DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION Susan M. Donoghue, Commissioner



WHAT WE DO

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), also referred to as NYC Parks, manages and cares for the City's 2,000 parks, 1,000 playgrounds, 36 recreation centers, 12,000 acres of natural areas with 4.9 million trees, over 660,000 street trees, and 160 miles of shoreline, to strengthen the health, of New York City. NYC Parks also offers thousands of programs and events to enrich and empower New Yorkers and strengthen the social fabric of the City's neighborhoods, including free Shape Up NYC children's programing, Urban Park Rangers' nature exploration events, music and sports festivals, diverse stewardship opportunities, and green job training programs.

FOCUS ON EQUITY

NYC Parks' mission is to grow, maintain, and program a world-class park system prioritizing equity, access, safety, and nature for all. NYC Parks' efforts build on the core principles of good park management: targeted capital investment, expansion and protection of natural resources, strong community and public private partnerships, enriching and capacity building programming, efficient and effective maintenance, and prioritizing communities that have been historically under-resourced. Interconnection among each of these areas is essential to the growth of a vital park system that fosters the health and well-being of New Yorkers and their environment.

To achieve this, NYC Parks launched the Vital Parks for All plan in Fiscal 2024, which includes a \$3.2 billion investment to upgrade park facilities, equitably deliver new resources to underserved communities, and equip New Yorkers with information to celebrate, support, and advocate for their local parks. Vital Parks for All envisions public greenspaces as critical living infrastructure and seeks to ensure that all communities have access to parks that are clean and safe, green and resilient, and supported by engaged and empowered New Yorkers, with a particular emphasis on historically underserved areas. Informed by data and map analysis, NYC Parks is pursuing 10 strategic initiatives, including supporting local stewardship through the Let's Green NYC initiative, upgrading aging pools and restrooms and building new state-of-the art facilities, and expanding new parkland in neighborhoods where it is limited. These initiatives aim to enhance the City's physical greenspaces and bring them to life with people, programs, and nature, improving individual, community, and environmental health for all. NYC Parks has also launched the Vital Parks Explorer, an innovative online tool that gives New Yorkers the same interactive data the Agency uses to target investments, displaying at a glance the level of access a neighborhood has to more than 20 critical park services. With the Explorer, New Yorkers are also empowered to identify the gaps in the citywide park network and work within their communities and with the City to address these gaps.

NYC Parks has been evaluating and evolving the Language Access Program to accommodate the ever-changing needs of the City, especially with the influx of migrants coming into New York City. To better serve these newest New Yorkers, the Agency has conducted outreach related to language access to the various divisions that engage with the public. This has increased awareness of the legal requirements and services available to staff to address requests. As a result, the Agency has seen an increase in language access requests to have various documents (rules signage, event flyers, etc.) translated into a variety of languages and to have interpreters onsite for programs, including workshops, staff onboarding, and even swimming lessons.

To achieve the goal of equity both internally and externally, NYC Parks continues to expand its contracts with Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises, exceeding the citywide goal of 30 percent utilization. NYC Parks also continues to build an equitable internal culture. Since its launch in summer 2022, NYC Parks' Diversity Equity Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) office has worked to establish itself across the Agency through informative panels, workshops, restorative circles, and the creation of a DEI Council to ensure key principles are integrated into all aspects of the Agency's work.

OUR SERVICES AND GOALS

SERVICE 1 Manage the City's parks and recreation facilities. Goal 1a Ensure that all parks and playgrounds are clean and in good condition. Goal 1b Provide an overall quality park experience. SERVICE 2 Manage the City's street, park and forest trees. Goal 2a Maintain and preserve trees under DPR stewardship. Goal 2b Resolve high-priority tree work promptly. Goal 2c Increase the number of trees under DPR stewardship. SERVICE 3 Preserve and expand the infrastructure of New York's park system. Goal 3a Build and improve parks and playgrounds in a timely and efficient manner. Goal 3b Ensure an adequate supply of parkland to meet future needs. Goal 3b Care for natural areas within parks, including forests, wetlands, and grasslands.

