

Municipal Art Society Releases New Report on Catalyzing Public, Private and Community Sectors to Prioritize Resilience

“All Hands on Deck: Mobilizing New Yorkers for a Livable and Resilient City” Proposes a Framework for Tackling this Critical Issue

New York, NY (December 19, 2013) Continuing its ongoing work advocating for a resilient built environment, the Municipal Art Society of New York today released a new report reflecting a year’s worth of listening and interpreting voices and suggestions following a heightened call for resilience after Superstorm Sandy.

The illustrated report entitled, “All Hands on Deck: Mobilizing New Yorkers for a Livable and Resilient City”, proposes a framework for resilience that establishes key priorities for making resilient communities, processes and policies as the City continues to recover from Sandy, which is particularly pertinent now as changes in the City Administration are imminent. The report aggregates the efforts, recommendations, and ideas of multiple stakeholders and organizations, and in doing so, emphasizes the need for cross-coordination and inclusive collaboration between different levels of government, disciplines and recovering communities.

“This report is a call for radical cooperation, to mobilize New Yorkers across the five boroughs and every narrow interest and ideology, to rally together for a robust set of actions to secure our future,” said Vin Cipolla, President of MAS. “Superstorm Sandy was our wake up call. In 2014 as we welcome new leadership to City Hall, the commitment of civil society to the principles we stress here, and to the actions we and our diverse colleagues have urged we collectively undertake, is not only possible. It is necessary.”

“We need all hands on deck—City staff and agencies, cultural and academic institutions, neighborhood residents, experts, philanthropy, elected officials, the private sector including the financiers and insurers, as well as the creative and entrepreneurial sectors—to generate innovation, increase the capacities of neighborhoods and communities, and place New York City on a path to becoming a global model for urban resilience,” said Eugenie Birch, chair of MAS.

All Hands on Deck outlines priorities for creating a resilient and livable city with particular recommendations in each area. The priorities include: mobilizing existing resources and diverse expertise, strengthen local capacities, invest in flexible and adaptive infrastructure, and lead with policies that sustain resilience.

Cipolla concluded, “All Hands on Deck will serve to guide New York City on a path towards a more resilient and livable future, but it is still only the beginning of an

ambitious, fundamentally hopeful journey. Creating an adaptive urban environment is an ongoing process, a journey rather than a final destination. Our planning and rebuilding efforts must not only prepare for the next superstorm, but also contribute to the ongoing process of creating livable and resilient neighborhoods for all New Yorkers.”

To view the report visit: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/191356498/All-Hands-on-Deck-Mobilizing-New-Yorkers-for-a-Livable-and-Resilient-City>

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The Municipal Art Society of New York has led New York City’s livability movement since 1893. MAS’s mission is to advocate for public policies, private sector practices, individual agency and community engagement for a resilient built environment that encourages our city’s economic vitality, cultural vibrancy, environmental sustainability, livability and social diversity. For more information visit MAS.org.

Contact: Mollie Fullington/Jaime Strohmenger LAK PR
mfullington@lakpr.com 917-346-6123 / jstrohmenger@lakpr.com 631-523-2050