

Valerie S. Mason
Chair

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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan**

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November 26, 2024

Hon. Eric Adams
Mayor of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

RE: Calling on Mayor Adams to fully restore funding of the Parks Department Budget

Dear Mayor Adams,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on November 20, 2024, the board unanimously approved the following resolution by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS this year, despite repeated commitments to invest in parks, Mayor Adams slashed funding for the NYC Parks Department, resulting in the loss of nearly 800 staffing lines and critical programs, and

WHEREAS NYC Parks was the only city agency to receive cuts in this budget, compounding decades of chronic underfunding. As a result, NYC Parks are at a breaking point. The agency lacks the staff necessary to maintain lawns, remove trash, clean bathrooms (as noted in a recent City Council report), care for trees and natural areas, run the programs that families depend on, and enforce park rules, and

WHEREAS this continued disinvestment impacts the lives of every New Yorker and exacerbates the inequities in our parks system. Our parks are the lungs of the city, our places for recreation and respite, and our best defense against a changing climate. When parks are dirty and understaffed, the city feels unwelcoming and unsafe.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Community Board 8 Manhattan stands with all New Yorkers in every corner of the city in calling on the Adams administration to **fully restore funding for NYC Parks**.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Valerie S. Mason *Felice Farber and Judith Schneider*

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Chair

Felice Farber and Judith Schneider
Co-Chairs, Parks and Waterfront Committee

CC: Honorable Tricia Shimamura, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation
 Honorable Steve Simon, Chief of Staff to the Manhattan Borough Commissioner, Department of Parks & Recreation
 Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York

Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Jerry Nadler, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District
Honorable Alex Bores, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Diana Ayala, NYC Council Member, 8th Council District