

## **Statement from the Friends of LSP against Superyachts along the North Field**

**NO** multibillionaire Suntex Corporation Marina Privatization Expansion for millionaires' superyachts to extend all the way up to the River.

There must be DEP public hearings and a month public comment period for there to be transparency and the essential process of maximum public participation to shape the future of this park, especially because this sacred, priceless urban waterfront park is behind Lady Liberty.

Liberty Park's vistas, history, beauty and its urban open space make the park sacred ground.

**The official mission of LSP** is to provide the public with access to the harbor's resources, a sense of its history and the charge of responsibility for its continued improvement. *LSP's mission is not to provide access to the harbor's resources for millionaires' superyachts.*

Gov. Murphy's first DEP Commissioner McCabe rejected Suntex Marina's expansion on the north and south side on 5/24/2018.

- **NO expansion for megayachts obstructing special priceless, peaceful and calming open vistas toward Hudson River & NYC Skyline.**
- **For 48 years there's been an overwhelming majority broad public consensus opposition to privatization and commercialization no matter what money was promised, including in the support for the LSP Protection Act which had 33,000 petition signatures and 111 groups in the local and statewide Coalition, and also as expressed overwhelmingly for a free and green park in the last year's revitalization process online comments and at public meetings.**
- **LSP's publicly owned priceless open space and open vistas are meant to serve the Public Good, the Common Good, and is our Common Treasure owned by future generation. The Public Good is more important than the marina's profits and not meant to be subverted, given away, sold out by privatizers' offering money.**
- **Incompatibility of superyachts desecrating LSP and the nearby Empty Sky 9/11 Memorial and 1889 historic landmarks Terminal and Sheds**
- **Desecrating LSP's symbolism and purpose as a Free People's Park behind Lady Liberty by millionaire's superyachts & locked gates. Assault on LSP themes of democracy, immigration, transportation.**

- Exacerbation of climate change pollution by superyachts' supremely unnecessary and offensive large carbon footprint.
- Interrelationship of public access to LSP's priceless urban open space and priceless open vistas.
- Visual obscenity of millionaires' superyachts forced into people's faces.
- Superyachts along the North Field will be obscene commercial clutter.
- Loud weekend party noise from the superyachts disrupting park visitors' right to peacefully enjoy LSP's northeast area.
- Parking needs of those going to parties will add to Zapp Dr. traffic.

**DEP Commissioner Scott Weiner 1991 stated, upon rejecting a 225 acre golf course, "Any proposal for LSP will depend on a broad public consensus."**

**The iconic editorial in The Star Ledger April 27 2003, stated, "Parks are not supposed to make money. They are supposed to provide green oases, particularly in densely packed urban areas like Hudson County. That is why parks, as a common public good, are supported by taxes".**

**5/25/1923 Commissioner Shawn LaTourette's quote on Liberty State Park: 'Revitalization will include arts & athletics, but no privatization'**

**<https://hudsoncountyview.com/liberty-state-park-revitalization-will-include-arts-athletics-but-no-privatization/> "I will not relent in the legal truth of the fact that the privatization of public land is not a thing, period, full stop," LaTourette said in a virtual press briefing ahead of an open house at LSP last night.**

**Commissioner LaTourette also stated in November that public land is owned by The People and not by the government.**

**Gov. Murphy has stated that his priority is the preservation of Liberty Park as a special treasure for current and future generations."**

**Empty Sky already blocks views of the Hudson River and the lower part of the lower Manhattan skyline and superyachts will confiscate even more. The superyachts will block priceless vistas for months of every year.**