



**BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND
COMMUNITY BOARD #3**

1243 Woodrow Road - 2nd Floor
Staten Island, NY 10309

Telephone: (718) 356-7900 Fax: (718) 966-9013

Website: www.nyc.gov/sicb3

Email: sicb3@cb.nyc.gov

**Parks & Recreation and Environmental Committee
Public Hearing Report**

DATE: October 10, 2023

TIME: 7:00PM

IN PERSON: No

VIRTUAL: Yes

SPEAKER: Yes

Committee Members Present

Frank Morano, *Chairman of the Board*
Engjell Lleshi
Frank P. Morano
Anthony Riccardelli

Committee Members Absent

Albert Klingele
Dianne Mattioli
Nicole Nigro

Staff

Stacey Wertheim, *Community Coordinator*
Susan LaForgia, *Community Coordinator*

Board Members Present

Jeff Geary

Guests

Colleen Siuzdak, Administration Coordinator, DPR Borough of Staten Island
Adam Ganser, New Yorkers for Parks
Denise Pacheco, Rep. Assembly Member Michael Reilly
Carol Donovan, Richmondtown-Clarke Avenue Civic Association

Public Contact Session

None

Agenda

New Yorkers for Parks (NY4P) is a non-profit that drives both immediate actions and long-term policies that protect and enhance the city's vast network of parks and ensures adequate and equitable distribution of open space resources to *all* neighborhoods. A representative spoke about the campaign to increase the Parks budget from .5% to 1%. Mayor Adams promised the increase but has not followed through.

A letter of support was requested and will be provided pending the vote at the General Board meeting.

* See attached.

* Full presentation on file in the Community Board office.

Parks Announcements

- Fresh Kills Park Ribbon Cutting – a new date will be announced shortly.
- Halloween Events: Conference House Park and Greenbelt – check Parks website.
- Lifeguard qualifying tests will begin in the winter – check Parks website.
- Let's Green NYC Initiative – volunteer initiative – check Parks website.

Old Business

- Request for update on Columbia University study on feral cats and their negative impact on tick control. Colleen will follow-up.

New Business

- A Board member requested information on tree planting receipts, the tree fund, and the number of plantings in the CB3 district. – Colleen will follow-up.
- A Board member expressed concerns about stump removal – Even though stump removal is a separate contract, stumps should be removed more expeditiously to prevent accidents.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Morano, Chairman of the Board



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Date October 24, 2023

Honorable Eric Adams
Mayor – City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

On October 24, 2023, Staten Island Community Board 3 passed the attached resolution in support of 1% for NYC Parks Funding.

We believe that investing in parks and green spaces is essential to creating a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable community that benefits all residents.

We appreciate your partnership in ensuring that all members of our community have access to safe, clean, and well-maintained parks and green spaces.

Sincerely,

Frank Morano
Chair

Charlene Wagner
District Manager

CC:

Meera Joshi, Deputy Mayor of New York City

Sue Donoghue, Commissioner - New York City Department of Parks and Recreation

Speaker Adrienne Adams, New York City Council

City Council Member Shekar Krishnan, Chair- New York City Council Park and Recreation Committee

City Council Member Justin Brannan, Chair- New York City Council Finance Committee



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The following resolution was passed at the Community Board 3 Staten Island General Board meeting on October 24, 2023 in Support of 1% for NYC Parks Funding:

WHEREAS, parks and green spaces provide numerous benefits to communities, including promoting physical and mental health, providing spaces for community gatherings and events, improving air quality, climate resiliency and cooling, and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents; **WHEREAS**, many parks and green spaces have experienced neglect and underfunding, resulting in deteriorating conditions and limited programming options;

WHEREAS, the 1% for Parks campaign proposes to dedicate one percent of the City's annual budget towards parks and green spaces, ensuring adequate funding for staffing, maintenance, and other critical needs;

WHEREAS, many large U.S. cities allocate more than one percent of their city budgets to parks, which has resulted in significant improvements to parks and green spaces in those communities. San Francisco spends 1.6 percent of its municipal budget on parks, Los Angeles spends 2.9 percent, Chicago 4.3 percent and Minneapolis 5.3 percent.

WHEREAS, the 1% for Parks campaign has garnered widespread support from community organizations, advocacy groups, and residents who recognize the importance of parks and green spaces to the health and well-being of our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that State Island Community Board 3 fully supports the 1% for Parks campaign and urges our elected officials to allocate this increased funding in the New York City budget. We believe that investing in parks and green spaces is essential to creating a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable community that benefits all residents.

We call on our elected officials to prioritize parks and green spaces in budget decisions and work towards ensuring that all members of our community have access to safe, clean, and well-maintained parks and green spaces.