

2009 CANDIDATE SURVEY

What do you believe are the top priority park issues that need to be addressed in your district and citywide?

Securing Adequate Funding / Maintenance for Parks

a. Will you work towards securing long term funding for Parks?

Yes No

i. If so, would you consider exploring creative financial models such as Parks Improvement Districts (based on the BID model), tax increment financing (TIF), zoning benefits and public private partnerships to supplement maintenance and operating costs? BIDS / private + public partnerships, TIFS and zoning are all worthwhile

b. Would you support dedicating revenue earned through park concessions to parks maintenance and operations?

Yes No

i. If so, would you also support revising the Major Concessions Rules to include all significant private uses on public property (including parks) to community/borough review?

Yes No local officials should have a say as they are best aware of local needs

c. Will you support establishing the tracking of spending and staffing on a park by park basis?

Yes No

d. When a capital project is not fully funded will you support diversifying funding sources to ensure their completion?

What would those sources be?

Yes No private/public funding

e. What specific actions would you take to ensure that every park in every neighborhood has properly working facilities such as ball-fields, educational facilities, restrooms, etc?

i. Will you support a "fix it first" policy for funding capital projects, so that resources are allocated to existing projects in need of repair?

Yes No need to go case by case

f. Will you support adequate staffing and funding to ensure that new and existing parks stay in a "state of good repair"?

Yes No

i. What funding/programs would you use to increase the full-time parks maintenance staff? private funding / local funding

ii. What can be done to improve the baseline services, or maintenance of effort, in our parks to ensure that partnerships don't need to replace poor, existing services or neglected services such as bench and fountain repairs? private partnership are worthwhile + should be pursued

iii. How would you fund the unique maintenance costs of waterfront parks (e.g. access, bulkheads, and piers)?

Adopt a pier corporate sponsorship

g. Will you support park ratings by borough and community board in addition to the citywide level in the Mayor's Management Report?

Yes No

h. Will you support making the official Parks Department "property list" – that specifically delineates all 1,700 properties – available online?

Yes No

Protecting Parkland

a. Will you support more laws that require public notification and input when a park will be used for non-park purposes, to afford parks the protection they need from development or use by other agencies?

Yes No

i. How would you require that professional sports organizations assist in maintaining and operating public parks near their facilities?

They should be made to contribute to neighboring parks. The Yankee Stadium experience must not be repeated.

b. Will you work to strengthen parkland alienation regulation by requiring Environmental Impact Statements before parkland alienation bill is filed by municipality?

Yes No

i. How will you do this? We can withhold funding until these environmental impact studies are completed.

c. Will you support mitigation for taking of parkland and ensure replacement of lost parkland for the community?

Yes No

i. How will you do so? We need to use brown fields to build, not virgin greenfields that could be parkland.

d. How would you prevent "pay to play" situations from arising at public and amateur sports facilities?

through the audit function of the Controller + improving transparency - using the Internet to post all

e. Will you support legislation that requires regular NYPD reports to the City Council on crime in parks (i.e. Intro. 470)?

Yes No

f. Will you work towards making parkland part of the city's CompStat system?

Yes No

Expanding Park Use

a. Will you work toward creating, with significant community involvement, a comprehensive citywide master plan for parks and open spaces that will guide the overall acquisition, restoration, improvement, and maintenance of parks, natural areas, playgrounds and athletic facilities in the five boroughs?

Yes No

i. What is your vision for some of the new parks? parkland should consist of all waterfront areas.

ii. How would you develop it? Input from each community is essential

b. Will you support extending Resolution No. 1033 which calls for the continued protection of community gardens and the rights of the community and gardeners?

Yes No

c. What specific actions would you take to revitalize the recreational and amateur sports programs that have been decreased by this year's budget cuts?

offer tax incentives to increase public contributions

d. What specific actions would you take to enable a much higher level of collaboration among the Parks Dept. and other city agencies on issues such as stormwater management, greenways, and economic development projects?

Appoint a czar who can coordinate with all relevant agencies

e. How will you ensure that public spaces created as amenities/mitigation for large scale economic development projects such as Atlantic Yards, Hudson Yards, and Manhattanville are truly open to the public?

withhold funding & credits to those who restrict public access

i. Do you support mapping such public spaces as parkland?

Yes No

National and Regional Parks

a. How will you support the creation of planned new regional waterfront parks like Fresh Kills, Hudson River Park, Governors Island and Brooklyn Bridge Park?

Yes

b. What are your plans to ensure that all citizens have equal access to these regional facilities?

Not provide tax incentives unless it is accessible to the public

c. What steps would you take to promote the use of and access to our city's national parks at Gateway National Recreation Area and the other National Parks of NY Harbor?

Make information publicly available + improve public access