



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
New York District

## ***News Release***

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### **Army Corps of Engineers Issues Permit for Construction of Hudson River Park**

**New York** -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District today issued a permit to the Hudson River Park Trust, authorizing work related to construction of the Hudson River Park along Manhattan's west side. When completed, the five-mile park will extend from Battery Park to West 59th Street.

The authorized work includes the repair and reconstruction of piers and bulkheads, and installation of new docks and balconies to enable public access to the Hudson River. More than thirteen piers will be rehabilitated to allow public access. Also included are facilities for water taxi service, the construction of public beach areas at Gansevoort Peninsula and south of Pier 76, and the construction of two ecological piers that will be planted with native plant species to enhance environmental diversity. To construct the park, incompatible uses – such as the New York City Department of Sanitation facilities, a municipal bus garage, and a natural gas station – would be relocated.

Today's action completes a public review process that included two Corps public notices, a public hearing, several meetings with federal and state resource agencies, proponents and opponents of the project, and a series of consultation meetings with interested citizens and parties with regard to the project's impacts to historic properties and natural resources. Public and agency comments were considered in the development of the project identified in the permit, which includes substantial reduction of more environmentally obtrusive features (including a large marina) that were first under the original permit application.

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## **Corps Permit/Add 1**

The Corps permit includes 21 special conditions to ensure environmental constraints and sensitivity are exercised during construction. The conditions include time-of-year work restrictions, dredging prohibitions, and habitat preservation and enhancement measures to protect resident and migrating fish, waterfowl and shorebirds. A major beneficial impact of the project is a net reduction of more than six and one-half acres of platform decking over the Hudson River.

The Corps' extensive evaluation of the Hudson River Park Trust's application included a detailed review of the expected individual and cumulative effects of the project on conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, recreation, water quality, energy needs, safety, consideration of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps' decision culminates nearly two and a half years of evaluation and concludes that a federal environmental impact statement need not be prepared for the permit, and that issuance of a permit for work in and over the Hudson River is not contrary to the public interest.

The terms and special conditions of the issued permit have the support of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as well as city and state agencies.