

1. Securing Adequate Funding / Maintenance for Parks
 - a. Yes
 - i. Yes
 - b. Yes
 - i. Yes
 - c. Yes
 - d. Yes. Public-private partnerships have worked well where there is sufficient will in the community to assist in the upkeep of parks. We should be aware that in low-income communities there is often the will but not the funding, and so we cannot over-rely on non-public sources of funding if we want to maintain equity in access to parks.
 - e. We need a clear inventory of parks and park equipment, and the condition of each. The process by which the Parks Department chooses to do the upkeep should be clear and subject to review by the Council
 - i. Yes
 - f. Yes
 - i. If proceeds from park concessions can be earmarked for parks, there should be some supply of funding to help with upkeep. Ultimately this comes down to budget negotiations, though, which means that it is critical to have city councilmembers who understand the importance of public parks and are willing to fight for them.
 - ii. The Parks Department has to be accountable for upkeep. Some of this can be addressed through the budget process, for example by clearly splitting up the various components of the Parks budget, and making clear which part of it is intended for repair and upkeep of park essentials, which is for improvements, and so on.
 - g. Yes
 - h. Yes
2. Protecting Parkland
 - a. Yes
 - i. Professional Sports organizations should be responsible to the communities who host them. One of the most obvious ways to make that happen is to build in contributions to local park spaces into the deals made with those organizations.
 - b. Yes
 - i. I will support legislation on the Council that would mandate this change.
 - c. Yes
 - i. I will support legislation on the Council that would mandate this change.
 - d.
 - e. Yes
 - f. Yes
3. Expanding Park Use
 - a. Yes

- i. As much as possible, we need to green the city – literally, in terms of expanding green space, and less literally, in terms of reducing our carbon footprint. Fortunately, expanding green space helps us reduce our carbon footprint. I support many of the green space components of PlaNYC, including the planning of one million trees, brownfield rehabilitation, and the creation of large regional parks. My own community is not likely to be slated for the creation of a regional park, but we have a number of lots spread throughout the district that could be converted into community gardens, and this would be a welcome development for the neighborhoods in my district.
 - ii. As councilman I would work to involve members of my community in the master planning process to ensure that our vision for parks is derived from the needs of the people who live in our communities.
- b. Yes
- c. In difficult times the last thing we can afford to do is shortchange young people. We have done it before and the consequences have been severe. We have to fight within the budget process to maintain funding for critical programs. We have to consider additional revenue sources when the ones we have cannot meet our communities’ needs. Some of those sources may have to be private, though again, these are public goods, and so we must strive at all times to maintain public funding sources.
- d. Interagency coordination is a thorny problem. That said, the council can facilitate by organizing cooperation between different committees who oversee different aspects of the same problems. In the three instances cited, storm water management involves the Department of Environmental Protection, greenways involved the Department of Transportation, and economic development projects involve the EDC. All three of these agencies are overseen by different council committees who are each interested in different pieces of the pie. We should work on the council to have oversight function somehow on an overall project basis, rather than splitting jurisdiction into several components that end up sending cooperating agencies on different paths.
- e. For one thing, making sure that government-subsidized economic development projects are in fact in the public’s interest is a key responsibility of municipal elected officials. The public interest involves parks and open space, as well as affordable housing, consideration of neighborhood context, and job creation. Elected officials have to look out for all of these, but in all cases they should work to include in the agreements reached with developers provisions for all aspects of the public good, so understood. Part of that means paying close attention to the details of the plans and in particular the accessibility of any open spaces that are built.

- i. I support mapping the spaces as parkland if they can be reasonably understood to be parks, and if it would not confuse the meaning of parkland designation.
- 4. National and Regional Parks
 - a. I support the development of regional parks. I will speak publicly on behalf of them and support any pertinent legislation or proposals on the Council.
 - b. As a candidate who is seeking to represent a community that would be less affected than most by the development of regional parks, it is important to me that serious consideration be put into how to make those parks destinations for people who do not live next to them, and how to make sure that they are accessible destinations. When the City wants to promote attendance at some of its public facilities, such as zoos, it does a good job of advertising them and advertising how to get to them. The same should be true of the regional parks – that is, people who do not live near them need to know that they are there. Second, the City and the MTA should consider putting dedicated forms of transit in place for weekends, such as shuttle buses running from transit hubs in various parts of the City that go directly to the park.
 - c.