



DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING
CITY OF NEW YORK
WATERFRONT AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING

Amanda M. Burden, FAICP, *Director*
Department of City Planning

RECEIVED
JUN 07 2013
BY COMMUNITY BOARD 8

June 5, 2013

Mr. Nicholas D. Viest
Manhattan Community Board 8
505 Park Avenue, Suite 620
New York, New York 10022

Re: Revisions to the Waterfront Revitalization Program (N120213NPY)
Modifications to the Draft Coastal Zone Boundary

Dear Mr. Nicholas D. Viest,

Last spring, your Community Board had the opportunity to review the proposed revisions to the NYC Waterfront Revitalization Program (WRP) (N120213NPY) proposed by the Department of City Planning. The proposed revisions are currently under review at the City Planning Commission pursuant to the Rules for Processing of Plans Pursuant to Charter Section 197-a, and are expected to be adopted in the near future. We are now writing you in order to advise you of certain changes in the locations within your Community District to which the revised WRP will apply, resulting from modifications to the City's Coastal Zone Boundary in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

The WRP sets forth the City's policies for evaluating discretionary actions in the Coastal Zone for consistency with the State's Coastal Zone Management program. The City's Coastal Zone Boundary (CZB) defines the limits of the Coastal Zone and therefore defines the geography where discretionary actions must be reviewed for consistency with the WRP policies in order to proceed. Pursuant to federal statute, the boundary encompasses all land and water that imposes a direct and significant impact on coastal waters, including a range of coastal features, such as tidal and freshwater wetlands, waterfront parks and beaches and coastal historic and cultural sites. Additionally, the CZB is defined to include areas mapped within the existing 1% and .02% FEMA flood zones shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) applicable to New York City. The CZB as shown in the WRP proposal as originally transmitted to you therefore included those areas mapped as part of the flood zone under the FEMA FIRMs.

Following Hurricane Sandy, FEMA released advisory flood maps for New York, which more accurately depict the risk levels confronting New Yorkers in the event of a coastal storm than the existing FEMA FIRMs. These advisory maps include some areas that extend beyond the flood zone shown on the FIRMs. In order to ensure that the CZB incorporated in the adopted WRP reflects the latest available flood risk data and includes geographic areas where development may impact the coastal areas of the city and the policies and purposes of the WRP, the Department is now proposing that the CZB be adjusted to reflect the geographic boundaries of the expanded flood zone shown on the advisory flood maps.

For this reason, we are providing to your Community Board newly revised proposed CZB maps that reflect the latest available FEMA base floodplain elevation data. The maps, attached to this letter, depict the proposed Coastal

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Zone Boundary to include FEMA's latest 1% and .02% flood zones squared off to the nearest street centerline or other prominent feature. The Department requests that your Community Board provide comments or recommendations, if any, within 30 days of receipt of this transmission, or by July 5th, whichever is later. **Please send any comments to:**



City Planning Commission
Calendar Information Office
22 Reade Street, Room 2E
New York, N. Y. 10007
Calendaroffice@planning.nyc.gov

If you have questions about the proposed revisions to the WRP, please refer to the Department of City Planning website at <http://www.nyc.gov/wrp>. Department of City Planning staff is available to answer any questions via email wrp@planning.nyc.gov or phone 212-720-3525.

Sincerely,

Michael Marrella

Enclosure

CC: Jacquelyn Harris, DCP
City Council
All affected Community Boards
All Borough Presidents' Offices