

**Raquel Ramati
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Urban Design, Development &
Planning

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**RAQUEL RAMATI
PRESIDENT**

Raquel Ramati is the owner and president of Raquel Ramati Associates Inc. in New York City. She has earned an international reputation as an urban designer and planner—first in New York City’s government, and later in private practice, working with developers, government agencies, not-for-profit organizations and community groups.

Before forming her own consulting firm, Ms. Ramati was the Director of the trend-setting Urban Design Group at the New York City Department of City Planning and the chief architect of Manhattan. In that capacity, she managed a team of professionals, reviewing major real estate projects, creating incentive zoning laws, establishing design guidelines and preparing master plans.

During her tenure as Director of the Urban Design Group, she was the key person in implementing major urban design initiatives including Zoning Legislation of Urban Open Space in high rise buildings, design guidelines for streetscapes, waterfronts, plazas, artwork as well as density, bulk and set back controls. She led the work on neighborhood revitalization such as the Little Italy Special District and created zoning for sidewalk cafes, retail use groups, and the use of Air Rights to preserve landmarks and historic districts.

As director of the Urban Design team, Raquel was in charge of major planning studies. Among them, the first 42nd Street Corridor Study and the Second Avenue Subway Study, which integrated pedestrian amenities within easements around subway stations. As the leading urban designer at City Planning, she worked with major developers of Trump Tower, Philip Morris and the Sony Building to create public spaces with retail space through the tool of incentive zoning. In her private practice, Raquel has developed feasibility studies for over 200 of New York City’s major sites.

Her clients include developers, corporations, and Local, State and Federal government agencies. She has designed master plans for various parts of the city and has acted as a development consultant in site selection, zoning, feasibility, design guidelines, retail design and open space planning.

In New York City, Raquel Ramati has developed several RFPs for public-private partnerships such as the South Ferry downtown, and the Flushing center mixed use project. One of the firm's projects was the design of a master plan for Southtown in Roosevelt Island. The plan included mixed income housing, a town square, retail space, an esplanade and a pedestrian walkway and pier. The firm also developed the master plan for a 500,000 GLA shopping mall and entertainment center in Bay Plaza, Bronx.

Internationally, the firm is working in Poland, the Ukraine, Japan, Romania, Italy and Israel. A master plan in Israel included a million square foot Biotechnology Center for the Teva Pharmaceutical Company. Another master-plan was approved for a joint venture between the municipality and private developers in Hadera, Israel. This comprehensive project included a City Center, 750 housing units, a new Municipality building, public square, court house, offices and retail space. Ms. Ramati led a team of planning professionals (traffic, parking and environment). The firm also designed landscape for the thirty-acre downtown site.

Ms. Ramati has served as the urban design consultant for the State of Israel in the planning of Government Centers. In that capacity she prepared design guidelines as basis for the Prime Minister's Headquarters and the Foreign Ministry building. In Jaffa, Israel, she designed a major historic fifteen block area with a retail component, and residential lofts above.

In Warsaw, Poland, Raquel was an urban design consultant for a major retail and office project— Blue City, a 1.6 million square foot retail center with office space and a hotel. In Tokyo, Japan, she consulted for the American Club, establishing urban design controls in preparation for an RFP to select a developer for the site.

For several years, Ms. Ramati has been an active member of the Urban Land Institute and was appointed as a Council member of the Infrastructure and the International Councils. She presently serves as a member of the Mixed Use Urban Redevelopment Council.

Ms. Ramati is an adjunct professor in the Real Estate Graduate Program at Columbia University's School of Architecture. She has taught Urban Design, Planning, and Development in several universities including UCLA, Berkeley, Harvard, University of Miami, and New York University. She often serves as a visiting juror in universities in the U.S. and abroad. Ms. Ramati's book, "How to Save Your Own Street", published by Doubleday, describes planning implementation and community participation in 60 cities around the country.

Professional Affiliations

American Institute of Architect, Associate of New York Art Commission, Executive member of the Association for a Better New York, Urban Land Institute (Council), Women's Forum, "Who's Who", NY New Visions

Professional Awards:

- GSA Design Award
- Citation from Governor Hugh Carey-Celebration: N. Y. in Color
- Third Urban Design Awards Program-Award for Open Space Plan
- Federal Environmental Protection Award
- Municipal Art Society-Certificate of Merit
- Progressive Architecture Award for Mulberry Street Mall, Little Italy
- Progressive Architecture Jury Member
- Progressive Architecture Citation for Second Avenue Subway Study

Education:

Loeb Fellowship, Harvard University
Pratt Institute of Architecture-BA Architecture

Publications and Activities:

- Adjunct Professor at Columbia University Real Estate Program, Graduate School of Architecture
- Member of the Zoning and Urban Design Committee of the AIA, WTC Task Force
- Member of the Art Commission for five years (Mayor's representative)
- Former President of the Art Commission Associates.
- Chaired several Seminars such as the *Architectural Design in China* at the Museum of Modern Art of New York, the Bard Awards at the City Club of New York
- "How to save Your Own Street", a book published by Doubleday, 1981
- Published various articles in Progressive Architecture and Urban Land Magazine
- Various Boards of not-for-profit organizations