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Rudy thrown for loss

Admits West Side stadium politically dead

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Mayor Giuliani's vision of a redeveloped West Side of Manhattan still includes a stadium — but he conceded yesterday that politics had pretty much killed that idea.

"If you don't want to put a stadium there, than you have to be in favor of putting five office towers there, or 10 office towers there," he said.

"You have to keep pushing for more development, more development," he said.

Giuliani released a 65-page study on the future of the far West Side, which predicts the neighborhood could become another midtown within 20 years. It proposes a series of zoning and transportation improvements, including extending the No. 7 subway line west of the Port Authority Bus Terminal.

The New York Jets continue to review a site for a possible stadium near the mouth of the Lincoln Tunnel, above the Long Island Rail Road yards. Such plans have been criticized by officials and residents who fear a stadium would bring noise, congestion and few jobs.

"The reason for the failure to put in a stadium there is political opposition," Giuliani said. "Most of the city politicians oppose putting a stadium there. . . . It's caving into the anti-development" philosophy.

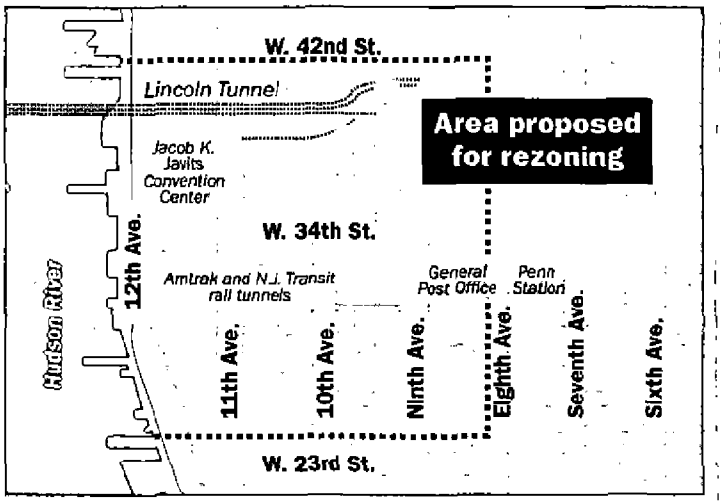
Far West Side 'stagnant'

Giuliani called the far West Side — from Eighth Ave. to the Hudson River and from 24th St. to 42nd St. — "stagnant . . . basically warehouses, abandoned buildings, a few restaurants."

The study recommends the area be transformed into a mix of medium- and high-density commercial districts, high-density manufacturing, apartments, an improved waterfront and green space connected to the planned Hudson River Park.

It envisions a superblock — a large-scale development corridor from Penn Station to the Javits Center that could include a stadium.

In what amounted to parting words, Giuliani, who leaves office at the end of the month, scribbled on an oversized map of the plan: "N.Y. Jets, Olympic Stadium, RWG."



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