

Valerie S. Mason  
Chair

Will Brightbill  
District Manager



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

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February 24, 2025

Susan M. Donoghue  
Commissioner  
Department of Parks & Recreation  
830 Fifth Ave  
New York, NY, 10065

**RE: Senior Parks Feasibility Study**

Dear Commissioner Donoghue,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on February 19, 2025, 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** Community District 8 has the second highest number of residents in New York City aged 65 and over; and

**WHEREAS** 21 percent of residents of District 8 are 65 and over compared to a citywide average of 14 percent; and

**WHEREAS** many seniors feel isolated and lack amenities to help them stay active and healthy; and

**WHEREAS** parks and open spaces are vital for the health and well-being of residents; and

**WHEREAS** cities such as Berlin, London, and Tokyo have created dedicated senior playgrounds; and

**WHEREAS** public space for seniors to congregate and exercise can have significant health benefits for our aging population; and

**WHEREAS** parks and public spaces in our district are mostly located on the east side of the district and not in the core

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, CB8 requests the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation to study the feasibility of establishing parks in Community District 8 that are dedicated to the health and well-being of our senior residents in the CORE of our district.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Valerie S. Mason*      *Felice Farber and Judith Schneider*

Valerie S. Mason  
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, 8<sup>th</sup> Council District