

James G. Clynes
Chairman

Latha Thompson
District Manager



505 Park Avenue
Suite 620
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) 758-4340
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)
info@cb8m.com- E-Mail
www.cb8m.com – Website

The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8

March 17, 2016

Hon. Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver
New York City Parks and Recreation
The Arsenal
Central Park
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10065

Re: Recommendation for Use of the Queensboro Oval if Deprivatized

Dear Commissioner Silver:

At its March 16, 2016 Full Board meeting, the full CB8M board voted to adopt the following resolution by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Manhattan's populous Upper East Side has among the least parkland of any district in New York City; and

WHEREAS deprivatizing the Queensboro Oval and opening it to the public full-time would be an important step toward addressing the Upper East Side's severe shortage of public parkland; and

WHEREAS the City can soon make the Queensboro Oval a full-time public park, since its contract with a private tennis club expires in mid-2017; and

WHEREAS Community Board 8, Manhattan passed a resolution in 2015 strongly urging the City to return the Queensboro Oval Park to the public full-time; and

WHEREAS CB8M, in conjunction with the Upper East Side community, has identified uses for a deprivatized Oval—such as soccer, softball, tennis and running—that would benefit a large portion of the public; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8, Manhattan, reiterates its strong desire for the City to return the Queensboro Oval to the public full-time, starting in 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB8M wants a deprivatized Queensboro Oval Park to become a multi-use recreation area, available for such active sports as track, soccer, softball and tennis, with seating provided for passive relaxation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 8, Manhattan, wishes the City to create a winter ice skating rink at the Queensboro Oval to maximize year-round usage of this park.

Sincerely,

James G. Clynes
Chairman

Susan Evans and Margaret Price
Co-Chairs, Parks Committee

cc: Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Hon. Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Hon. Dan Quart, 73rd Assembly District
Hon. Rebecca Seawright, 76th Assembly District
Hon. Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Hon. Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
William Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner