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September 7, 2022

Susan Donoghue  
Commissioner  
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation  
830 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10065

Re: **Letter of Support for Renovation of William McCray Playground Design Plans**

Dear Commissioner Donoghue:

Manhattan Community Board 10 is writing this letter in support of the design plans for the William McCray Playground (Community Parks Initiative) renovation. Located on West 138th Street between 5th Ave. and Malcolm X Blvd., in the Borough of Manhattan. NYC Parks presented design plans to our Parks and Recreation Committee on June 8th of 2022.

The \$5 million capital project goals include:

- upgrade of the active play capacity for the park and neighborhood
- facilitation of passive use and community events
- enhancement and addition to the environmental amenities of the site
- improvement of access, circulation, and sight lines in the park

The scope of work will include: Project Limit

- Park Entrance
- Trash Compactor Existing Tree New Tree
- Steel Picnic Table Type "A" Bench New Flagpole
- Spray Features
- Play Equipment New Security Light
- Hi-Lo Drinking Fountain w/ Bottle Filler
- Seating Area
- Synthetic Turf Open Play Area
- Plant Bed w/ New Plants
- Basketball Court Junior Sized, 60'-0" X 45'-6"
- Picnic Table Area

- Plant Bed
- Potential Art Wall By Others Game Table Area
- Plant Bed Buffer w/ New Plants
- Drinking Fountain Hi-Low/ Bottle Filler
- Trash Compactor
- Existing Plant Bed w/ Existing Trees
- Plant Bed
- Swings, 7"-0"Ht
- 2 Strap, 2 Bucket, 1 Accessible Seat
- Seating Area
- Play Area, Ages 5-12 Spray Shower
- Seating Area
- Play Area, Ages 2-5
- Plant Bed Buffer w/ New Plants
- Trash Enclosures
- Reconstructed Sidewalk w/ New Tree Pits

To promote sustainable practices, the scope of work will also include:

- Increase permeable
- Reduce stormwater runoff with bioswales
- Balance cut and fill
- Use recycled content material
- Improve tree health and growing conditions
- Use site appropriate resilient plant material

After careful analysis of the site NYC Parks contractors determined that the subsidence is being caused by an improper infill of rubble and debris from the demolition of a previously existing building. The debris material will be removed and replaced with a soil and concrete fill which will create a solid base on which to build. NYC Parks held a virtual charette on Jan. 27th, which was very productive, well-attended and generated a robust dialogue. Community concerns and recommendations for the parks' design were garnered for incorporation into renovation plans.

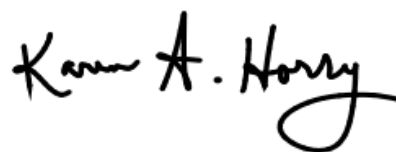
Manhattan CB10 is absolutely in favor of this capital project and advocates for its movement forward without delay.

On September 7th, The General Board had a quorum and voted by common consent, 34 Y, 0 NO, 0 ABSTENTIONS and 0 RECUSALS to support the Letter of Support for Renovation of William McCray Playground Design Plans.

Sincerely,



Chairperson  
Manhattan Community Board 10



Karen Horry  
Chair  
Parks and Recreation Committee  
Manhattan Community Board 10

cc: William T. Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation (via e-mail)