

Dear LSP supporters,

Governor Christie signed the Meadowlands/LSP bill but new legislation will remove the most dangerous language so the Meadowlands development commission won't have the blank check power to "approve and implement any plan for LSP". **This is a huge grassroots "save" for LSP but as always, we will need to be vigilant and fight the Gov's goal of privatizing LSP.**

The Gov and Assemblyman Prieto and Senator Sarlo, the bill's sponsors, both acknowledged the "public concerns" -and agreed that a new bill will make it clear that the DEP has final say for LSP plans. The caring People power of a ton of phone calls to the Gov and the 57 organizations, local, regional and statewide, who signed the JC Parks Coalition letter, and amazing media stories & editorials have prevented a commission from ramrodding bad plans..

Please check [our privatization/commercialization battle page](#) to see our full statement, news stories, press releases and [especially The Record's 2/4 story about DEP's hiring a private "smart growth" firm, NJ Future, \(NJF\) to "shop the park" to developers and analyze the "potential attractiveness of the park to revenue-producing developers, contractors and concessionaires."](#) NJF's director, who said generating revenue will be a "win-win" (but really a win for private companies and a loss to all who want a free, green and accessible park) hired Dan Biederman's BRV firm for \$100K to seek any and all development proposals.

The DEP has those BRV proposals which they say are only in draft form and and we are calling on the DEP to make them public and hold public hearings asap. **The Gov has hung out a "public land for rent" sign, and so is open to any developer's plans.** Many people may be open to minor, reasonable proposals like after hours use of the Terminal for events, uses of the Sheds (restoration may cost \$30 million), perhaps a temporary ice skating rink on the ferry parking lot, cruises from the as yet un-renovated docks on eastern side of Terminal, but the **Gov is likely looking at ill-conceived, land-confiscating, large scale, plans which ignore LSP's 39 years of a broad public consensus for a People's Park behind Lady Liberty.**

The Commission, even with the most dangerous language taken out in the bill to come, will still be a threat as it will be involved in reviewing LSP plans and the Gov wouldn't sign the new bill without it including bonding help, only needed for large scale plans. **The commission will be a rubber stamp for the Governor's dangerous goal of making LSP "sustainable".** We will advocate for any Commission meeting with a LSP agenda item, to be held at LSP.

**The DEP spokesperson stated "Were looking at every inch of the park. At the moment, its just where people go to get on the ferry."** LSP inspires all who visit from around our nation and world, but the park is especially important for the quality of life of the urban people in this concrete and densely populated area, who use the park regularly with their families.

Thanks again to all who called the Governor, to FOLSP's greatest ally, the NY/NJ Baykeeper and its Conservation Director Greg Remaud, the JC Parks Coalition for its great organization sign-on letter, and to Jersey City Mayor Steve Fulop, the JC City Council, Freeholders Bill O'Dea, Anthony Romano, and Gerard Balmir, to Assemblyman Raj Mukherji and State Senator Brian Stack who public stately they would support amended language in responding to the public outcry, and to the legislators who worked behind the scenes for our cause.

LSP will need the help of all caring park supporters and elected officials to stand up to protect this great park from plans which violate its spirit and true purposes.

**We will be vigilant and fight wrong-headed privatization plans every step of the way.**