

Margaret Chin, 1st CD



2009 CANDIDATE SURVEY

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

There are a lot of parks and green spaces in City Council district 1. We have Battery Park, the Elevated Acre, ... as well as many local neighborhood parks and community gardens. However, this green space is not as well distributed as it could be, and there are a number of vacant sites slated for development but not yet under way. One of the best examples of this problem is the Seward Park Urban Renewal site, not to mention the 9/11 area, both of which are scheduled to have park developments but neither of which is near completion (or in the case of Seward Park, has yet to begin). This creation of green space is a major issue for the district. The other pressing parks issue in District 1 is ensuring that the City is supportive of our local community gardens and parks.

Securing Adequate Funding / Maintenance for Parks

- a. Will you work towards securing long term funding for Parks? **Yes**
 - 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? **Yes**
- b. Would you support dedicating revenue earned through park concessions to parks maintenance and operations? **Yes**
 - 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**
- c. Will you support establishing the tracking of spending and staffing on a park by park basis? **Yes**
- d. When a capital project is not fully funded will you support diversifying funding sources to ensure their completion? **Yes**

What would those sources be? **Sources for park funding could include concessions as well as contributions from local construction. Developers who use resources such as green space and schools to sell their housing units should have to contribute to these community benefits.**

- 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 would ensure that the Parks**