



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 9, 2025

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CITY SHARES NEXT STEPS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS FOR POST-9/11 FALLEN SERVICE MEMBER MEMORIAL HONORING NEW YORK CITY'S FALLEN

NEW YORK — The New York City Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) and the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA) today announced next steps in the development of the Post-9/11 Fallen Service Member Memorial, the City's first memorial dedicated to the over 100 Post-9/11 service members from New York City who made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Initially [unveiled during Veterans and Service Members' Week by Mayor Eric Adams and DVS Commissioner James Hendon](#), the memorial will be designed by renowned sculptor Douwe Blumberg and will serve as a sacred site of reflection, remembrance, and recognition for those lost in the Post-9/11 conflicts, as well as a "thank you" and "welcome home" to the broader Post-9/11 Veteran community.

The memorial is currently undergoing **design development**, with project stakeholders offering feedback on the concept design. As part of the public input process, the city is inviting community members to share their thoughts on the memorial through **Veterans Advisory Board (VAB) public sessions**. The first session took place on April 30th in Queens, and **subsequent sessions will occur on June 11th on Staten Island, on August 27th in the Bronx, and on October 29th in Brooklyn**, offering additional opportunities for Veterans and their families to help shape this lasting tribute.

Working with DCLA's [Percent for Art program](#), the artist will refine the proposal to reflect this input from city agencies, the VAB, and other stakeholders ahead of the next stage.

The process will then follow the formal review path of the **New York City Public Design Commission (PDC)**:

- The memorial proposal will next be submitted to the PDC for **Conceptual Design Review**, which includes a **public hearing** where commissioners and members of the public can provide additional feedback.
- Upon **Conceptual Approval**, the design will advance with a focus on material selection, aesthetics, durability, and constructability.
- The refined design will then return to the PDC for **Preliminary Design Review**. Upon approval, the city will issue a **notice to fabricate**, formally initiating the construction phase.

Located on the waterfront in the Whitestone neighborhood of Queens — home to the highest number of fallen Post-9/11 service members and the city's largest population of living Veterans, the memorial will be part of a broader revitalization project led by NYC DOT and EDC. That project includes street and seawall improvements, a pedestrian promenade, and storm resilience upgrades.



This memorial is the result of a citywide open call, reviewed by a diverse panel of New York City Veterans and civic leaders, and was selected for its thoughtful symbolism and timeless design. It builds on the city's commitment to honoring all who served, especially those who never came home.

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ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

The NYC Department of Veterans' Services' mission is to connect, mobilize, and empower New York City's Veteran community to foster purpose-driven lives for U.S. military service members—past and present—and their caregivers, survivors, and families. We assist NYC Veteran community members on issues including employment, housing, food security, well-being, benefits, culture, and targeted advocacy. For more information about DVS programs and services, please visit www.nyc.gov/vets, call (212) 416-5250, or email connect@veterans.nyc.gov.