



**December 6, 2022**

**New York City Council Committee on Parks and Recreation  
Oversight: Improving the Efficiency of Parks Capital Projects**

Testimony by: Sue Donoghue, NYC Parks Commissioner & Therese Braddick, Deputy Commissioner of Capital Projects

[COMMISSIONER DONOGHUE]

Good afternoon, Chair Krishnan, members of the Parks Committee, and other members of the City Council. I am Sue Donoghue, Commissioner for NYC Parks. I'm pleased to be joined today by Therese Braddick, our Deputy Commissioner for Capital Projects, who will also be testifying, as well as Jennifer Greenfeld, our Deputy Commissioner for Environment and Planning, and our Director of Government Relations, Matt Drury. I want to start by noting our appreciation for the Council's continued advocacy for our City parks, and for the funding and support it has provided for park improvement capital projects, which leads us to the topic of today's hearing.

It is fair to say that our city parks are some of the most intensely used parks in the world, as they are enjoyed by 9 million New Yorkers and millions more from all over the globe every year. Our park properties are vital City infrastructure, and like all infrastructure, there is often the need to redesign, construct, or renovate our parks through major capital improvements. In addition to daily maintenance and upkeep, our parks are the recipient of significant City capital investment, and the Parks Capital Division makes that a reality. Our Capital staff works tirelessly to build and improve our parks and playgrounds in a timely and efficient manner. We pride ourselves on our creative designs, which are shaped by public input, so these spaces can best serve the local community and result in inspiring and fun parks, playgrounds, facilities and open spaces that are restorative, engaging and built to last.

Constructing anything in New York City is an incredibly complicated undertaking, and it's no secret that the City's capital process is complicated and lengthy. NYC Parks does our best to deliver a finished capital project as soon as possible, but we also need to make sure that the final product has a full, useful life as a valuable public asset, and that the process is conducted in accordance to the numerous laws and regulations put in place over the years. We're constantly working to improve our internal capital protocols and have instituted significant internal process reforms in recent years. NYC Parks is also proud to participate in the Capital Reform Task Force that was convened by Mayor Adams earlier this year, and we look forward to working with Mayor's Office and our agency partners as the City looks towards implementation of the proposed initial recommendations that were announced in October, and continue to work with this Task Force to advance capital process reform.

Regarding the Parks-specific legislation being heard today, we appreciate the intent behind these bills and look forward to discussing them further with the Council. Intro. 174 would compel the agency to provide additional reporting for Parks capital projects otherwise listed on the Citywide Capital Project Tracker that is slated to be launched by the City. Intro. 680 would compel DOT, in conjunction with DEP and Parks, to conduct a survey of dead ends, vacant City parcels, highway entrances & exits and create a plan for providing additional planting, greening, Green Infrastructure or "microparks" in these spaces. Preconsidered Bill 2417 would compel the creation of a Parks "Capital Blueprint" proposing additional internal process reforms, with a goal of reducing the average timeline for capital projects by 25%. NYC Parks is strongly



committed to transparency regarding the status of our capital projects and our internal process reform efforts. We routinely provide project updates to elected officials, Community Boards and other members of the public regarding Parks projects and initiatives and are always open to discussing ways in which we can keep the public better informed.

I would now like to introduce our Deputy Commissioner for Capital Projects, Therese Braddick. After she provides some helpful additional background context, we'll be happy to answer any questions about how NYC Parks navigates the City's capital process and our approach to advancing park improvement projects.

[DC BRADDICK]

Good afternoon, Chair Krishnan, and members of the Parks Committee. I am Therese Braddick, Deputy Commissioner of the Capital Projects Division at the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. I'd also like to introduce Lindsay Quartini, who is representing Deputy Mayor Joshi's office on the Citywide Capital Process Reform Task Force. Thank you for inviting us to testify today regarding the Capital Process.

I'd be remiss if I didn't begin by first thanking the Council for their ongoing support of Parks. At FY23 adoption, the Council provided \$248M in funding for Parks' capital projects, the most we have ever received from Council. It is through your support, as well as the Mayor's, that we can embark on transformative projects like the complete, \$65M renovation of Haffen Park in the Bronx, including the entire landscape, pool complex, and field house, as well as several of our Community Parks Initiative projects, including Frank O'Connor Playground in Queens, Zimmerman Playground in the Bronx, Peña Herrera Playground in Brooklyn, and McCray Playground in Manhattan.

Ranging from these large-scale reconstructions to your neighborhood tot lot, NYC Parks is responsible for managing the design, procurement, and construction of projects across more than 30,000 acres of parkland spread over hundreds of playgrounds, buildings, athletic fields, pools, beaches, natural areas, and recreation and nature centers. Just about everything you can imagine in a park, we've built or reconstructed. Currently, we have 660 active capital projects, each in one of the three distinct phases of the process: design, procurement, and construction. We do our best to deliver a project as quickly as possible, but as Commissioner Donoghue noted, we also need to make sure that the final product has a full, useful life as a valuable public asset and is built in accordance with the various laws and regulations that have been put in place over decades and that govern the City's capital process.

It's important to repeat that statement to clarify any misconceptions—the Parks Department does not have its own capital process. Although there are some factors that make us unique, NYC Parks follows the same capital process as all City agencies, including the Departments of Design and Construction, Transportation, and Environmental Protection. The process is governed by State Law, Local Law, the Procurement Policy Board Rules, Executive Orders, public input, contractors, weather, and market forces, among numerous other outside factors. A change to any of these individual factors can accelerate or delay a project, which we recognize can make the process at times difficult or frustrating. We agree that the City's process is very lengthy, and we have been working diligently to adjust the processes within our control to reduce the timeline.



For example, during my tenure, to ensure maximum efficiency in design, we've increased the use of standard templates and specifications, streamlined internal approvals and meetings, and automated the way we put our contract books together. These changes (and others) have cut the design time for the typical landscape projects in half from over 24 months in FY14 to 12 months in FY20. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pause and subsequent staffing shortages brought that number back up again; however, I am happy to report we still average between 12-15 months for most design schedules.

It's also important to remember that during the COVID pause over 400 procurements were completely stopped for an entire year, from March 2020 to March 2021. During that time we couldn't bid out, award, or register construction contracts, and we couldn't hire design or construction management consultants. Instead, we worked on digitizing some of our internal processes including consultant payments and MWBE Small Purchase procurements. We also got every project positioned to move toward bidding once the pause was lifted. And we published a schedule of upcoming bids on our website so contractors could plan for the contracts they wanted to bid on. Much of the progress we made during that time was due to the incredible effort of our in-house staff, many of whom were working remotely. Along with our on-line platform for contractors to download our bid documents, these changes have had positive impacts and resulted in an average of 8 bids per contract, a 50% uptick pre-COVID. Additionally, over 60% of the bids were coming in at a lower cost. The end result was that Parks was able to start construction on over 100 projects this past spring.

