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Regional Plan Association

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LOWER MANHATTAN PLAN PRAISED BY REGIONAL ASSOCIATION

Regional Plan Association President C. McKim Norton reacted enthusiastically to The Lower Manhattan Plan presented today to the New York City Planning Commission.

While its details have not yet been studied, the principles are important for new and renewed development throughout the Region, Norton said.

Among the principles which Norton approved are:

- Turning the City outward toward the rivers, providing frequent public and almost continuous public or residential access to the rivers, and getting rid of the elevated highway
- Providing separate pedestrian and automobile rights of way and generally improving conditions for walking
- Proposing new types of short-distance mechanical conveyances for central business districts
- Opening up vistas and views of important landmarks--integrating a plan for aesthetics with the plan for land-use and movement
- Enhancing the atmosphere for office workers, which increasingly will be the backbone of the Region's economy if the Region can compete successfully with other urban regions.

Many of the principles had been enunciated by Regional Plan--particularly turning the City outward toward the River and removing such blocks as the elevated West Side Highway; and improving conditions for pedestrians in the Manhattan central business district.

The Association is a 37-year-old nonprofit civic organization working for the efficient, attractive and varied development of the New York Metropolitan Region, a 7,000 square mile area surrounding the Port of New York in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut.