

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 strongly support additional long-term funding for our Parks.

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 – with 7 large parks in my district, I am committed to securing additional funding for park maintenance and activities.**

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

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 sources must be secured to assist in parks maintenance and operations. I support the creation of private-public conservancies to assist in these tasks.

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

Broken facilities ill serve the people of NYC. Parks facilities must be kept in proper working order and repaired quickly. I helped create the Friends of Cunningham Park and know that citizen monitoring of parks helps keep people involved and vigilant. I support creating Friends groups for as many parks as possible to help with advocacy for additional funding and programming in the parks.

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?

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?

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

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? **Support of local parks should be included in all city agreements with professional sports organizations.**

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?

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?

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

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?

ii. How would you develop it?

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?

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?

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?

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?

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

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?