We also achieved a 45% MWBE utilization rate in FY22, the highest rate we have ever achieved, and the second highest of all City agencies. Finally, a greater portion of our construction projects are being completed early (30 days ahead of schedule). In FY22, 32% of our projects were completed early, compared to only 13% in FY14, and the number of change orders per construction project has been reduced 46% since FY14.

Parks is extremely proud of these achievements over the past several years to streamline the internal processes for the agency, and we welcome this chance to update the Council on the ongoing work citywide to reform the City's capital process, which focuses mostly on the external factors that are not within Parks' control.

As Commissioner Donoghue just referenced, the Adams Administration took an unprecedented step and in April 2022 convened a task force comprised of contractors, design professionals, labor leaders, as well as representatives from City capital agencies and oversight agencies including OMB, the Mayor's Office of Contract Services and the Comptroller's Office. Collectively and collaboratively, we have been working together to undertake a comprehensive review of the City's capital process with the goal of reducing time and cost for all projects.

In October, Mayor Adams announced the task force's initial recommendations, with proposals to improve the project pipeline, streamline approvals, manage projects more effectively, reform procurement, and grow the number of New Yorkers who can participate. Implementation of these ideas will allow the city to reduce project completion time, save taxpayer dollars, enhance participation and inclusion, and address emerging needs. We look forward to continuing to work with the Capital Process Reform Task Force to further better this process for all New Yorkers. We brought a few printed copies of the task force's initial report with us today, and we would be happy to send you a link to the digital file later if you haven't already read it.



Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to discuss the efforts to reform the City's Capital Process and improve delivery for the capital projects that build our city's green and open spaces for all New Yorkers. We'd like to thank the Council for their continued interest in this topic, as we know how important these park improvement capital projects are to the constituents in your districts. If there are questions regarding the City's capital process and our approach to advancing park improvement projects, we would be happy to answer those at this time.



**NYC Council Hearing Testimony**  
**before the New York City Council Committee on Parks and Recreation**  
**December 6, 2022**

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Good afternoon, thank you to Chair Krishnan for convening today's hearing and to the Council Members here today. My name is Juan Restrepo, Senior Organizer at Transportation Alternatives (TA). We are here today in support of [Intro 680](#), a bill that would require DOT, DEP and Parks to identify locations to establish micro parks, bioswales, or other green spaces on vacant city-owned land along highway ramps and dead end streets. TA is proud to support this legislation to expand access to tree coverage and bioswales, particularly in areas that have been marred by environmentally devastating and car-centric infrastructure nearby highways.

As an organization committed to fighting for a more livable, accessible, and transit oriented city, we know how important green space and environmental health is to our communities. In October, TA launched a new website [SpatialEquity.NYC](#) in partnership with MIT, connecting open public data around transportation access and safe streets with intersecting indicators of environmental and public health.

Our [Spatial Equity Report Card](#) found that NYC Council districts with fewer trees are [hotter](#), more [polluted](#), more [flood-prone](#), and have higher rates of [heat-related mortality](#).

Parks and trees remove [pollution from the air](#), lower the [air temperature](#), increase [ground permeability](#), mitigate [flooding](#), and help keep [stormwater runoff](#) and street pollution out of waterways – yet in New York City, neighborhoods with the least [tree canopy](#) coverage are more likely to be in lower-income communities of color. In Council districts where the majority of residents are Black, tree canopy cover is 15 percent lower than the citywide average; access to parks is 11 percent lower; and adult asthma rates are 11 percent higher. We are failing New Yorkers by not investing equitably in parks and greenspace.

Public space can be used to uplift our neighborhoods — such as through parkland to boost mental and physical health, public benches to provide mobility ease for older residents, and trees to shade and clean the air. Research has shown that the most important factor for improving mental and physical health benefits is proximity to green spaces, not the size of parks. According to research, such benefits drop off drastically beyond 600 feet. If implemented equitably, this bill has the potential to significantly increase the percentage of New Yorkers gaining such benefits. But public space can also be used in ways that are devastating — such as a highway that divides



communities, and exacerbates flooding, excess heat, and air pollutants, and burdens residents with lifelong illness and the threat of traffic violence.

Intro 680 offers an immediate solution to turn public space into a resiliency tool by improving the permeability of city streets.

When storms like Hurricane Ida dump inches of rain on asphalt, drains back up and there's nowhere for the water to be absorbed. At present, 72% of New York City's land area is impervious to water, making flash flooding more common and dangerous and overwhelming apartments, subway grates, and station entrances. But, when rain hits greenspaces such as parks, gardens, and bioswales, the water can be managed without catastrophic flooding.

This is a transportation issue. Last year we saw heavy rains shut down our subway stations, flood buses stuck in the street, and put delivery workers' lives at risk. We need better flood mitigation to have a working public transit and infrastructure system.

Extreme weather is not going away. Already this year, we've seen [subways flood](#) from less rain than Ida brought. New York City must adapt our streets to protect our neighbors, our transit system, and our neighborhoods from the dangers flash flooding creates.

And not only is this bill good policy, it's good politics too. In a recent [Siena College poll of New York City voters](#), an overwhelming majority were willing to trade parking for more trees and greenery. When asked if they would support such an initiative, 83% of all voters supported it. This included an overwhelming majority in every borough. Support was especially high among Latino voters (87%) and even voters who own a car supported the proposal (80%).

As such, we recommend this bill also include the assessment of parking spots on city owned land for bioswales and new tree plantings. New York City has 6,300 miles of streets and three million free parking spaces. By converting just a portion of that to greener and more resilient uses, we can save lives and billions of dollars, as outlined in Transportation Alternatives' [NYC 25x25](#) challenge, a call for our leaders to repurpose 25% of our streetspace to better uses by 2025.

By transforming impervious driving lanes into green climate solutions we can provide New Yorkers with more parks and ample tree canopies that reduce excess heat, clean the air, and expand flood-resilient land and build plazas that make whole neighborhoods more accessible for people walking and riding the bus.