SERVICE 4 Provide recreational and educational opportunities for New Yorkers of all ages.

- Goal 4a Increase public attendance at educational programs, recreation centers and other venues.
- Goal 4b Increase volunteer activity at City programs and events.

HOW WE PERFORMED

- Parks rated acceptable for overall condition was 85 percent and parks rated acceptable for cleanliness was 92 percent in the first four months of Fiscal 2025, decreases compared to the same period in Fiscal 2024 when overall condition was at 88 percent and cleanliness was at 94 percent. The drop in overall condition and cleanliness ratings was largely due to the loss of "second shift" staff through recent City budget reductions at 100 heavily used locations during the summer of 2024. The second shift deploys dedicated cleaning staff to these locations during peak use evening hours and weekends. With the reestablishment of the second shift at the locations in fall 2024, NYC Parks anticipates these ratings will rebound.
- During the first quarter of Fiscal 2025, crimes against persons decreased from 220 to 218 and crimes against properties decreased from 214 to 176. The New York City Police Department (NYPD) is principally responsible for ensuring public safety throughout the City, including parks. Parks is committed to assisting NYPD in this effort to provide a positive and safe experience for all park visitors. Parks Enforcement Patrol summonses issued decreased 42 percent, down to 5,365 summonses issued compared to 9,198 in the same period last year. In the summer season, PEP focuses on the deployment of officers to provide ample coverage at beaches and pools. Due to limited staff, NYC Parks was only able to deploy one enforcement tour between late July and late September instead of two.
- Tree inspections, which include inspections by NYC Parks staff and contracted consultants, increased 41 percent to 69,250 trees inspected in the first four months of Fiscal 2025 compared to 49,097 in the same period in Fiscal 2024. This is due to the resumption of work following the resolution of the delayed the block pruning contracts in Fiscal 2024.
- A total of 4,569 trees were planted in the first four months of Fiscal 2025 compared to 5,356 trees in the same period in Fiscal 2024, a 15 percent decrease. The number of trees planted in natural areas decreased to 1,333 from 4,086, accounting for the overall decrease in trees planted. This is due to the project-specific nature of natural areas restoration and planting, and the current stage of existing restoration contracts. Plantings in October 2024 were accomplished in forested areas of Alley Pond Park (Queens), Van Cortlandt Park and Bronx Park (Bronx). The number of trees planted along City streets increased to 1,811, up from 520 at the same point last year. The number of trees planted in landscaped areas rose to 1,425 trees, up from 750.
- NYC Parks completed 35 capital projects in the first four months of Fiscal 2025, compared to 56 projects completed in the same period in Fiscal 2024, with 80 percent of project construction completed on time or early and 89 percent within budget. Completed projects include Highbridge Park Dyckman Rest Reconstruction in Manhattan, and Cooper Park Public Restroom Building Reconstruction in Brooklyn. A \$5.0 million project in Highbridge Park, was completed in July 2024 and transformed Dyckman Rest by incorporating site safety, sustainability and accessibility elements. The reconstruction of the playground and sitting areas provides opportunities for active play, passive use, and a newly established dog run. The northern seating area was improved with new benches and native plant beds and offers a safe and vibrant sitting space. A new accessible pathway leads children up the sloped portion of the site to a hill slide which returns them to the main play area. The project also provides minor improvements to the adjacent woodland, footpath, and mountain bike trail entrance. At Cooper Park, a \$1.6 million limited scope project finished reconstruction of the public restroom building in September 2024. The existing public restroom was reconstructed for Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, facilitating access for the diversity of visitors who enjoy the basketball, handball, volleyball and tennis courts, fitness equipment area, spray shower, skate park, and playground. The project upgraded the building's mechanical, electrical, plumbing systems and interior finishes to meet current NYC Parks standards. The building exterior received new openings for windows, door replacements, masonry cleaning, repointing, and architectural roof coatings, and the concrete apron around the public restroom was reconstructed to address existing drainage issues.
- Total recreation center memberships and attendance trended upwards in the first four months of Fiscal 2025 compared to the same period of Fiscal 2024. Memberships increased by 11 percent, from 132,961 to 147,068 memberships. Notably, young adult (age 18-24) memberships increased 30 percent. Attendance is up from 542,312 to 600,471, an 11 percent increase. These increases are due to NYC Parks' efforts to retain and recruit more members.
- Attendance at non-recreation center programs decreased 17 percent during the first four months of Fiscal 2025, with 294,521 attendees compared to 355,511 in the same period in Fiscal 2024. This decrease was mostly due to a fewer number of Kids in Motion program sites. Kids in Motion is a free, drop-in program offering active, outdoor play in playgrounds, led by NYC Parks staff.

