

# Who Is Planning Brooklyn's Future?

## Bios of Panelists

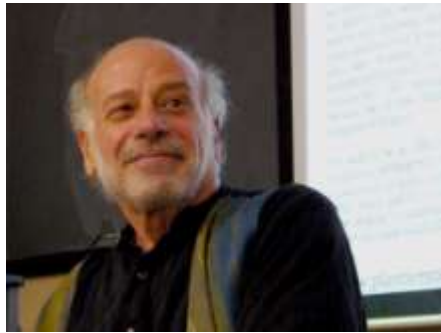
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### Ginia Bellafante, Moderator



Ginia Bellafante has served as a reporter, critic and, since 2011, as the New York Times' write of the Big City column in the Sunday Metropolitan edition. She began her career at the Times as a fashion critic, examining the way that clothes and the art of making them reflected broader societal trends. For several years, before she joined the Metropolitan section, she was a television critic. Her work has appeared throughout the paper, including on Page A1. She has also written for the culture and styles pages as well as the magazine and the book review. Prior to joining The Times, Ms. Bellafante was a senior writer at Time magazine.

### Tom Angotti



Tom Angotti is Professor Emeritus at Hunter College's Department of Urban Policy and Planning and the Graduate Center, City University of New York. He had also served as the Director of the Hunter College Center for Community Planning & Development (CCPD). His recent books include *Zoned Out: Race, Displacement and City Planning in New York City*, *Urban Latin America*, *The New Century of the Metropolis*, and *New York For Sale: Community Planning Confronts Global Real Estate*, which

won the Paul Davidoff Award in 2009 and International Planning History Society Book Prize in 2010. Through the CCPD and in collaboration with others, Tom Angotti has completed studies on New York City's PlaNYC2030, Wal-Mart, NYU's expansion plan, Fresh Direct, and Atlantic Yards. He has collaborated on many community-based plans and written about community land trusts. He is founder and co-editor of *Progressive Planning Magazine*, and Participating Editor for the journals *Latin American Perspectives* and *Local Environment*. He is a Fellow at the American Academy in Rome and served as Fulbright Specialist in India, Italy Uruguay, and Vietnam. Mr. Angotti previously served as a senior planner with the City of New York and Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

## Michelle de la Uz



Michelle de la Uz became Executive Director of Fifth Avenue Committee, Inc. (FAC) in January 2004, after serving as Co-Chair on FAC's Board of Directors. She has over 25 years of experience in public and community service. Michelle oversees the organization's mission and comprehensive programs serving more than 5,500 low- and moderate-income people and a housing development pipeline of over 1,300 units, representing more than \$500 million in total development costs. Under her leadership, FAC became a chartered member organization of *NeighborWorks America*, a national network of over 240 affordable housing and community development corporations.

Prior to FAC, Michelle was Program Director for the Center for Urban Community Services in Washington Heights and Harlem and oversaw social services in supportive housing for 400 low-income tenants with special needs. From 1995-99, Michelle was Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez' first Director of Constituent Services and directed her South Brooklyn District Office. She was active in advancing transportation, environmental justice, immigration reform, and employment policy initiatives.

Michelle serves on the National Board of Directors of the Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC), the New York Housing Conference, and the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development, among many others. Additionally, Michelle was appointed in April of 2012 by the then-Public Advocate, now Mayor of New York City, Bill de Blasio to serve on the New York City Planning Commission and was reappointed by Public Advocate Tish James in 2016. Michelle is an alumna of Connecticut College, Columbia University and of Harvard Kennedy School's Executive Education Program. Michelle is a recipient of the Ford Foundation's Leadership for a Changing World award.

## Alexander Garvin



Alexander Garvin has combined a career in urban planning and real estate with teaching, architecture, and public service. He is currently President and CEO of AGA Public Realm Strategists, Inc., a NYC planning and design firm responsible for initial master plans for several communities, including the Atlanta BeltLine. Between 1996 and 2005 he was managing director for planning at NYC2012, the committee established to bring the Summer Olympics to New York in 2012. During 2002-2003, as Vice President for Planning, Design and Development, he was responsible for planning the rebuilding of the World Trade Center for the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation. Over the last 48 years he has held prominent positions

in five New York City administrations, including Deputy Commissioner of Housing and City Planning Commission. Garvin has won numerous awards, including the Municipal Art Society's New York City Masterwork Award for Best Planning and Urban Design, the American Institute of Architects New York Chapter Merit Award, and the American Planning Association New York City Chapter, Distinguished Service Award.