12.06.2022

**New York City Council  
Committee on Parks and Recreation**

Testimony:

Hello - I'm Rosa Chang, Co-Founder of Brooklyn Bridge Manhattan, a grassroots, community-led nonprofit working to build a new nine acre park on the forgotten lands underneath the Manhattan side of our Landmark Brooklyn Bridge. I am here to speak in support of a new local law requiring surveys of vacant public land abutting highway entrances and ramps for plantings.

Step outside this building and walk east 1 block - you will see no less than 16 on-ramps and off-ramps connecting our local roads to the Brooklyn Bridge and FDR Drive. As you may imagine, all those ramps result in a LOT of left-over publicly-owned land that is inaccessible, unusable or just plain tiny and weird shaped. And yet - those left-over bits represent extraordinarily valuable land that should contribute to our communities' safety, health and well-being. Planted as bioswales or green space, they will provide stormwater retention, rain and air filtration, cleaning the pollution from the very roads that surround them.

We are currently spending Billions downtown on resiliency projects at our water's edge. But these multi-billion dollar projects cannot and will not prevent extreme weather flooding due to rainfall like Hurricane Ida. We need bioswales. Yet in Lower Manhattan - our sidewalks are narrow, our streets congested, and below them are ribbons of infrastructure crammed and layered upon itself.

Most of these left-over bits of off-and-on ramps happen to lie in areas of Environmental Injustice - because that's where large scale infrastructure projects have historically been built. This bill would simultaneously address the dead spaces that surround our low-income BIPOC communities.

I understand these challenges and opportunities, because Brooklyn Bridge Manhattan IS a BIPOC, income-diverse community project that is in an Environmental Justice Area and a TRIE Neighborhood. We know both the cost of the existing condition, and the enormous potential in this solution.

Thank you for your work on this essential initiative.

Rosa Chang

Co-Founder and President

**BROOKLYN BRIDGE MANHATTAN**

Rosa@BrooklynBridgeManhattan.org

**Testimony of Eli Dvorkin**  
**Editorial & Policy Director, Center for an Urban Future**

**Before the NYC Council Committee on Parks & Recreation**

**Reforming NYC's Broken Capital Construction Process to Build Vital Social Infrastructure**

**December 6, 2022**

Good afternoon.

My name is Eli Dvorkin and I'm the editorial and policy director at the Center for an Urban Future, an independent research organization focused on building a stronger and more equitable New York City.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

I'd like to begin by commending Chair Krishnan and the committee for taking on this incredibly important but deeply unsexy issue. Progress can only happen when leaders believe that change is possible, and today's hearing is a testament to that.

In an era defined by a catastrophic public health crisis, a seismic shift toward remote and hybrid work, and the growing threat of climate change, parks have become New York's most vital social, economic, and ecological infrastructure.

But this infrastructure faces enormous challenges in the months and years ahead. Our [research](#) has shown that the average New York City park is more than 73 years old. Decades of underinvestment in maintenance has contributed to an estimated backlog of more than \$6 billion in capital needs—and surging usage, combined with the effects of climate change, will drive that figure even higher.

The problem is that New York's calcified and [inefficient system](#) for building and repairing critical public assets is preventing the city's limited capital dollars for social infrastructure from stretching nearly far enough.

As a result, a modest new bathroom at Fox Playground in the Bronx will cost more than \$3.5 million to complete. A new public library will cost more than \$2,000 per square foot—roughly four times the cost of a Class A office building.

In recent years, the Parks Department has implemented several promising timesaving measures, including standardizing designs and minimizing changes in the construction phase. As a result, more new projects are meeting their benchmarks.

But building on this momentum will require a major effort to streamline and improve the planning, design, procurement, and construction phases.

To be clear, this is not simply a Parks Department problem. Projects end up mired in a scoping, approvals, and change order labyrinth that includes the Parks Department, elected officials, community groups, and oversight agencies such as the Office of Management and Budget, the Comptroller's Office, and many more.

Fortunately, the city's main capital project management agency, the Department of Design and Construction, has laid out a [blueprint](#) for capital project delivery improvements that demonstrates that progress is possible—shaving 8 months from the typical project since 2019, with the goal of reducing the average project timeline by 14 months, or 28 percent.

Every agency and office with a capital portfolio or oversight role should launch a capital project delivery blueprint of its own, with the goal of achieving similar savings systemwide. And the City Council can pass legislation mandating just that.

In addition, the City Council should champion the swift and complete implementation of the [draft recommendations](#) from Mayor Adams's Capital Process Reform Task Force. These 18 concrete, achievable recommendations, if implemented, will drive significant additional time and cost savings—including at the Parks Department—and should be a top priority for the year ahead.

For more of our work on parks, social infrastructure, and capital project delivery reform, please check out our website at [nycfuture.org](http://nycfuture.org).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

More from CUF:

[\*Stretching New York City's Capital Dollars\*](#)

[\*A New Leaf: Revitalizing New York City's Aging Parks Infrastructure\*](#)

## **Committee on Parks and Recreation**

### Oversight - Improving the Efficiency of Parks Capital Projects

December 6, 2022

I'm Heather Lubov, Executive Director of City Parks Foundation, a nonprofit that offers free sports, arts, environmental education and community building programs in more than 300 parks each year to encourage New Yorkers to use and enjoy their neighborhood green spaces.

As the co-manager of the public-private Partnerships for Parks, our staff provides tools and training to help communities advocate for their local interests during the design and renovation processes. Based on our experience with either our own City-funded capital projects, or through our support of neighborhood residents, we have always found the NYC Parks capital staff with whom we work to be incredibly dedicated, doing everything they can to help keep capital projects moving. However, the agency is woefully underfunded and understaffed, even now as it embarks upon many new renovations funded through the Community Parks Initiative. We implore the Mayor to start addressing these issues by dedicating at least 1% of the city's budget to NYC Parks. Decades of deferred maintenance, along with a continued lack of full funding to support new projects and/or to address regular maintenance on newly renovated spaces, has and will continue to lead to significant infrastructure challenges and failures throughout our parks system.

While Bill T2022-2417 requires NYC Parks to develop a blueprint to reduce capital delays by 25%, the city's overall capital, procurement, and construction processes remain deeply flawed and fixes are beyond a single agency's control. As the Parks Department continues to make improvements to its capital process, I would ask Mayor Adams and the City Council to hold all involved agencies accountable for improvements to the process and for completing capital projects more quickly and efficiently.

We also support Intro 680, which would require the assessment of dead-end streets to gauge the feasibility of converting those spaces into microparks. As a programmer in hundreds of our city's public spaces, we know how important those democratic spaces are to each community and strongly believe that our dense city needs more open spaces but that vacant space is very hard to find. We encourage the creative use of dead-end streets and the development of other strategies to open up unused or under-utilized spaces for public access.

