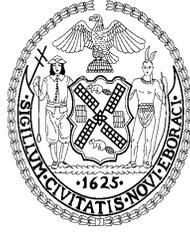


David Gruber, *Chair*  
Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*  
Jo Hamilton, *Second Vice Chair*  
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Antony Wong, *Treasurer*  
Susan Kent, *Secretary*  
Keen Berger, *Assistant Secretary*

## COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

[www.cb2manhattan.org](http://www.cb2manhattan.org)

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: [info@cb2manhattan.org](mailto:info@cb2manhattan.org)

Greenwich Village ✦ Little Italy ✦ SoHo ✦ NoHo ✦ Hudson Square ✦ Chinatown ✦ Gansevoort Market

July 19, 2013

William T. Castro  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
Arsenal West, 24 West 61st Street, 5th Floor  
New York, NY 10023

Dear Borough Commissioner Castro:

At its Full Board Committee meeting on July 18, 2013, Community Board #2, Manhattan adopted the following resolution:

### **A resolution to support the updated design of the reconstruction of Father Fagan Park**

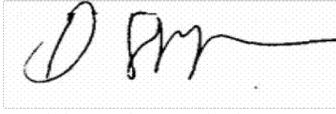
#### **WHEREAS,**

- 1) This committee and the CB2 Manhattan Full Board passed a resolution urging the Parks Dept to reconstruct Father Fagan Park and requesting capital for this effort in March, 2011, and
- 2) Council Speaker Quinn allocated full funding to this end soon afterwards, and
- 3) The Parks Dept presented and the community reviewed initial designs at a scoping meeting and suggested changes and additions were captured and an updated design was pledged, and
- 4) The Parks Dept presented an updated design to this committee and members of the local community and this updated design was very well received, and
- 5) This neighborhood continues to demonstrate their support of this park and of this renovation project, so

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT COMMUNITY BOARD 2 MANHATTAN** after reviewing the updated designs presented by the Parks Dept for the reconstruction of Father Fagan Park and confirming that they conform to that which was requested by the community, requests that this project proceed and offers thanks and urges continued collaboration by all involved city agencies (Parks along with DOT and DEP) to this end.

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



David Gruber, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Richard Caccappolo, Chair  
Parks, Recreation & Open Space Committee  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

DG/jrm

- c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman  
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator  
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member  
Hon. Scott Stringer, Manhattan Borough President  
Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker

David Gruber, *Chair*  
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July 19, 2013

William T. Castro  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
Arsenal West, 24 West 61st Street, 5th Floor  
New York, NY 10023

Holly Leich  
New Yorkers for Parks  
The Arthur Ross Center for Parks and  
Open Spaces  
55 Broad Street, 23rd Floor  
New York, NY 10004

Dear Borough Commissioner Castro:

At its Full Board Committee meeting on July 18, 2013, Community Board #2, Manhattan adopted the following resolution:

**A resolution to endorse New Yorkers for Parks' platform aimed at making Parks a priority of candidates running for office during the 2013 NYC election**

### **WHEREAS,**

- 1) New Yorkers for Parks (NY4P), the citywide independent organization championing quality parks and open spaces for all New Yorkers in all neighborhoods, is undertaking a campaign during the 2013 New York City election year to make parks a priority among Mayoral and City Council candidates running for office in 2013, and
- 2) NY4P is calling for an overhaul of how the Parks Department is funded: calling for the Parks Department to have its own discretionary capital budget, so it no longer need rely on discretionary allocations from City Council Members and Borough Presidents - an inefficient and potentially politicized process that prevents Parks from planning for long-term capital maintenance and improvement of parks system-wide; and
- 3) NY4P is calling for the Parks Department maintenance budget to be increased, and that funding for its core functions be baselined – meaning automatically renewed - in its annual expense budget; and
- 4) NY4P pointed out that Parks provides an essential city service - especially considering the role it plays maintaining the city's trees and clearing them after major storms – and should be budgeted in the same way as other essential services, whose mandated staff cuts are half that of other agencies; and

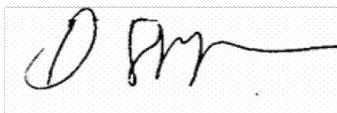
- 5) NY4P is calling, as part of a greater request for transparency and efficiency, for more detailed reporting of capital and maintenance costs for individual parks, in order to more effectively allocate resources throughout the parks system; and
- 6) NY4P is recommending that Parks study models provided by other capital project agencies – such as the Department of Design and Construction, the Economic Development Corporation, and the School Construction Authority – and adopt best practices from each in the interest of efficiency and cost-effectiveness in creating a pipeline of capital projects; and
- 7) NY4P is calling on public-private partnerships with Parks to report annual budget information in a simple and consistent manner to be shared on the Department’s website; and
- 8) NY4P reiterated the essential role of the city’s scarce parklands and admonished the City not to alienate any of these as sites for development; and
- 9) NY4P is calling on New York State and New York City, in cases when parkland is to be alienated, to notify the public with at least 30 days’ notice, and to designate an equal amount of proximate new parkland of the same quality and character to replace any alienated parkland; and
- 10) NY4P is recommending that Parks collaborate with other City agencies to maximize neighborhood open space and citywide environmental benefits, including better signage, pedestrian safety, and crime prevention; and
- 11) NY4P is calling upon the City to be more proactive in involving neighborhood residents in long-term plans for local park and in fostering volunteer stewardship and “friends of” groups for every park in the city; and so

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT COMMUNITY BOARD 2 MANHATTAN** shares NY4P’s interest in raising awareness in this election year about the importance of parks to the residents of this and all other New York City communities, and understands how undervalued our parks are in government funding and policy making, and so endorses (adds its name as an endorser of) NY4P’s Parks Platform 2013.

**Vote:** Passed, with 22 board members in favor, and 12 against (Berger, Frost, Riccobono, Hearn, Young, Rakoff, Sanz, Connor, Spence, Diether, Cude, and Rothstein).

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



David Gruber, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Richard Caccappolo, Chair  
Parks, Recreation & Open Space Committee  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

DG/jrm

- c:
- Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
  - Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
  - Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator
  - Hon. Sheldon Silver, Assembly Speaker
  - Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
  - Hon. Scott Stringer, Manhattan Borough President
  - Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker
  - Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
  - Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member

