

Waterfront and Parks Committee
Letter to Electeds
Re: Segment 5 construction priorities

Dear XXXXXX, (Pataki, Duane, Glick, Stringer??)

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Letter to Electeds
Re: Segment 5 construction priorities

Dear Assemblyman Gottfried,

We are writing to urge you to secure funding for the Hudson River Park both on a long-term basis and short-term for the construction of several elements that could be built, and should be built, immediately.

We feel we are at a critical point in the park's development, especially in Chelsea. It's been a long time since the residents of Chelsea have seen progress on the park and many years before Segment 5 in its entirety will be ready. We think this is a ripe time to regenerate enthusiasm and support for funding for the park.

We understand that what funding remains after the Segment 6 elements of the park are constructed is uncertain, and we do not in any way want to jeopardize the completion of those parts of the park. Instead, we ask you to find a way to secure funding for the following projects in Segment 5, all of which could be completed independent of the rest of the segment, and before construction starts on the segment as a whole.

- We have been waiting too long, it is agreed, for the completion of the east side of Chelsea Waterside Park. It's been four years now since the park was opened and the play equipment is still not in place. Instead that area has deteriorated. We understand that bids for the equipment were far above the original estimate, and that delayed the project. Now, we must find a way to get this built, and built the way we always envisioned.
- Money must also be secured immediately for the comfort station/food kiosk. Again, four years have passed and no one has found the way or means to fulfill the program intentions of the park.
- We also request that funds be made available to remove the shed of Pier 64. Just as when the headhouse of Pier 64 was removed many years ago, the removal of the shed would give residents a glimpse of the future of the park, even if it does not add any more useable space in the interim.

Progress on these three elements would make a huge difference to the residents of Chelsea, many of whom have been working on this park since the idea was conceived. We will be waiting a long time for the rest of the segment to be ready, and sadly, funds for that are still uncertain. Seeing progress here could also serve as a lightening rod of support for funding for the segment – and galvanize residents to organize again for this last push.

Thank you for your continued support of the park, and we hope, action on these issues.

Sincerely

Walter

John

Pam