Finally, we support Intro 174 that would add more detailed information onto the capital tracker. We and our hundreds of stewardship partners rely on that tracker to plan public programs and free events in neighborhood parks. It is critically important to understand when there are delays and scope changes. We have had numerous experiences when we or our partners have had to move or postpone events due to capital work that was unexpected or delayed.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today and for your continued support for full funding for parks. We greatly appreciate your efforts to build legislative and budgetary momentum for our city's open spaces.

## **Capital project: Fort Greene Park Entrances, Paths, Plaza and Drainage Infrastructure Reconstruction**

I am speaking from a person who was born and raised in these projects, and I see men and women of powerful positions, come into a community.

For people who live on the Myrtle Ave side, it seems like you all would like to change the entire park to fit more people. Every exit has a significance. Anyone who wants to see the monument can see at any location at these entrances.

You will be taking away from the Myrtle Avenue side with these possible concept of design and forgetting about people who live on the Myrtle Avenue side.

There is nothing wrong with helping that side, but to take away the character, you are now taking the character away from all.

The trees, the wall, and the mounds are important to us. Please keep them in the redesign.

Thank you.

Georgette Poe

Resident

Whitman Houses, Brooklyn, NY 11205

My name is Georgette Poe, I am a longtime resident of the Fort Greene neighborhood. I grew up, as many other children, playing extensively in Fort Greene Park. Playing under the many trees was a major attraction for us but to my dismay, we were informed that 58 of those majestic trees will be cut down in order to build a <sup>13,000</sup>~~130,000~~ ft concrete plaza. The park is the center meeting place for the neighborhood. It is used for birthday parties, weddings, meetings etc. This plaza is **NOT** beneficial to the neighborhood. There are many small businesses including restaurants and stores, in Fort Greene, why would we want additional vendors that would change our landscape entirely and take the business away from people in the neighborhood? Why not restore the park to its former beauty rather than making a concrete jungle?

Joan Reutershan Testimony for Friends of Fort Greene Park

December 6, 2022 1:00 pm City Council Committee on Parks and Recreation, Shekar Krishnan, Chair

In 2016 the NYCDPR presented a plan that promised renovation of Fort Greene Park in conjunction with the *Parks without Borders Program*. Much of the plan seems beneficial, but for the Northwest Corner of Fort Greene Park the plan foresees cutting down a healthy, mature and beloved grove of trees, and substituting a hardscape plaza and decorative plantings, all for design purposes. Our organization, the Friends of Fort Greene Park was founded in response to this ill-conceived plan. The razing of mature tree canopy flies in the face of its benefits for all nearby residents, especially from the NYCHA Walt Whitman and Ingersoll houses, who love this greenspace and whose testimony can be found on our website <https://sites.google.com/fortgreeneparkrenovation>

AS WELL AS of the resilience needs of the City to preserve mature trees to meet its goal of 30% canopy cover by 3035.

Six years and three lawsuits—which we have won—later, this NYCDPR plan, according to the capital Projects tracker, seems to be going forward.

HOWEVER, the Friends of Fort Greene Park see with a newly elected City Council, Administration and Parks Commissioner chance to right this wrong from 2017. Our new Councilmember Crystal Hudson has recently met with us as has CM Shekar Krishnan, Chair of this Committee. For both meetings our focus had to be the PROCESS, the transparency of NYCDPR Capital Projects: As citizens we need clear and accurate information-- what is the timeline, who are the decision makers; if you look at the Tracker on Fort Greene Park now you only see “addition of trees” not the razing of a whole canopy. Under “reasons for delay” you can read that there is room for change in design based on conversations with experts and the neighborhood, but is this happening? **How and where can we intervene to advocate for our much less expensive Community Counter-proposal?** As the Climate Crisis worsens, the Friends of Fort Greene Park are determined to save this magnificent greenspace, the grassy mounds and the arcade of honey locusts, maples, London plane trees and zelkovas. It is in the best interest of the neighborhood and the City to do so.

## **Capital Project: Fort Greene Park Entrances, Paths, Plaza and Drainage Infrastructure Reconstruction**

In 2016, local news outlets announced that former Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver launched a Parks Without Borders program to “[turn hardscapes into greenscapes](#)” in Fort Greene Park.

One year later, Mr. Silver revealed a design proposal at the Ingersoll Community Center. It was a cement plaza that would remove 58 mature trees and pave over 13,000 sq ft of greenery at the NW corner across the street from NYCHA Housing.

The agency told us that the 58 trees are all dying, a statement they gave in all their community outreach, as well as the votes at Brooklyn CB2 and LPC. However, an official tree inventory released by FOIL indicates that most of the trees are healthy but will be removed for the plaza design. The restitution of the tree removal would cost over \$858,723. 520 replacement saplings are needed to make up for the loss of healthy trees.

The Parks Dept also redacted one-third of an important study on Fort Greene Park in its response to our FOIL request. We had no choice but to sue the agency for transparency. [Attorney Michael Gruen worked pro bono to win the lawsuit and an appeal to gain access to the unredacted report](#). The recommendations in the study are consistent with our counterproposal. Both wish to maintain tree canopy and greenery in any redesign.

The City didn't follow the architect's recommendations in their renovation plans for Fort Greene Park and then tried to hide those recommendations from the public.

The Sierra Club and attorney Richard Lippes helped us [win a second lawsuit on the Environmental Review requirement](#).

After five years of the community effort to preserve trees, we are dismayed to learn that the Parks Dept is still working to carry out the same plan. We urge the committee to demand the Parks Dept change its redesign based on their own studies and the [community counterproposal](#).

Thank you.

Ling Hsu  
President  
[Friends of Fort Greene Park](#)

Testimony 12-6-2022 of Valerie Francis, Brooklyn, NY

City Council ,NYC Parks Capitol projects meeting Virtual statement made at 1p meeting

I am Valerie Francis, a part of the Friends of Fort Greene Park and I am from a family which has lived opposite FG Park for 3 generations. I have been part of the process of previous redesigns of this park including renovations that took place under City Council person, Mary Pinkett. I took part in the revisions of the park that included phases that restored the lighting of the monument and making the playground on the Myrtle Av side safer for my child who had asthma.

I was educated in forestry in college and work as a certified arborist with the Parks department where I have worked for 30 years. I therefore understand the value of the canopy as the head of the Councils Parks committee noted he values. Fort Greene Park is in downtown Brooklyn, a block from emissions that originate from the BQE and close to entryways of the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges. Removing more than minimal number of tree from the Park and creating an open plaza would be detrimental to the local community. The benefits of trees improving the air quality from vehicle traffic and barbequing will be lost. Park trees also manage noise from event that take place quite late in the evening, that has become more frequent now that NYU campus has expanded to downtown Brooklyn. This was not built to be part of the the transient population of NYU with an open plaza.

Removing as many as 54 trees from this area of the Park is not beneficial to public health. Park visitor will loose the shade, tranquilly of wildlife that occupy them and there will be a great loss of trees due to a number of factors. Construction digging alone destroys the roots of many trees so that additional trees than those selected will decline and die within 5 years. There is an ash tree disease that will kill a number of trees along the Myrtle Av side of the park. A stand of large oak trees have already been removed at this Myrtle Av corner by NYCHA to build a new building. This work was not considered when the removal of park trees was planned. Additional, there was no transparency by the agency about the reason for the removal of trees that are healthy and the recommendations of their professionals.

The agency needs to limit the design under the current economic conditions to making the park handicapped accessible by revising the existing stairway on Myrtle Av, improve the conditions of the walkway and add more options for restrooms. The agency may also need some sort of review board that will not be impacted by each new administration that is put in place. Planting new trees after the established trees in not productive since it take a long time for city trees to reach maturity. Many of the trees planted by the agency fail to survive, as 9 out of 10 die after there 2 year guarantee has past. Large parks are one of the few areas that can be sanctuaries for trees in our city having a good chance of surviving.

I hope that there will be some improvement in the plans for the park under the new Parks commissioner. Thank you.

**TESTIMONY OF:**

**Lowell Barton, Vice President, and Organizing Director, Laborers' Local 1010**

**for**

**Hearing before The New York City Council**

**Committee on Parks and Recreation**

**December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Good afternoon, my name is Lowell Barton. I am the Vice President and Organizing Director for Laborers' Local 1010. Laborers' Local 1010 members perform work with their unique skill set on virtually every road, street, highway, and boulevard in New York City. Our contractors also work in NYC schools, parks, athletic fields, and playgrounds. Virtually 100% of the work our members perform is Prevailing Wage work. Local 1010 is an affiliate of the NYS Laborers, representing over 40,000 men and women across the state, and is a proud affiliate of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA). I want to thank the City Council Committee on Parks and Recreation and Chair Shekar Krishnan for holding this hearing today and introducing legislation to ensure accountability and transparency of NYC agencies, especially the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), as well as legislation to survey lands for park expansion and tree planting. More parks create safer and healthier communities. This legislation is supported by Laborers Local 1010, with the expectation that the jobs created to build these parks are dignified and of quality.

### **Lack of Accountability & Transparency**

With millions of dollars in Executive and Capital funding, the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) must ensure accountability and transparency to the public on the hundreds of projects overseen by their agency. Community members and elected officials fund these projects that sometimes take months and even years over initially estimated timelines. While it is understandable that construction, reconstruction, and renovations, take time, project changes and delays of projects in any community must be recorded and shared with the public promptly. **Laborers' Local 1010 supports Int. No. 174, requiring the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to expand its web-based capital projects tracker to include new and more detailed information regarding its capital projects, including the reasons for delays, the dates projects were fully funded, the total number of projects in its portfolio, projected and actual cost overruns, individual sources of funding and the length of time it took to complete each project.**

New York City must protect the public from the devastating results due to DPR's lack of accountability and delays in providing timely and safe projects to community members. For this reason, Laborers' Local 1010 applauds the steps NYC Council members are taking to better alert community members of any delays and to hold DPR accountable for their projects, deadlines, and safety measures.

### **Active and Completed Capital Project Delays in DPR**

In 2018, at the time Local 1010 provided testimony during a hearing on NYCDPR Capital Projects, the New York City Comptroller had found that of 69 capital projects worth nearly \$317 million during fiscal years 2014-2015, almost 40 percent were behind schedule during a 2018 audit of DPR.<sup>1</sup> The Audit Report on the Department of Parks and Recreation's Oversight of Capital Projects highlights the tremendous delays that NYC DPR Capital Projects can have, adding nearly \$5 million to the total cost of the audited projects, which was 35% more than the budgeted management fees. While little had changed, we have a unique opportunity to work collaborative with NYCDPR and the New York City Council to shed light on these delays and address them head-on.

Unionized laborers, if awarded the opportunity to work on these capital projects, will bring years of skills training to the job, helping to complete these jobs on budget and in a timely manner. Some may say paying a unionized labor force is too costly for capital projects, but studies show that the benefit is in the quality and timeliness of the work performed. It is the continuous delays and shoddy work that drain the funds for these projects.

**Laborers' Local 1010 also support's Council Member Krishnan's proposed legislation, T2022-2417- requiring the department of parks and recreation to develop a strategic blueprint to reduce its capital project durations by at least 25 percent. We believe providing standardization of processes, timelines, and forms will greatly benefits contractors and the public in having more parks being built in a timely manner in our communities.**

### **Lack of Appropriate Vetting**

For too long, unscrupulous contractors have been permitted to exploit the current system, cheating workers, and taxpayers. The Department of Parks and Recreation has a long-documented history of hiring firms that are not adequately vetted to ensure safety, compliance, and livable wages for workers on job sites. This oversight led to the death of 48-year-old Jin An Liu on a job site in Red

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20180625/REAL\\_ESTATE/180629947/delays-in-parks-department-construction-add-millions-in-unnecessary-costs-report-says#utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=cnyb-dailyalert&utm\\_campaign=cnyb-dailyalert-20180625](https://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20180625/REAL_ESTATE/180629947/delays-in-parks-department-construction-add-millions-in-unnecessary-costs-report-says#utm_medium=email&utm_source=cnyb-dailyalert&utm_campaign=cnyb-dailyalert-20180625)

Hook a few years ago while working for RML Construction. Most troubling is that before the accident, I alerted employees at NYCDPR of the potential for danger on multiple sites run by RML Construction. These emails sent between July 15, 2015, and September 16, 2015, express concern for the safety of workers on the job site and surrounding pedestrians. Additionally, K & S Contracting, which was also awarded contracts through the Department of Parks and Recreation, was found to have violated Labor Law section 220 by willfully failing to pay 36 of its workers the prevailing wage rate of wages and benefits on public works projects, falsified payroll documents, and employed kickbacks of wages to avoid paying the prevailing wage. According to the recent OATH decision, K & S Contracting now owe 3.2 million dollars to their workers. During this time, K & S was awarded a quarter-mile bike path along the Bronx River known as the Bronx River West Farms Park Bike Path. This project was expected to take one year but took about a decade to completed as it was put on hold when K & S Contracting Corps. was investigated for the allegations listed above.

