



Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

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Eleazar Bueno, Chairperson
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

March 23, 2022

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

Re: Resolution Supporting NYC Parks Department State of Good Repair Pavement Reconstruction Project for Inwood Hill and Fort Tryon Parks.

Dear Commissioner, Donoghue:

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, Community Board 12, Manhattan, passed the following resolution with a vote of 33 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, 1 not voting, due to conflict, supporting the proposed parks pathways reconstruction as presented on March 8, 2022, and recommending that the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission approve the project and design before the LPC for review and requesting that our elected officials continue to make funding available for ongoing maintenance and repair of pathways throughout CD12's parks, including most urgently for the section of the path at the northern end of Fort Tryon Park described below.

Whereas: Mayor Eric Adams has funded \$1.8 million to repair pathways in Inwood Hill & Fort Tryon Parks (\$700k & \$1.1 million, respectively) & Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine has funded \$250k for the Fort Tryon Park project; and

Whereas: The degraded pathways pose a public hazard and impede the public's use of these parks; and

Whereas: The NYC Parks Department presented on March 8, 2022, to Community Board 12, Manhattan's Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee, a plan to reconstruct more than two miles of pathways in Inwood Hill & Fort Tryon Parks as follows:

- **Inwood Hill Park:** a contiguous network of pathways in the Park's southern portion between Payson Avenue & the Henry Hudson Parkway, from just north of Dyckman Street to (approx.) Academy Street and a stretch of pathway roughly parallel to Payson & Seaman Avenues from north of Academy St. to the area north of W. 207th Street just west of the tennis courts, including a west-extending offshoot perpendicular to W. 204th Street. The stair-ramp by the handball courts is not included in this project.
- **Fort Tryon Park (Area 1):** a contiguous network of pathways beginning at about W. 196th Street along Margaret Corbin Drive and extending north past the Cloisters Lawn and along the Cloisters' western perimeter up to the overlook and east along the Cloisters' southern border to the Museum entrance; and extending east to Broadway and then north to the Arden Street entrance.
- **Fort Tryon Park (Area 2):** a short stretch of erosion damage from Hurricane Ida, west and north of the Linden Terrance and at the southern perimeter of Abby's Lawn; and

Whereas: The heavily damaged northernmost pathway behind the Cloisters running parallel to Riverside Drive from north of the Overlook bend down the slope to the Anne Loftus Playground and compromised by the presence of an underground spring is not part of this project due in part to lack of funds, in part to lack of access created by the construction fencing for the Playground project, and in part due to NYC Office of Management & Budget's requirement that pathways to be reconstructed through State of Good Repair work be contiguous; and

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Whereas: The scope of work includes the following:

- **Inwood Hill Park:** reconstruct pathways with full-depth asphalt; reconstruct damaged granite block edging/pavement; and tree, vegetation, and lawn protection.
- **Fort Tryon Park (Area 1):** reconstruct asphalt pathways and provide soldier granite block edging to mitigate erosion; replace all benches & concrete pads adjacent to Cloisters Lawn; tree, vegetation & lawn protection.
- **Fort Tryon Park (Area 2):** remove and reset existing boulders; restore the eroded slope with borrowed fill, geotextile-stabilization, and soldier granite block edging; and tree, vegetation, and lawn protection; and

Whereas: The contract already has been awarded to an experienced contractor known to work efficiently, and the Inwood Hill Park project is anticipated to begin in May and take four weeks or less, and Parks has confirmed that the project does not conflict with activities planned in Inwood Hill Park for the June 4th National Trails Day; and

Whereas: The Fort Tryon Park project is more complicated, will be done by the same contractor, and will begin after the Inwood Hill Park project is completed; and is expected to take approximately six weeks; and

Whereas: There are more than 60 miles of pathways in the parks within Community District 12, Manhattan, and their repair has been among CB12M's capital priorities for many years; and

Whereas: Fort Tryon Park is an NYC Scenic Landmark, and projects within it may require the approval of the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission; now, therefore, be it.

Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan supports the proposed parks pathways reconstruction as presented on March 8, 2022, and recommends that the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission approve the project and design before the LPC for review and be it further.

Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan respectfully requests that our elected officials continue to make funding available for ongoing maintenance and repair of pathways throughout CD12's parks, including most urgently for the section of the path at the northern end of Fort Tryon Park described above and related subsurface infrastructure repairs, and the stair ramps by the Inwood Hill Park handball courts.

Sincerely,



Eleazar Bueno
Chairperson

cc: Hon. William Castro, Borough Commissioner NYC Parks
Hon. Eric Adams, Mayor
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate
Hon. Brad Lander, Comptroller
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Congressman

Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator
Hon. Cordell Cleare, State Senator
Hon. Al Taylor, Assembly Member
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Council Member
Hon. Shaun Abreu, Council Member
Ms. Jennifer Hoppa, Parks Administrator