards 1, 2, and 4.”

“As Hudson River Park continues to grow, it becomes more and more of a treasure for all of New York to be proud of”, stated Diana Taylor, Chair of Hudson River Park Trust’s Board of Directors. “This new Chelsea area is one of the crown jewels of Manhattan’s waterfront parks. On behalf of the Trust Board I want to express my thanks to the City and State for their tremendous support of this once-in-a-lifetime project.”

Led by Trust staff members Marc Boddewyn, landscape architect, and Steve Ferker, marine engineer, the outstanding Chelsea design and construction team includes:

Designers

Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates
Beyer Blinder Belle Architects
CR Studio Architects
Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers
Maitra Associates Engineers
Ysrael A. Seinuk Consulting Engineers
U Lighting
Lynden Miller Public Garden Design
Meg Webster – Artist

Construction Manager / Project Manager

Skanska USA Building
Ove Arup & Partners

Contractors

Spearin Preston and Burrows
Prima Paving
Professional Pavers
Levest Electric
Padilla Construction Services
Aqua Turf Irrigation
Kelco Landscape
Mongiove Associates General Contractors
The Carousel Works
California Skateparks

“We are grateful to Governor Patterson, Mayor Bloomberg, the state legislature, and the City Council for their steadfast support of the Trust and their unwavering commitment to the Park”, said Connie Fishman, president of the Hudson River Park Trust. “The more parkland we’re able to open, the more the people of New York realize that Hudson River Park is one of the city’s most valuable recreational resources.”

The Hudson River Park Act, adopted by the legislature in 1998, calls for the state and city to share equally in the funding and oversight of the planning, design and construction of the new waterfront park. Trust operations and maintenance are entirely self-sufficient, with 100 percent of the park’s operating budget generated from within the Park through leases, concession revenues, occupancy and permit fees, sponsorships,

grants and private donations. No government funding is provided to support the Hudson River Park Trust's maintenance, operations, free public events, education, and recreation programs.

About the Hudson River Park Trust

Hudson River Park Trust is a joint partnership of New York State and City that was created to the design, build, operate and maintain of the five-mile, 550-acre Hudson River Park.

The Trust is as a 501(c)(3) and public benefit corporation and is governed by a 13-member Board of Directors appointed by the Governor, Mayor and Manhattan Borough President. It employs a diverse staff with experience in parks, design, finance, public policy, maintenance and operations.

The Trust is governed by the Hudson River Park Act, a 1998 law that established both the park and the Trust. The Trust works with a 50-member citizen's Advisory Council, civic and environmental groups, Community Boards 1, 2, and 4 and local elected officials in the park planning process.

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