



September 15, 2022

Honorable Kathy Hochul  
Governor of New York State  
NYS Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

The Lower Manhattan community and the Battery Park City Neighborhood Association have been leading an effort to provide design changes to the South Battery Park City Resiliency Project. The community believes the current design does not reflect the world-class nature of the Battery Park City parks and the latest innovations in resiliency and water management.

Over the past few months, members of the community have been in discussions with the experts, listed below, and this growing team of specialists are able and committed to working with the community and other stakeholders to develop a revised Robert F. Wagner Jr. Park design that both protects from climate change risk and preserves the character and cultural significance of this park and its relationship to Battery Park City and all of New York.

Dr. Klejda Bega  
Science Lecturer, Columbia University  
PhD, Physics from Caltech  
[Profile](#)

Lucinda Sanders  
CEO, OLIN  
Landscape Architecture  
Original Landscape Designer, Wagner Park  
[Profile](#)

Eric T. Fleisher  
F2 Environmental Design  
Former Director of Horticulture, Battery Park City Conservancy  
2008 Loeb Fellow at Harvard University  
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Jeffry Burchard  
Partner, Machado Silvetti  
Assistant Professor in Practice of Architecture, Harvard University  
[Profile](#)

We believe that this can be accomplished without materially sacrificing the completion timelines for the South, West and North Battery Park City Resiliency Projects, collectively. In doing this, we can serve as a gold standard model for community-backed resiliency projects that can be emulated worldwide.

Sincerely,

The Battery Park City Neighborhood Association

