



# GOWANUS CANAL COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)

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*The following CAG resolution requests formal consideration by the indicated parties to conduct activities related to the Gowanus Canal Cleanup with regard to the concerns and interests of the Gowanus community.*

**TITLE:** Retention of Existing Public Place Site Marine Bollards

**TO:** NYC Department of City Planning, Environmental Protection Agency - Region 2

**DATE:** January 22, 2019, FINAL Revised Version

**Resolved:** the Gowanus Canal Community Advisory Group (CAG) requests that the existing marine bollards along the Gowanus Canal bulkhead of the Public Place site be retained and saved for reincorporation in public places in the Gowanus area.

**Further resolved,** the marine bollards should be retained and reincorporated in Gowanus even if they must be removed from their existing context, stored, and reinstalled at a later date to facilitate construction of the cutoff wall planned for the Public Place shoreline. Efforts should be made to reinstall the bollards in an historically authentic manner so that vessels may continue to use them to dock along the Gowanus Canal bulkhead in the future.

**Background:** The CAG recognizes the historical value of the marine bollards to the community. They were used, until late 2017, by vessels like tugboats and barges tying off along the Canal. They embody a sense of place and maritime commerce that reflect Gowanus history.

Retention of the marine bollards is especially important because the city failed to prevent the utter destruction of the Ferrara Bros. facility (formerly operated on leased Public Place property). Through this failure, the community lost the opportunity to retain industrial elements for inclusion in the Gowanus area (see examples of what could have been done with legacy industrial components at Concrete Plant Park in the Bronx, Domino Park in Williamsburg, and Erie Basin Park in Red Hook). The marine bollards are the only elements remaining that will help tell the story of the site in a tangible way for future generations.

**Cc:**

NYC Housing Preservation and Development  
City Council Member Brad Lander  
Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams  
Sarah Carroll, Chair, NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Potentially Responsible Parties – Each Individually

*Please direct responses and inquiries to [gowanuscag@gmail.com](mailto:gowanuscag@gmail.com).*