

Valerie S. Mason
Chair

Will Brightbill
District Manager



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

September 19, 2025

Iris Rodriguez-Rosa
Commissioner
Department of Parks & Recreation
830 Fifth Ave
New York, NY, 10065

Elizabeth W. Smith
President & CEO
Central Park Conservancy
717 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10022

RE: Approval to renovate the Bethesda Fountain and Sculpture

Dear Commissioner Rodriguez-Rosa and President Smith,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on September 17, 2025, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS Central Park Conservancy is planning on addressing the deterioration of the Bethesda Fountain and Sculpture; and

WHEREAS the following goals are to be met:

- Modernize the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems.
- Improve the performance of water quality and maintenance of the fountain.
- Lost bronze pieces to be restored, where possible, to the fountain and Statue.
- Adding a reduced pressure zone (RPZ) that meets code.
- Current vault will have 3 new structures: RPZ at ground level, below-grade filter equipment, and a new door and an electrical panel to control elements.
- These elements will be hidden by new landscaping and will have no visual impact on the public.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Community Board 8 supports Central Park Conservancy's repairs to the Bethesda Fountain and Sculpture.

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