In September of 2021, brothers Nicholas and Vito Dragonetti were indicted on accusations of evading more than \$1 million in insurance premiums while repairing city roads and sidewalks. In August of 2022, Dragonetti Brothers Landscaping was awarded an \$8.39 million contract for emergency tree services in the Bronx and Manhattan. The NYCDPR interpretation of the Procurement Policy Board (PPB) rules must be changed. The problem with current PPB rules is that they limit all public information submissions to an agency during the procurement process. This includes information about a contractor's criminal history, prior acts of fraud, and other serious conduct that any agency should consider before it awards a bid. The consequences of this can be deadly, as in Jin An Liu's case, and they can threaten the livelihood of workers and their families, as in the case of the 36 workers who did not receive a prevailing wage from K&S Construction.

Parks built with union labor should be the standard. Union jobs are safer, with non-union jobs accounting for 79 percent of deaths on job sites.<sup>2</sup> In November of 2022, when a worker should've been celebrating holidays with their family, they fell to their death on an unsafe, non-union

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<sup>2</sup> [https://nycosh.org/nycosh\\_deadly-skyline-report\\_2022/](https://nycosh.org/nycosh_deadly-skyline-report_2022/)

worksite.<sup>3</sup> At some point, we must question if people or profit are the primary motivators for what we do. As city agencies, people should always be the priority, their safety, and health, including those community members who work so hard to serve and better our city. Safety is the responsibility of every employer, including the agencies that hire these firms. Suppose NYCDPR is going to employ non-union firms that have fewer safety precautions. In that case, the least they can do is to look at their history to vet any outstanding or troubling violations of worker safety and livelihood.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, we support **Introduction No. 174, T2022-2417, and any legislation** that will begin ensuring that the Department of Parks and Recreation follow a transparent process, instate early completion incentives, and standardize processes, timelines, and forms—all measures aiming to hold DPR accountable to City Council members and community members. We also support **Introduction No. 680**, which seeks to carve out more space for parks and trees in our city. We always support increased recreational and green space for New Yorkers and hope Introduction No. 174 can work in tandem with this legislation to provide the best and safest parks for all New Yorkers. As a member and Vice President of a 1,700-member construction local, the agency overseeing the timely process of capital projects must prioritize integrity and safety on all job sites. I appreciate your consideration of our comments.

We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with the Council and the Administration, to make our City fairer and our Parks more beautiful. Thank you.

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<sup>3</sup> [Construction worker falls to death outside Manhattan building - Gothamist](#)



## New York City Environmental Justice Alliance Testimony to NYC City Council Committee on Parks and Recreation (in support of [Intro 680-2022](#))

December 6, 2022

Founded in 1991, the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance (NYC-EJA) is a non-profit, 501(c)3 citywide membership network linking grassroots organizations from low-income communities of color in their struggle for environmental justice. NYC-EJA empowers its member organizations to advocate for improved environmental conditions and against inequitable environmental burdens by the coordination of campaigns to inform City and State policies. Through our efforts, member organizations coalesce around specific common issues that threaten the ability for low-income communities of color to thrive.

NYC-EJA is a major proponent of creative and multifaceted green infrastructure solutions for mitigating both flooding and heat risks in our most environmentally burdened communities. Each summer, an estimated 370 New Yorkers die prematurely because of hot weather in New York City. Black New Yorkers are more likely to die from heat stress, with death rates two times higher than among White New Yorkers. Black and brown communities in New York have access to [33 percent less](#) park space than residents in largely white neighborhoods. The disproportionate heat burden and risks that environmental justice communities experience due to the lack of trees and green space, increased pavement, and air pollution underscores the significance of and impact of green infrastructure in these neighborhoods, as well as its many benefits for communities. While we support Intro 680 broadly and the need for increased green infrastructure citywide, we are concerned that without appropriate amendments, it would not be an effective piece of legislation. We have outlined these recommendations below:

### 1. **Include the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS)**

Since vacant lots are mentioned in the legislation, we would recommend adding DCAS to the group of City agencies involved in surveying since they are in charge of City owned spaces/vacant lots. Since there is other proposed legislation ([Intro 315](#)) that would require DCAS to conduct other studies regarding the use of City owned spaces and vacant public lots, we recommend that DCAS streamline these requests to the extent possible by assessing the feasibility of such sites for any type of climate-smart measures (e.g., renewable energy, green infrastructure, etc.).

### 2. **Do not limit the bill execution date**

The current language in the bill requires the listed City agencies to create a plan for each parcel and cost for such a plan *"provided that such plan provides planting of trees or other vegetation... no later than July 1, 2027."* This indicates that the plan/cost estimate

will not be executed if the recommended green infrastructure cannot be implemented by July 1, 2027. We recommend that the language be adjusted so that eligible parcels are not disqualified or assessed because of an arbitrary deadline.

**3. Additional green infrastructure requires additional maintenance and support staff**

The bill, as currently written, does not take into account the supplemental staffing that will be required to add pockets of green infrastructure and maintain them. In any plan that outlines additions to the city's urban forest and green space, accounting for the need for maintenance and who is responsible for maintenance to support those additions is crucial to the success and longevity of the completed project. This could mean the need for additional support to encourage nature-based jobs and an increase in the responsible agency's budget to increase the number of jobs that are not just seasonal but an increase in the baseline number.

**4. The plans should be tied to one clear implementation pathway and funding strategy**

This legislation produces a plan and cost estimate for every eligible space as described in the legislation without one overall plan that solidifies the implementation and costs of all these discrete plans and cost estimates. Involved agencies should come up with an overall strategy/plan to pull all these separate plans and costs onto an implementation pathway with funding shepherded by said agencies with a lead identified. This will also help to maintain clear goals, budgets, and areas for improvement while creating a cohesive and coordinated approach that will be easier to measure benchmarks and success.

We believe in and support the intent behind Intro 680, but think the bill would lead to implementation challenges and complications as written. There is a tremendous need for increased green infrastructure across New York City as we continue to grapple with the adverse effects of climate change. We urge the City Council to clarify the specific roles and responsibilities of the coordinating agencies, the funding source, and implementation pathway for the ease and success of green infrastructure implementation citywide.



