

An aerial photograph of the Chicago skyline, featuring numerous skyscrapers and the city's layout. The foreground shows the city's waterfront, including the Navy Pier with its Ferris wheel and the large, rectangular, white-roofed structure of the Navy Pier. The city extends into the distance, with a dense grid of buildings and streets. The water of Lake Michigan is visible on the right side of the image.

# URBAN WATERFRONTS 26: *Countless Opportunities*

**THE WATERFRONT CENTER'S 26TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**November 20 - 22, 2008**, The Drake Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

Preceded by a Workshop Showcasing Chicago's Waterfronts:

*Chicago: The Tale of Two Waterfronts*, November 19 - 20, 2008

An optional Wednesday reception and dinner and all day Thursday in-depth briefing.

**Pre-Conference Workshop requires a separate registration fee.**



## URBAN WATERFRONTS 26 CONFERENCE SUPPORT

*As of May 1, 2008*

- AIA/CHICAGO, Chicago, Illinois
  - ARUP, Chicago, Illinois
- BEYER BLINDER BELLE, New York, New York
  - CITY OF CHICAGO, Chicago, Illinois
  - EDAW, San Francisco, California
  - EDSA, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- FIRST LADY OF CHICAGO, Chicago, Illinois
- HITCHCOCK DESIGN GROUP, Naperville, Illinois
  - JJR, LLC, Madison, Wisconsin
- THE LAKOTA GROUP, Chicago, Illinois
- LIFSCHUTZ DAVIDSON SANDILANDS, London, England,
- METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT, Chicago, Illinois
  - RRM Design, Sausalito, California
- SASAKI ASSOCIATES, Watertown, Massachusetts
  - SOM, Chicago, Illinois
- THE WATERFRONT CENTER, Washington, D.C.

### LOCAL COMMITTEE

Cathy Hudzik, Office of the Mayor, City of Chicago, Illinois  
Brad Winick, principal, JJR, LLC, Chicago, Illinois

### WATERFRONT CENTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mark Dawson, Sasaki Associates, Watertown, Massachusetts  
Mike Dawson, River Alliance, Columbia, South Carolina  
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***The Waterfront Center***, a non-profit educational organization, was formed in 1981 in the belief that waterfronts — where the land meets the ocean, bay, lake, river or canal — are unique, finite resources. The vital characteristic that separates waterfronts from other areas in a community is the relationship to water.

Like the cities they help define, urban waterfronts are dynamic places, undergoing profound change. Waterfronts often represent the best opportunity for community enhancement and enrichment.

Since its formation, the Center has chronicled the urban waterfront phenomenon as it has grown and spread worldwide. Communities of all sizes have transformed abandoned, underused waterfront areas for a wide array of new uses, from parks and trails to mixed-use and residential projects, as well as industrial activity.

The Waterfront Center believes that urban waterfronts are important, special assets and that, when redeveloped, they can serve as a unifying force in a city or town and can be, and often are, a force for community enrichment. Further, vibrant communities are essential for environmental, economic and social advancement.

The chief goal of the Center is to assist communities and the professions in making the wisest and best long-term uses of waterfront resources for maximum public benefit. We are a public interest, not a lobbying, organization.



The Waterfront Center  
P.O. Box 32129  
Washington, DC 20007

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# URBAN WATERFRONTS 26: *Countless Opportunities*

**The Drake Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, November 20-22, 2008**

**plus**

**Pre-Conference Workshop Showcasing Chicago**

(see “Optional Events” for details) —

**“Chicago: A Tale of Two Waterfronts”, November 19-20, 2008**

*(Additional Registration Required)*

Each panel will feature three speakers and a moderator. LISTED BELOW ARE CONFIRMED SPEAKERS AS OF May 1, 2008

All Urban Waterfronts 26 conference sessions held at the Drake Hotel.

## **Thursday, November 20**

**6:00 p.m.** Urban Waterfronts 26  
Registration and Exhibitors’  
Welcome Reception

**7:30 p.m.** Get-Acquainted Dinner (optional event, additional fee)  
Join fellow attendees at Flatwater (321 N. Clark Street - River Level). A bus will take you to this riverside restaurant where we have a private room with a river view and stunning arch. You will have a four-course meal with wine. Tax, gratuities and transportation included.