- Volunteer engagement with NYC Parks continued to increase in the first four months of Fiscal 2024, reflecting the Agency's ongoing efforts to enhance civic engagement, volunteerism, and community partnerships. Volunteer turnout increased from 12,432 volunteers in the first four months of Fiscal 2024 to 14,957 volunteers in the same period of Fiscal 2025, driven by increases in Partnerships for Parks volunteers and Recreation volunteer-led classes. The number of community partner groups engaged by Partnerships for Parks increased from 455 in the first four months of Fiscal 2024 to 478 in the same period of Fiscal 2025 due to its strengthened collaboration with local organizations. These indicators are a subset of the Agency's Let's Green NYC initiative, which has engaged a record number of volunteers in City parks since its launch in Calendar 2023.
- The proportion of overgrown tree or branch hitting building service requests meeting time to first action was 38 percent in the first four months of Fiscal 2025, a 31 percentage-point decline from the same period of last year. Trees and Sidewalks Program requests meeting time to first action improved five percentage points across comparative reporting periods, from 28 percent to 33 percent. Because NYC Parks is experiencing significant staffing shortages in the forester title, the Agency is prioritizing tree inspections for conditions that are more likely to present a risk to public safety, and prioritizing sidewalk rating inspections in areas where contract work is planned.

SERVICE 1 Manage the City's parks and recreation facilities.

Goal 1a Ensure that all parks and playgrounds are clean and in good condition.

		Actual		Tar	get	4-Month Actual	
Performance Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
★ Parks rated acceptable for overall condition (%)	86%	87%	89%	85%	85%	88%	85%
- Overall condition of small parks and playgrounds (%)	86%	87%	90%	*	*	89%	86%
- Overall condition of large parks (%)	80%	84%	86%	*	*	86%	83%
- Overall condition of greenstreets (%)	93%	91%	90%	*	*	87%	89%
★ Parks rated acceptable for cleanliness (%)	92%	93%	94%	90%	90%	94%	92%
- Cleanliness of small parks and playgrounds (%)	93%	93%	94%	*	*	93%	92%
- Cleanliness of large parks (%)	88%	89%	92%	*	*	91%	899
- Cleanliness of greenstreets (%)	98%	98%	99%	*	*	99%	1009
★ Play equipment rated acceptable (%)	96%	96%	96%	95%	95%	96%	96%
★ Safety surfaces rated acceptable (%)	93%	94%	94%	95%	95%	93%	95%
★ Public restrooms in service (in season only) (%)	96%	94%	96%	95%	95%	96%	93%
★ Spray showers in service (in season only) (%)	98%	98%	95%	95%	95%	96%	96%
★ Drinking fountains in service (in season only) (%)	95%	96%	94%	95%	95%	95%	979
★ Recreation centers rated acceptable for cleanliness (%)	100%	100%	100%	95%	95%	NA	NA
★ Recreation centers rated acceptable for overall condition (%)	87%	79%	80%	85%	85%	NA	NA
Monuments receiving annual maintenance (%)	81%	79%	75%	*	*	33%	30%

Goal 1b Provide an overall quality park experience.

	Actual			Tar	get	4-Month Actual	
Performance Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
★ Major felonies reported on NYC Parks properties — Crimes against persons		601	673	Û	Û	220	218
★ – Crimes against property		588	551	Û	Û	214	176
Summonses issued	24,511	24,461	22,933	*	*	9,198	5,365
Violations admitted to or upheld at the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (%)	90.8%	90.4%	89.9%	*	*	90.6%	85.7%
r Critical Indicator							

SERVICE 2 Manage the City's street, park and forest trees.

Goal 2a Maintain and preserve trees under DPR stewardship.

		Actual		Tar	get	4-Month Actual	
Performance Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
★ Street trees pruned — Block program	43,463	46,097	54,448	65,000	65,000	19,351	18,789
– Annual pruning goal completed (%)	67%	71%	84%	*	*	30%	29%
– Street trees pruned as a percent of pruning eligible trees	8%	8%	10%	*	*	NA	NA
Trees removed	11,686	9,955	9,548	*	*	2,794	2,569
Tree inspections	184,449	80,187	142,656	*	*	49,097	69,250
★ Critical Indicator	Directional ⁻	Target	* None				

Resolve high-priority tree work promptly. Goal 2b

		Actual			get	4-Mont	th Actual
Performance Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
★ Immediate priority tree work resolved within 7 days (%)		98%	97%	*	*	97%	93%
★ High-priority tree work resolved within 28 days (%)	97%	98%	99%	*	*	99%	99%
★ Critical Indicator	able						

Goal 2c Increase the number of trees under DPR stewardship.

	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual		
Performance Indicators		FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25	
★ Trees planted		31,088	42,028	仓	仓	5,356	4,569	
– Trees planted along City streets		14,834	16,129	*	*	520	1,811	
– Trees planted on landscaped areas of parks	3,096	3,760	4,534	*	*	750	1,425	
– Trees planted in natural areas of parks	14,530	12,494	21,365	*	*	4,086	1,333	
★ Critical Indicator	★ Critical Indicator							

SERVICE 3 Preserve and expand the infrastructure of New York's park system.

Goal 3a Build and improve parks and playgrounds in a timely and efficient manner.

		Actual		Tar	get	4-Month Actual	
Performance Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
Capital projects completed		144	142	*	*	56	35
★ Capital projects completed on time or early (%)		88%	85%	80%	80%	86%	80%
Capital projects completed within budget (%)	86%	90%	93%	85%	85%	91%	89%
Eligible capital projects including accessibility improvements (%)		100%	100%	*	*	NA	NA
★ Critical Indicator	Directional 1	Target	* None				

Ensure an adequate supply of parkland to meet future needs. Goal 3b

		Actual		Tar	get	4-Mont	h Actual
Performance Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
★ New Yorkers living within walking distance of a park (%)		83.9%	83.9%	仓	仓	NA	NA
★ Critical Indicator	①	Гarget	* None				

Goal 3c Care for natural areas within parks, including forests, wetlands, and grasslands.

				Actual		Target		4-Mont	h Actual
Performance Indicators			FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
Acres of natural areas cared for		NA	1,224.4	767.8	*	*	NA	NA	
Number of native plants	(non-trees) planted in na	tural areas	NA	57,173	51,718	*	*	NA	NA
★ Critical Indicator	# Equity Indicator	"NA" Not Available	û	Target	* None				

SERVICE 4 Provide recreational and educational opportunities for New Yorkers of all ages.

Increase public attendance at educational programs, recreation centers and other venues.

		Actual		Tar	get	4-Month Actual	
Performance Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
★ Total recreation center memberships	100,385	117,116	141,486	仓	仓	132,961	147,068
– Seniors	NA	16,199	17,468	*	*	18,025	18,262
– Adults	NA	24,315	25,859	*	*	27,095	26,975
– Young adults (subset of adult membership)	NA	24,598	34,791	*	*	27,689	35,957
– Youth and children	NA	52,004	63,368	*	*	60,152	65,874
★ Total recreation center attendance	776,001	1,647,046	1,870,379	仓	仓	542,312	600,471
– Seniors	NA	409,349	475,810	*	*	157,527	163,622
– Adults	NA	480,592	574,936	*	*	183,840	190,089
– Young adults (subset of adult attendance)	NA	199,405	232,290	*	*	66,967	72,448
– Youth and children	NA	353,867	398,811	*	*	115,465	113,034
– Visitors	NA	203,833	188,532	*	*	18,513	61,278
★ Attendance at outdoor Olympic and intermediate pools (pool season)	986,448	864,216	974,931	*	*	NA	NA
Attendance at historic house museums	540,287	714,326	661,763	*	*	333,078	339,871
Attendance at skating rinks	500,675	481,345	537,341	*	*	NA	NA
Total attendance at non-recreation center programs	385,140	518,150	602,003	*	*	355,511	294,521
★ Critical Indicator	û∜ Directional	Target	* None				

Goal 4b Increase volunteer activity at City programs and events.

				Actual		Tar	get	4-Mont	h Actual
Performance Indicators		FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25	
Community partner groups engaged by Partnerships for Parks		485	568	471	*	*	455	478	
Volunteer turnout		32,413	38,109	39,186	*	*	12,432	14,957	
★ Critical Indicator									

AGENCY-WIDE MANAGEMENT

Goal 4a

		Actual			get	4-Month Actual			
Performance Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25		
Cases commenced against the City in state and federal court		293	234	*	*	76	105		
Payout (\$000)		\$24,640	\$57,031	*	*	\$15,199	\$7,425		
Workplace injuries reported	494	457	655	*	*	227	314		
★ Critical Indicator	Directional Direc	★ Critical Indicator							

AGENCY CUSTOMER SERVICE

Performance Indicators	Actual			Tar	get	4-Month Actual	
Customer Experience		FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
E-mails responded to within 14 days (%)		76%	79%	60%	60%	78%	85%
Letters responded to within 14 days (%)		85%	86%	60%	60%	85%	88%
Completed requests for interpretation	283	290	544	*	*	NA	NA
CORE facility rating	100	97	99	85	85	NA	NA
★ Critical Indicator	Directional 1	Target	* None				

Performance Indicators	Actual		Target		4-Month Actual		
Response to 311 Service Requests (SRs)	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY24	FY25
★ Total public service requests received — Forestry	91,785	92,225	110,413	*	*	47,090	44,173
– Downed Trees, downed limbs, and hanging limbs	23,337	19,428	28,110	*	*	12,447	11,666
Damaged Tree — Branch or Limb Has Fallen Down — % of SRs Meeting Time to First Action (8 days)	77%	73%	81%	95%	95%	74%	87%
Percent meeting time to first action — Dead Tree — Dead/Dying Tree (30 days for trees planted within a 2 year period, 7 days for all other trees)	66%	67%	72%	90%	90%	64%	78%
Percent meeting time to first action — New Tree Request — For One Address (180 days)	55%	85%	79%	90%	90%	78%	46%
Percent meeting time to first action — Overgrown Tree/Branches — Hitting Building (30 days)	78%	52%	73%	95%	95%	69%	38%
Percent meeting time to first action — Root/Sewer/Sidewalk Condition —- Trees and Sidewalks Program (30 days)	14%	13%	30%	85%	85%	28%	33%
★ Critical Indicator	Directional ⁻	Target	* None				

AGENCY RESOURCES

		Actual		Sept. 2024 MMR Plan	Updated Plan	Plan	4-Mont	h Actual
Resource Indicators	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY25 ¹	FY26 ¹	FY24	FY25
Expenditures (\$000,000) ²	\$588.2	\$614.3	\$639.0	\$618.0	\$647.7	\$640.4	\$233.8	\$240.4
Revenues (\$000,000)	\$55.7	\$69.7	\$69.8	\$67.3	\$67.1	\$67.3	\$27.2	\$29.6
Personnel (Total FT and FTE)	7,198	6,785	6,802	7,275	7,764	7,757	6,755	6,876
Full-time equivalent (FTE) personnel	3,448	2,386	2,526	2,825	2,809	2,774	2,397	2,309
- Parks Opportunity Program (POP) participants	819	1,084	895	1,012	1,127	1,157	1,149	760
Overtime paid (\$000,000)	\$29.9	\$30.3	\$27.8	\$13.5	\$14.5	\$14.1	\$12.1	\$8.4
Capital commitments (\$000,000)	\$538.4	\$553.8	\$622.2	\$724.2	\$778.8	\$1,296.4	\$125.6	\$88.3
¹ January 2025 Financial Plan. ² Expenditures incl	ude all funds	"NA" - No	ot Available	³The Parks O	pportunity Pro	gram participa	nts, reflected a	s full-time

equivalents, are a subtotal of the Department's total Personnel count reported above.

SPENDING AND BUDGET INFORMATION

Where possible, the relationship between an agency's goals and its expenditures and planned resources, by budgetary unit of appropriation (UA), is shown in the 'Applicable MMR Goals' column. Each relationship is not necessarily exhaustive or exclusive. Any one goal may be connected to multiple UAs, and any UA may be connected to multiple goals.

Unit of Appropriation	Expenditures FY24 ¹ (\$000,000)	January 2025 Financial Plan FY25 ² (\$000,000)	Applicable MMR Goals ³
Personal Services - Total	\$496.1	\$487.0	
001 - Executive Management and Administrative Services	\$10.3	\$10.2	All
002 - Maintenance and Operations	\$398.0	\$389.8	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 4a, 4b
003 - Design and Engineering	\$53.1	\$53.9	2c, 3a, 3b
004 - Recreation Services	\$34.8	\$33.2	4a, 4b
Other Than Personal Services - Total	\$142.9	\$160.7	
006 - Maintenance and Operations	\$114.0	\$125.7	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 4a, 4b
007 - Executive Management and Administrative Services	\$25.1	\$29.4	All
009 - Recreation Services	\$1.8	\$2.4	4a, 4b
010 - Design and Engineering	\$2.0	\$3.2	2c, 3a, 3b
Agency Total	\$639.0	\$647.7	

¹Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2024. Includes all funds. ²Includes all funds. ³Refer to agency goals listed at front or chapter.

NOTEWORTHY CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS 🎤

- The indicators 'Major felonies reported on Parks' properties (excludes Central Park) Crimes against persons' and 'Major felonies reported on Parks' properties (excludes Central Park Crimes against properties' were removed from Goal 1b and replaced with 'Major felonies reported on NYC Parks properties Crimes against persons' and 'Major felonies reported on NYC Parks properties Crimes against properties' in the same goal. These indicators now include Central Park. Historically, these indicators have not included Central Park as the park area is an equivalent NYPD precinct. Additional historic data for Central Park in NYPD reporting tools is available as Precinct 22.
- Preceding the Fiscal 2025 Preliminary Mayor's Management Report, the Mayor's Office of Operations continued to standardize indicator names, implementing changes in the Customer Experience section. Indicator definitions and historic data were not changed.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For additional information go to:

- New York City Parks Inspection Program Results: http://www.nycgovparks.org/park-features/parks-inspection-program
- Vital Parks Explorer: https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/vital-parks/explorer
- Volunteer opportunities in New York City Parks: https://www.nycgovparks.org/events/volunteer
- The Social Indicators and Equity Report, EquityNYC: http://equity.nyc.gov/

For more information on the agency, please visit: www.nycgovparks.org.