**Testimony of Alia Soomro, Deputy Director for New York City Policy  
New York League of Conservation Voters  
City Council Committee on Parks and Recreation  
Oversight Hearing - Improving the Efficiency of Parks Capital Projects  
December 6, 2022**

Good afternoon, my name is Alia Soomro and I am the Deputy Director for New York City Policy at the New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV). NYLCV is a statewide environmental advocacy organization representing over 30,000 members in New York City. Thank you Chair Krishnan and members of the Committee on Parks and Recreation for the opportunity to testify.

NYLCV supports the Parks Committee bills being considered today. Preconsidered bill [T2022-2417](#) would require the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to develop a strategic blueprint to reduce its capital project durations by at least 25 percent—an average of two years. [Introduction 174](#) requires DPR to expand its web based capital projects tracker to include more detailed information regarding its capital projects. [Introduction 680](#) calls on the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT), in conjunction with the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and DPR, to explore the feasibility of micro parks and green spaces on vacant city-owned land near dead ends, highway entrance and exit ramps. This includes the planting of trees, bioswales, or other types of vegetation. These bills would prioritize transparency, improve park capital projects, center equity by mitigating the impacts of transportation pollution, and increase tree coverage throughout the City.

Our advocacy through the Play Fair Campaign, which calls on the City to invest 1% of the NYC budget to parks, has exemplified the importance of parks and open space to the health, resiliency, and sustainability of our City. As the Play Fair coalition continues to advocate for increased investments in parks, T2022-2417 and Intro 174 would contribute to the City's efforts to improve the parks capital process. Along with the Adams Administration's convening of a Capital Process Reform Task Force, requiring a strategic blueprint and expanding DPR's web based capital projects tracker to include information such as reasons for delays and projected and actual cost overruns will give the City a better sense of what improvements must be made in order to effectively invest in our parks.

Additionally, urban forests contribute to the City's environmental health and mitigate the effects of climate change. Trees [filter out](#) harsh pollutants from the air, [cool down temperatures](#) in the summer, and provide [habitats](#) for wildlife. In NYC alone, trees are [estimated](#) to filter out 1,300 tons of pollutants, save approximately \$93.2 million in health costs, capture 2 billion gallons of stormwater runoff, and store 1.2 million tons of carbon annually. As members of the Forest for All NYC Coalition, NYLCV believes that Intro 680 can help achieve the Coalition's goal of

expanding the urban forest and combating climate change by encouraging the City to study the use of micro parks and green spaces on underutilized City-owned land.

Every year we see the worsening effects of climate change; however, due to historic disinvestment in low income and communities of color, not all communities experience climate change equally. Just as environmental justice communities suffer from higher rates of air pollution and adverse health problems, they also lack access to green spaces. [Poorer neighborhoods and neighborhoods populated by people of color have access to 21% and 33% less park space respectively. Parks serving primarily nonwhite populations are also half the size of parks that serve majority white populations and are five times more crowded.](#) This exemplifies the disparities environmental justice communities face daily.

COVID-19 has only exacerbated these disparities. New Yorkers without access to adequate green space over the past few years haven't had the safe outdoor recreational spaces or cooling effects of parks that made the pandemic bearable for so many of us. Right now we need our parks more than ever. By supporting T2022-2417 and Intros 174 and 680, the City can continue to improve the parks capital process and expand access to green spaces.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.



To: Committee Chair Shekar Krishnan and NYC Council Committee on Parks and Recreation

Re: Oversight - Improving the Efficiency of Parks Capital Projects

12/3/2022

Good afternoon. My name is K Webster, I am the current President of the Sara Roosevelt Park Community Coalition.

We have been a coalition for this NYC park starting when it was abandoned by the city in the late 1970s.

The need for reform is obvious to all. We have now waited **seven years** for a **fully funded** automatic door installation (and window repairs) for the well-used senior center located in heart of Sara Roosevelt Park.

Our seniors, who are predominately low-income Chinese-Americans, many disabled, rely on this center as a needed source of nutritious food and an equally needed source of human contact and caring. The diverse staff here provides - far beyond their job descriptions or pay.

Our park has endured well-publicized, random attacks on women, elders, the Asian community, and the homeless community. We are known for drug dealing of K2 which destroys the mind and causes erratic, often violent, behavior in those who become addicted to it.

For the doorway to the center not to permit fast entry, without assistance, is a disaster waiting to happen. Many days we now have PEP officers, but given short staffing, they are frequently and unpredictably called away for other duties.

We support and thank the Council Member and Chair of this Committee, Shekar Krishnan, who along with New Yorkers for Parks crafted bill **T2022-2417** requiring the Parks Department to create a strategic blueprint to reduce the average duration of capital projects by at least 25%.

In addition, **Intro 174** would assist NYC Parks staff, park stewards and the general public by having a website to track projects with more detailed information (such as: reasons for delays, dates projects were fully funded, the total number of projects in the portfolio, projected *and* actual cost overruns, individual sources of funding and the length of time to completion). This accessible and useful tool would enable the public to understand delays, creating trust and encouraging electeds to put money towards park projects - knowing their constituents will enjoy the projects *during* that electeds term!

With capital expenditures reporting updated/available in real time with sufficient detail, efficiency increases between the agency and *all* its partners and enables evaluation/solutions for trouble quickly.

We also support **Intro 680**, encouraging DOT, DEP and DPR to survey dead-end streets to see which might be suitable for greenery.

The pandemic showed us the need to have our parks repaired and built quickly and inexpensively for all city residents to have access to these critical spaces. The budget constraints on our underfunded and inequitable Park system highlighted the need for parks project to cost less, using money saved towards badly needed operations and maintenance (in a parks system that has been underfunded and inequitably funded for 40 years). We, again, encourage the mayor to fulfill the promise to dedicate 1% of the budget to NYC Parks.

Thank you.

K Webster  
President

Sara Roosevelt Park Community Coalition @SaraRPCC

<http://sdrpc.mkgarden.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/StantonBldg>

***NYC City Council Hearing – Parks and Recreation - Spoken testimony draft for Benjamin Bashein***

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SARA MORISHIGE WILLIAMS

Good afternoon. My name is Benjamin Bashein, I am the Executive Director of The Skatepark Project. For the past twenty years, The Skatepark Project has worked with thousands of municipalities across all 50 states to develop low-cost, high impact action sports recreation facilities. Founded by Tony Hawk, world champion skateboarder and public skatepark activist, the organization's mission centers on supporting underserved communities through the capital improvement process. The resulting skate spaces are cost effective community assets that attract and support a diverse user base for decades with minimal maintenance.

Skatepark usage directly influences health outcomes of a community and advances health equity. Research from the University of Southern California's Beyond the Board Study demonstrates that skateboarding improves mental health, encourages resilience and facilitates a sense of community. In addition, skaters of color reported feeling a greater degree of safety from judgment within the skateboarding community than in nonskate contexts. Data from Cal State University San Marcos show that skatepark users get their CDC recommended daily cardiovascular activity, as well.

Not only do action sports provide inspiration for youth and adults to be habitually active, but they have a low barrier to entry. Not everyone can afford league fees, expensive equipment or sporting schedules. Action sports like skateboarding, BMX riding, scootering, wheel-chair motocross, inline and quad skating provide an inexpensive, independent but largely communal sporting experience. Skateboarding is the third least expensive sport and the third most commonly reported interest for high school students.

Without a legal skate space nearby, members of the action sports community actively seek out micro "skate spots" around town, utilizing them regardless of legality. The value of habitual exercise, courage building and community engagement normally found in skating is often plagued by negativity and law enforcement interactions due to lack of legal access.

With our breadth of experience, we find ourselves championing a new, broader definition of an effective skatepark. The NY Parks Department has done a great job of accepting and implementing skateparks. It's ahead of the curve, but behind in service level. In a region where space is at its highest premium, converting underutilized and micro-sites into green space is one part of an excellent solution. Activating these areas with legal space for wholesome communal athletic activity allows for the greatest potential of these micro-parks and the safety of their users.

Skateparks as small as 500 square feet can be an incredible asset to the local community. The Skatepark Project has identified and supported many examples of ultra-low cost, high impact micro-site and reutilization projects, such as Waller Street Park in San Francisco and Trinity Park in Providence, Rhode Island. We are working with Brooklyn Bridge Manhattan on the revitalization of the world-famous Brooklyn Banks skate spot as we speak. All of these public-private partnerships apply best practices in capital planning while taking a creative approach to space utilization.



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SARA MORISHIGE WILLIAMS

The old common concerns about danger, liability and social acceptance of skating are in the past. With skateboarding and BMX in the Tokyo Olympics, The Skatepark Project saw a 700% increase in support requests from municipalities and advocates across the country, and a 34% increase in skateboarding's userbase. These activities are now known commodities with tangible benefits. The question is: What can be done with this opportunity?

The Skatepark Project stands ready to partner with the NY Parks Department to apply this lens, our experience and funding support toward a citywide approach to accessible, healthy recreation options for New York's action sports community. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Hello,

My name is Luke Szabados. I am a constituent in Bronx Community District 12. If you aren't familiar Bronx CD12 is ranked 56th out of the City's 59 Community Districts when it comes to access to parks. As such, the creation of additional park land is something that is a high priority in this community. When it comes to the creation of micro-parks on vacant city-owned land, Council should consider expanding the scope of Intro 0680-2022's proposed survey to include undeveloped street land owned by the city (department of transportation) abutting trains and waterfront.

Because highways are not the only element of our transportation network that create unique intersections to our street network, it's advantageous for this potential legislation to be amended to look at these areas beyond highway-impacted land to take full advantage of our city's micro-park potential.

For example, in Bronx CD12, the 5 train intersects and bisects Burke Avenue and inadvertently has created a two block extension of undeveloped street land adjacent to Haffen Park. This land is not paved. It is bursting with trees and migratory birds. It is mapped as an NYC street. However it is fenced off and used as storage for derelict vehicles and a homeless encampment. In order to transform this area into a public park, which is one of my goals in my conversations with the local Community Board and Council Member, the community must engage a ULURP process to demap the street. This is a time consuming process. We need an easier quicker, more affordable way for the city to convert these spaces, which already have abundant tree-life into park land before adjacent property owners buy it up.

Another example is where street land abuts the waterfront. In multiple locations across the city, there are mapped streets which dead-end into the water. Over time, nature overtakes these areas and they become informal parks. Without attention or official designation by the city however, these waterfront streets easily become enclosed by the fences apparently erected by adjacent property owners. Examples can be found along Bay Shore Avenue and Overlook Avenue in the East Bronx. Both of these roads terminate into the water and appear to remain city-owned street land, but appear to have been enclosed by the adjacent property owners for private enjoyment. The city must incorporate these "paper streets" along transit and the waterfront into their surveys. For areas like mine which count as some of the least equitable in terms of park access, and for the East Bronx which has no public kayak access to the Eastchester Bay waterfront, we need better access to our natural areas. An expanded Intro 0680-2022 can be a great first step to implement that.

Thank you,

Luke Szabados

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ling Hsu

Address: Ashland Pl. Brooklyn NY 11201

I represent: Friends of Fort Greene Park

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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 in favor  in opposition

Date: 12/6/22

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Name: ELI DVORKIN

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: CENTER FOR AN URBAN FUTURE

Address: 30 5th AVE.

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Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. all bills Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Lowell Barton

Address: Queens, NY

I represent: Laborers Local 1010

Address: Queens, NY

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Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 12/6/22

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Heather Lubov

Address: 830 Fifth Ave, NYC 10065

I represent: City Parks Foundation

Address: same as above

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Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 174,680 Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 12/6/22

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ALFA SOOMRO

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: New York League of Conservation Voters

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Joan Reutershan

Address: S. Portland Ave

I represent: Friends of Fort Greene Park

Address: Fort Greene, BKlyn, NY

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 2417 Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ROSA CHANG

Address: PINE ST

I represent: BROOKLYN BRIDGE MANHATTAN.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: CARTER STRICKLAND

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: BENJAMIN BASHIEN

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: THE SKATE PARK PROJECT

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Sue Donoghue

Address: NYC Parks, 830 Fifth Ave. NY, NY

I represent: NYC Parks

Address: 830 Fifth Ave. NY, NY

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Theresa Laddick

Address: 830 Fifth Ave. NY, NY

I represent: NYC Parks

Address: 830 Fifth Ave. NY, NY

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in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: LESLIE WOLF

Address: NYC DOT

I represent: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Mr H Drury

Address: 830 F.V.M. Ave., NY, NY

I represent: NYC Parks

Address: 830 Fifth Ave., NY, NY

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 12/6/22

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jennifer Greenfeld

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: NYC Parks

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 12/6/2022

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Eric Gibson

Address: 125 Barclay Street NY, NY 10007

I represent: President, Local 1506, DC 37

Address: Chimneys + Pruners - Plus Dept.

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Corey O'Leary

Address: 513 W 134th St

I represent: H2Q Consulting

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Georgette Joe

Address: North Elliott Walk Bklyn

I represent: Friends of Fort Greene Park

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms