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Development Ahead Under Elevated Trains?

By [Rayna Katz](#) | New York

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Land under and around elevated transportation sites, like the BQE, may be targets for development.

underneath New York City's bridges, and elevated highways, subways, and rail lines, according to the announcement.

"The sheer quantity of spaces that lie right before our eyes, unnoticed, as we New Yorkers go about our business, is staggering," says **Susan Chin**, executive director, in the announcement. "NYC has nearly 700 miles of elevated infrastructure, with over 100 million square feet of underused space beneath. When you look at the impact the mile-and-a-half-long High Line has created, and then consider the potential of these spaces in neighborhoods across the five boroughs, you understand the magnitude of this undertaking."

Under the Elevated will produce design guidelines as well as programming and policy recommendations that will inform the transformation of spaces citywide, the announcement asserts.

Adds **Wendy Feuer**, assistant commissioner for Urban Design & Art at DOT, in the announcement, "We see an opportunity to increase the functionality of these spaces and identify permanent or temporary uses that will enliven the public realm of neighboring communities. For example, we are pleased that the Chinatown Partnership will be a collaborator on this project," she says. "By working with the Design Trust to develop guidelines for the design and use of these spaces, we can look forward to well-thought-out recommendations."

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About Our Columnist



Rayna Katz is a seasoned business journalist whose extensive experience includes coverage of the lodging sector. She was most recently content director for a major business-to-business publisher, overseeing four publications.

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