

Ex. Order No. 13
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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 13

March 28, 1974

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
MANHATTAN CIVIC CENTER TASK FORCE

Whereas, The preponderance of The City of New York's executive legislative and judicial functions are concentrated in the City Hall area of Manhattan, and

Whereas, The City Hall of New York is a unique structure of immense architectural, historical and cultural importance which must be preserved in its present physical form and setting as a lasting reminder of the great traditions of this City and its people, and

Whereas, The volume of the City's governmental activities has grown over the years to the point where the existing facilities in City Hall and nearby municipal buildings unduly restricts the expeditious and efficient performance of these responsibilities, and

Whereas, This presents a clear and urgent need for a modern City Hall Annex and other facilities in the Manhattan Civic Center area to permit improvement in the conduct of essential governmental functions, and

Whereas, Many complex plans and designs for a modern and efficient Manhattan Civic Center have been formulated in the past, but never brought to fruition, and

Whereas, In addition to servicing the needs of the government of the City of New York, the Manhattan Civic Center area serves as the governmental center for the offices and agencies of the Federal and State governments located within the City of New York, and

Whereas, A need exists to insure the proper planning, design, acquisition, construction, development and coordination of the Civic Center and to maintain a close liaison and cooperation with all interested persons and groups, both public and private, including representatives of State and Federal governments and community groups and organizations, and

Whereas, In addition, the Manhattan Civic Center area will also serve as a focal point for the many events being planned for the City's bicentennial anniversary celebration in 1976.

Now, therefore, by the power vested in me as Mayor, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. A Manhattan Civic Center Task Force is hereby created consisting of the First Deputy Mayor, the Administrator of the Municipal Service Administration, who shall serve as Chairman, the Chairman of the City Planning Commission, the Administrator of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration, the Administrator of the Transportation Administration, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget and the Director of the Office of Lower Manhattan Development. The President of the Borough of Manhattan has agreed to serve as a member of this Task Force.

§ 2. With respect to the Manhattan Civic Center area, it shall be the duty of this Task Force to:

(a) Maintain a close liaison and cooperate with and inquire into, coordinate and review actions and plans with the Office of the Borough President of Manhattan, all governmental agencies and the various private interests and community groups, and

(b) Expedite and coordinate the planning, design, property acquisition, construction and development needed to provide a modern City Hall annex and otherwise improve the Manhattan Civic Center area as required to achieve more efficient conduct of the City government, consistent with the aesthetic setting of the existing City Hall.

§ 3. The operating agency for this Task Force shall be the Municipal Service Administration and all members of the Task Force are directed to assist with the personnel and resources deemed necessary by the Chairman to accomplish the objectives of this order.

§ 4. All actions taken by any City agency which may in any manner materially affect the planning or development of the City Hall Annex or other facilities of the Manhattan Civic Center shall be undertaken only after consultation with the Manhattan Civic Center Task Force.

§ 5. Upon request of the Chairman, every City agency is directed to designate a staff

member at policy level to be its liaison with the Task Force and to cooperate in furnishing such available staff resources as may be requested by the Chairman.

§ 6. All City agencies shall cooperate and comply fully with all directives issued by the Manhattan Civic Center Task Force.

§ 7. This Order shall take effect immediately.

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ABRAHAM D. BEAME, Mayor.