## **Friday, November 21**

**7:30 a.m.** Registration and continental breakfast

**8:30 a.m.** Welcome, Water Ceremony

***The Water Ceremony** has become a conference tradition. Individuals who have been asked to bring a small bottle of water from the rivers, lakes or bays that touch their cities pour the water into a bowl to symbolize the waterfront community’s collective commitment to the health of the world’s waters as well as to sound waterfront planning and development practice. If you would like to join in the ceremony, please contact the Center or just bring your contribution.*

## Friday, November 21 *(continued)*

9:00 a.m. Opening Plenary: TBA

9:45 a.m. Coffee Break

10:15 a.m. – 12:15p.m.  
CONCURRENT MORNING SESSIONS

### • Panel A-1: Project Updates - From Vision to Reality

What began as someone's dream, eventually – with lots of hard work – becomes a reality.

This panel will give insights into the many steps taken in 20 or more years, including changes of leadership, evolving missions, accomplishments as well as occasional missteps along the way. Features two pioneering river improvement organizations.

**Margaret Frisbee**, executive director, Friends of the Chicago River, Chicago, Illinois

**Linda Cox**, executive director, Bronx River Alliance, The Bronx, New York

### • Panel B-1: Bridges as Signatures

Whether the iconic symbols of their respective cities or not, bridges play a critical transportation role on waterfronts. When they are beautifully designed as well as being simply utilitarian, the structures help define their waterfront. The panel will explore not only the aesthetics but also some of the practicalities involved in bridge design and maintenance.



Thomas Powers, deputy commissioner, Department of Transportation, Bridges and Transit, Chicago, Illinois

Ken Philmus, vice president, DMJM Harris, Iselin, New Jersey

### • Panel C-1: Sea Level Rising - Here Today, Gone Tomorrow?

We come back to this subject by popular demand. Waterfront communities need to learn as much as possible about this timely and sometimes controversial topic. How to be prepared, what to be prepared for and in what time frame will be discussed.

The Honorable Gerald Blessey, Gerald Blessey Law Firm, P.A., Biloxi, Mississippi  
Chris Reed, principal and founder of Stoss Landscape Urbanism, Boston, Massachusetts

Mary H. Cooper Ellis, Landscape Architect and Urban Planner, Kilmarnock, Virginia

### • Shirt Sleeve Session 1: Update on the Public Trust Doctrine

Public access to and along waterfronts continues to be one of the most important issues facing cities and towns everywhere. Will feature the latest word on the public trust doctrine that can be a key tool for planners and decision makers. Come share your experiences and learn from each other at this informal roundtable.

Speaker and facilitator: Karen Perry, Robinson & Cole, Hartford, Connecticut

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
CONCURRENT AFTERNOON SESSIONS



Photo by JJR



### • Panel A-2: Waterfront Transformations

The waterfront phenomenon continues apace around the world, including rejuvenated brownfields and reclaimed abandoned sites. These transformations involve planning and decisions, leadership, years of hard work, partnerships of all kinds, and myriad funding sources. Learn from presenters how their towns did it and what they had to overcome. Communities of all sizes can learn from these cases.

The Honorable Ed Schock, mayor, City of Elgin, Illinois

### • Panel B-2: Lights, Fountains, Flash and Splash!

Dramatic, innovative -- sometimes subtle and sustainable -- lighting and fountain features can add that special something to any waterfront project be it a major mixed use undertaking or a small park. Learn some of the latest innovations as well as the practicalities of these installations.

Nikhil Mitter, designer, WET design, Sun Valley, California

Dick Lanyon, superintendent, Chicago Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

### • Panel C-2: Water Recreation

With the increased and continuing clean-up of our waterways, the opportunity for water recreation and all its pleasures whether boating, swimming, fishing, or

just getting your feet wet has expanded greatly over the last several decades. This panel will include discussions on an exciting and dramatic floating pool that was brought into New York's harbor in 2007 and other ways of how to get people onto and into the water.

Ann Bittenwieser, executive director, The Neptune Foundation, New York, New York

Jeff Cornelius, program manager, River Action Inc., Quad Cities of Iowa and Illinois

### • Shirt Sleeve Session 2: Project Finance

4:00 p.m. Coffee Break

4:30 p.m. Plenary: 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Excellence on the Waterfront Honor Awards Ceremony.

Jim August, chief executive officer, The Forks - North Portage Development Corporation, jury chair, presiding.

5:45 p.m. Champagne Reception honoring the 2008 Honor Award Winners.

7:30 p.m. The Waterfront Center's Gala Dinner Honoring the 22<sup>nd</sup> Excellence on the Waterfront Honor Award Winners. (optional event, additional fee)

We will enjoy a festive evening in the French Room at the Drake. While we take in a view of the lakefront, we'll enjoy a multi-course meal and champagne toasts in honor of this year's award winners. Black tie optional.

## Saturday, November 22

8:00 a.m. Coffee and continental breakfast

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
CONCURRENT MORNING SESSIONS

### • Panel A-3: Preserving our Past for the Future

Urban waterfronts around the globe are enriched with the patina of historic structures of all kinds.



## Saturday, November 22 *(continued)*

To preserve and recycle old buildings not only contributes to the character of a community but is an environmentally wise thing to do.

Jeffrey Scherer, principal, Meyer Scherer & Rockcastle, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Christopher McCagg, Butler Rogers Baskett, New York, New York

### \* Panel B-3: Environmental Centers

The importance of environmental education, whether in museum-like settings or outdoor natural experiences, can never be stressed too much. Armed with knowledge of environmental impacts citizens and decision makers alike will make wiser and more environmentally sound choices.

Laura Schoeman, project manager, EcoCenter at Herons' Head Park, San Francisco, California

### \* Panel C-3: Working Waterfront — Getting the Balance Right

Working waterfront facilities, especially those that require a waterfront location or require deep drafts, often need special protection from the pressures of gentrification.

The working waterfront — whether the funky fishing fleet or the dramatic cranes of a busy port — play important roles in the economy and tradition of the community where they are located.

Michael Montgomery, manager, Riverfront Renaissance, Portland, Oregon

### • Shirt Sleeve Session 3: Charette on a Chicago issue

11:00 a.m. Coffee Break

11:30 a.m. Closing Plenary: TBA

**Afternoon:** Optional Tours

## OPTIONAL EXTRA EVENTS

### PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP Chicago: The Tale of Two Waterfronts November 19-20, 2008

(REQUIRES A SEPARATE REGISTRATION: OPEN ONLY TO URBAN WATERFRONTS 26 ATTENDEES)

#### TWO OPTIONS AVAILABLE

**1** **OPTION ONE:** Includes a Wednesday night hosted reception followed by a get-acquainted dinner plus the all-day Thursday workshop and lunch

**2** **OPTION TWO:** Includes Thursday workshop and lunch.

### WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 19 (only for those signing up for Option One)

**5:30 p.m.** A chartered bus will depart hotel and drop you off at the century-old Cliff Dwellers Club now located on the penthouse floor of 200 South Michigan Avenue. The welcome reception will be followed by a multi-course meal and wine while enjoying panoramic views of the Lakefront and a bird's eye view of Millennium Park - Chicago's newest crown jewel. Bus will return everyone to the Drake. Fee includes the bus transport, hosted reception and dinner with wine plus tax and gratuity.

### THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20

**8:00 a.m.** Registration. Coffee and Light Breakfast - The Drake Hotel - Parkside Room

**9:00 a.m.** Depart for Chicago's First Lady dock area on the south bank of the Chicago River, on the southeast corner of Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive (approximately seven blocks from the Drake Hotel).



**9:30 a.m.** Thursday's day-long Workshop begins as Chicago's First Lady departs the dock for a guided tour of the Chicago River, from Goose Island on the North Branch to at least Ping Tom Park on the South Branch. This portion of the tour will include narration by many of the owners, operators, and managers of key sites along the River. You will learn about the River's history, its future plans, and a number of the exciting new open spaces and built projects along the River's edge. The River portion of the tour will conclude with Chicago's First Lady docking back downtown.

**12:30 noon** Morning tour participants can disembark from Chicago's First Lady and any late tour joiners can meet up with the group when we stop for a boxed lunch back downtown.

**1:30 p.m.** The Workshop will continue (weather permitting) back aboard Chicago's First Lady for a tour of the near North and near South lakefront, guided by the operators and managers of the lakefront parks and harbors along the near North and near South lakefront. You will learn about the Lake's history, current and future uses, and the plans for the Chicago 2016 Summer Olympic Games. The Lake portion of the tour will conclude with Chicago's First Lady returning to its dock area on the south bank of the Chicago River, on the southeast corner of Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive. (Note: If weather so requires, the afternoon program will be presented at an indoor lakefront location).

**4:30 p.m.** Participants can return via cab or a stroll up Michigan Avenue to the Drake Hotel in plenty of time for the opening reception there.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

### Saturday Afternoon Optional Tours

A number of exciting optional tours will allow pre-registered participants a variety of ways to experience Chicago's Two Waterfronts (weather permitting). The current list of options includes:

- A guided bicycle tour of Chicago's Lakefront Trail
- A guided canoe paddle of the North Branch of the Chicago River
- A guided walking tour of Chicago's Downtown Riverwalk, including a tour of a working bridge house
- A guided bus tour of the Lake Calumet Area, including the future site of the Ford Calumet Environmental Center. This area is a unique mix of industrial land use and open space, and features large remnants of wetland habitat that remain from Chicago's pre-development days. Learn about Chicago's work on environmentally friendly design guidelines for industry in the area, and work to restore and enhance critical wetland habitat.

# REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill out both sides of this form detach it and mail it to:  
**The Waterfront Center, P.O. Box 32129, Washington, DC 20007**

or fax it to  
**(202) 986-0448**

## Conference Registration

Use the form with this announcement or download from the web site. You may photocopy it. Save money by sending or faxing your registration with payment or signed purchase order on or before OCTOBER 22, 2008. You may use VISA, Mastercard or American Express. Fax: 202 986 0448.

## Cancellation Policy

We will refund conference registration fees ONLY, less a \$75 handling charge, for cancellations received in writing by OCTOBER 22, 2008. After this date, we are unable to make refunds for any cause, including acts of God or terrorism and suggest you arrange for a substitute or donate your registration as a tax-deductible scholarship. Please note that NO refunds will be made for cancelled optional events such as tours, guest tickets, etc.

**You will be in for a real treat staying at the historic and beautiful Drake Hotel.**

### Conference Headquarters

You will be in for a real treat staying at the historic and beautiful Drake Hotel. Step back in time and enjoy the spectacular public areas including the

popular Palm Court Lounge where you can take tea or sip a cocktail in a relaxed and gracious atmosphere. Many of the rooms have lakefront views and you will be



Courtesy of the Drake Hotel

footsteps away from the Magnificent Mile (Google the Drake Hotel and take a look for yourself). On Saturday, November 22, the Christmas lights will be turned on along Michigan Avenue — an added treat for those staying over.

## Special Hotel Rates at the Drake Hotel

The SPECIAL conference room rate is \$209.00. Rates subject to current city tax. PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY with the Drake Hotel at 1-800-55-DRAKE. or e-mail to reservation.drake@hilton.com. You must identify yourself as eligible for the group rate of The Waterfront Center Conference. Cut-off date for reservations at the Waterfront Center Conference rate is OCTOBER 28, 2008. After October 28, reservations will be accepted on the basis of availability at the prevailing rate.

## Mail Registration to:

The Waterfront Center, PO Box 32129,  
Washington, DC 20007 or

FAX: 202 986 0448

Quesstions: 202 337 0356 or  
email: mail@waterfrontcenter.org

Please mail it to: The Waterfront Center, P.O. Box 32129, Washington, DC 20007 or fax it to (202) 986-0448

CONFERENCE FEE: Includes hosted receptions, luncheon, all coffee breaks and materials.

Members:

Non-members (includes one-year membership)

Government/non-profit members

Government/non-profit non-members

Additional attendees from same organization

Student (credentials required)

2008 Pre-Conference Chicago Workshop and Conference Registration Form  
Additional fee for this event.

## OPTIONAL EVENTS — ADDITIONAL FEES

2008 PRE-CONFERENCE CHICAGO WORKSHOP:  
November 19-20, open to conference attendees only

### Chicago: A Tale of Two Waterfronts

Option #1:

Wednesday night, November 19, hosted reception followed by dinner at  
The Cliff Dwellers, plus all-day Thursday workshop, boat tour and lunch.

Option #2:

Thursday workshop, boat tour, and lunch.

EXTRA EVENTS — Requires additional fee. On site registration on space available basis.

No cancellations on these events.

Thursday, November 20: Dinner at Flatwater

Friday, November 21: Gala Honoring 2008 Honor Award Winners

Gala Dinner Guest

*\*Note: All dinner costs include a multi-course meal, wine, tax and gratuity and for The Cliff Dwellers and Flatwater, bus transport to and from restaurant.*

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 22: TOURS (All include a box lunch)

Walking Tour

Bike Ride

Canoe Trip

Bus Tour

GUESTS: While the following events are included in each conference registration, attendees and speakers wishing to bring a guest must pay an additional fee for each.

Welcome Reception and Dinner, November 19

Conference Opening Reception, Nov. 20

Lunch Friday, November 21

Awards Champagne Reception, November 21

## ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

The Urban Waterfronts Conference Program is an excellent opportunity to put your company, your products or your projects in front of a unique audience. Advertisers are also linked on the Center's website. Ads must be received by October 13, 2008

Full Page (black and white or color)

Half Page (black and white or color)

Before October 22

After October 22

☐ \$375.00

☐ \$475.00

☐ \$425.00

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☐ \$150.00

☐ \$110.00

☐ \$15.00

☐ \$15.00

☐ \$30.00

☐ \$40.00

☐ \$40.00

☐ \$25.00

☐ \$35.00

☐ \$25.00

☐ \$750.00

☐ \$500.00

**- TOTAL AMOUNT**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name		Title	
Company/Organization			
Address			
Address			
City			
State		Zip	
Country			
Phone		Fax	
E-mail			

Send a copy of this 2 page form for each additional attendee from the same organization

Method of Payment in US Dollars

- ☐ Check enclosed payable to The Waterfront Center in US Dollars
- ☐ Signed Government Purchase Order Enclosed

Please charge my:

☐ Visa    ☐ Mastercard    or    ☐ American Express

Card Number	Expiration Date
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If you would like information on becoming a Conference supporter, exhibitor or sponsor – most include at least one registration and many other benefits – please call the Waterfront Center at 202/337-0356 or visit our web site: [www.waterfrontcenter.org](http://www.waterfrontcenter.org)

BOOKS OF INTEREST

Books may be ordered through the Center 202-337-0356 or email: [mail@waterfrontcenter.org](mailto:mail@waterfrontcenter.org). More information can be found on our website: [www.waterfrontcenter.org](http://www.waterfrontcenter.org). Special pricing with this ad.

*All of the books authored by Center co-directors, Ann Breen and Dick Rigby unless otherwise noted.*

**THE NEW WATERFRONT: A WORLDWIDE URBAN SUCCESS STORY.**  
(London: Thames and Hudson; New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc. 1996). 224 pages including 363 illustrations (177 in color). \$79.95 (\$75.00 for members). Shipping in U.S. \$10.00

**WATERFRONTS: CITIES RECLAIM THEIR EDGE.**  
(paperback) Second Edition (Washington: DC: The Waterfront Press. 1997). 333 pages with 220 black and white photos. \$39.00 (\$35.00 for members). Shipping in U.S. \$10.00

**INTOWN LIVING: A DIFFERENT AMERICAN DREAM**  
(paperback) (Washington, DC. Island Press, 2005) 298 pages with maps. \$29.95 Available through bookstores.

**CAUTION: WORKING WATERFRONT – THE IMPACT OF CHANGE ON MARINE INDUSTRIES.**  
(paperback) (Washington, D.C.: The Waterfront Press, 1985). 82 pages with black and white photos. \$15.00

**FISHING PIERS: WHAT CITIES CAN DO.**  
(paperback) (Washington, D.C.: The Waterfront Press, 1986). 76 pages with black and white photos.

**EXCELLENCE ON THE WATERFRONT HONOR AWARD SERIES.**  
  
Top urban waterfront planning and development work along with Clearwater awards honoring grassroots efforts are featured in four well-illustrated booklets. Excellence on the Waterfront 2004, 2005 and 2007 depict the winners including a short description. These three booklets were published by The Waterfront Center with help from board member Steve Durrant of Alta Planning & Design, Portland, Oregon. \$12.00 each shipping within the U.S. included. \$30.00 for all three.

Excellence on the Waterfront 2006 is 34 pages and not only features the 2006 honor award winners but summarizes the twenty years of the awards program, listing all of the winners and juries. Published by the Waterfront Center with production assistance from the firm Walker-Macy, Portland, Oregon. \$20.00 including shipping within the U.S.  
  
All four booklets: \$43.00.



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## Call for entries.

To save paper, we have posted all program details and entries forms on our Website, [www.waterfrontcenter.org](http://www.waterfrontcenter.org). If for any reason you have difficulty opening the information or downloading it, please call **202 337-0356** or e-mail: [mail@waterfrontcenter.org](mailto:mail@waterfrontcenter.org).

This year's jury chair is Jim August, chief executive officer, The Forks North Portage Partnership, Winnipeg, Canada. Confirmed jurors as of May 1 are Terri Lee-Burger, Abel, Bainson Burz, New York and Michael Montgomery, River Renaissance, Portland, Oregon.

The 2008 Excellence on the Waterfront Honor Awards will be announced and presented November 21, a highlight of the annual conference.

Last year's Top Honor Awards went to The Floating Garden, Yongning River Park, Taichou City, China, (left photo) and Hong Kong Wetland Park, Tin Shui Wai New Town, Hong Kong, China (right photo)





[www.waterfrontcenter.org](http://www.waterfrontcenter.org)

Photo by JJR



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