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## Vornado to double size of Pier 94 site

By [Matthew Sollars](#)

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The city's Economic Development Corporation announced today that Vornado Realty will redevelop and expand Pier 94, which has hosted small trade shows since 1998. The facility will expand to Pier 92 and more than double in size to 355,000 square feet from 150,000 square feet.

Seth Pinsky, president of EDC, says the \$100 million expansion will allow the city to attract mid-sized trade shows to the city. The city estimates the expanded facility to host more than 40 shows—up to three at a time—and attract 300,000 visitors to the city by 2013.

Vornado will pay for the construction and receive a 49-year lease with two 25-year extensions. Merchandise Mart Properties, a trade show management firm and a Vornado subsidiary, will operate the facility. The plan includes a 60,000 square-foot logistics center to help address community concerns about increased truck traffic in the area.

The plan also calls for additions to the Hudson River Park. Vornado will be responsible for developing and maintaining a 9,300 square-foot winter garden. The developer will also provide public access to Pier 94 through the Clinton Cove Park.

"This will be a terrific amenity for the Clinton neighborhood and park in general," said Connie Fishman, president of the Hudson River Park Trust, in a statement.

The Friends of Hudson River Park, a parks advocacy group, says it wants to learn more specifics about the public access provided in the expansion.

"We're certainly interested in public access to the pier," said Matthew Washington, acting director of the group. "But, we look forward to getting a better understanding of the winter garden and when the public space is open to the public."

Pier 92 became available when the cruise ship terminal opened in Brooklyn, allowing the city to trim the ocean liner berths on the West Side from three to two. The plan to expand the facility has been in the works since 2006.

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