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## **Statement by Downtown Alliance Chairman and President on the State of Lower Manhattan**

**New York, NY (September 7, 2010)** — On the eve of the 9th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center, Alliance for Downtown New York Chairman Robert R. Douglass and President Elizabeth H. Berger issued the following statement on the state of Lower Manhattan:

Thanks to Mayor Bloomberg, State Assembly Speaker Silver, Governors Paterson and Christie, Chris Ward of the Port Authority and Larry Silverstein of Silverstein Properties for their leadership over the last year in moving the World Trade Center project forward.

Steel is rising on the site, trees are being planted and the National September 11 Memorial is on schedule to open next year.

But that's not all that is happening in Lower Manhattan. Since 2008, close to 300 businesses—from financial services to media—have relocated here.

From the restaurant rows of Stone, Pearl and Front streets to the exciting new and planned restaurants in Battery Park City, Lower Manhattan is alive not only after work but on nights and weekends, too.

The residential population in the district has more than doubled in the last nine years. The number of hotels has tripled. While Wall Street remains one of the world's premier financial-services addresses, Lower Manhattan is now a hub for creative services.

The new South Ferry and Cortlandt Street subway stations have opened. So has the Pier 11 ferry terminal. Opening this fall are Pier 25 on the Hudson and the first stage of the East River Waterfront Esplanade. The Fulton Street Transit Center and the World Trade Center Transportation Hub are on schedule to debut in 2014.

Lower Manhattan is a global model of a robust, round-the-clock, 21st century business district of 300,000 workers, 55,000 residents and six million annual visitors—living, working and playing in one sustainable square mile with the best transportation connections in the region.

And now, as the redeveloped World Trade Center starts to reach its full potential, we look forward to a future that is even more exciting.

*The mission of the Alliance for Downtown New York is to be the principal organization that provides Lower Manhattan's historic financial district with a premier physical and economic environment, advocates for businesses and property owners and promotes the area as a world-class destination for companies, workers, residents and visitors. The Downtown Alliance manages the Downtown-Lower Manhattan Business Improvement District (BID), serving an area roughly from City Hall to the Battery, from the East River to West Street.*

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