



Statement from Ari Hoffnung, Founder of the Riverdale Ferry Coalition

"The Riverdale Ferry Coalition applauds the Five Borough ferry plan unveiled earlier today by Mayor Bloomberg and New York City Council Speaker Quinn. Today's announcement is another example of the positive impact citizens can have by working closely with elected officials.

"Ferry service from Riverdale benefits our city both environmentally and economically. It reduces carbon emissions and alleviates traffic congestion. Simultaneously, ferry service saves commuters travel time and contributes to the revitalization of Lower Manhattan by making it more easily accessible to

residents of various other neighborhoods.

"In addition to the environmental and economic benefits, a Riverdale ferry will provide an unparalleled opportunity to experience the Hudson River up close. While thousands of Riverdalians get to see the River each day from the windows of their cars or homes, few, if any, get to truly experience its benefits and beauty first-hand.

"Having had taken the ferry from Yonkers to Lower Manhattan on numerous occasions, I can confidently say that no other form of commuting – whether by car, subway, or train - is as enjoyable as the ferry. Heading south on the Hudson River, one can view the inspiring Palisade Mountains on one side and the majestic Manhattan skyline on the other. Best of all, there's never any traffic on the Hudson River.

"Today's plan also helps demonstrate the overwhelming support for ferries in New York City. This is a very positive step for the Riverdale Ferry Coalition and for the residents of the Northwest Bronx. We look forward to working closely with the Speaker and the relevant City agencies to study how best to make the vision of high-speed ferry service in Riverdale a reality."

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