



Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

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Katherine Diaz, Chairperson
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

June 2, 2023

Hon. Eric L. Adams
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: Resolution in Support of 1% for Parks & 1% for Arts in the NYC FY'24 Budget.

Dear Mayor Adams:

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023, Community Board 12, Manhattan, passed the following resolution with a vote of 36 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 2, not voting, due to conflict, calling on the City Council to pass and the Mayor to approve a budget that includes 1% of the City's annual operating budget for parks and 1% for arts.

Whereas: New York City's parks and open spaces are a vital resource for the health and well-being of New Yorkers, critical infrastructure must be funded as such; and

Whereas: The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the inequity in our parks system and the relationship between parks and public health, public safety, climate resilience and quality of life; and

Whereas: New York spends less on its parks than nearly all other major cities on its parks, even though we have more to maintain, with Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Chicago allocating 1.5%-4.0% of their budgets to parks and NYC allocating about .6% of their annual budget; and

Whereas: NYC Mayor Adams campaigned on the idea of supporting 1% for Parks, as did Councilmembers Carmen De La Rosa (10th CD) and Shaun Abreu (7th CD); and

Whereas: Arts and cultural programming is not just for entertainment but also for the education and emotional well-being of New Yorkers, as well as a major segment of the local economy, employing scores of thousands of New Yorkers; and

Whereas: the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs' annual budget is less than .5% of the total NYC budget; and

Whereas: Parks and arts are not a luxury but a necessity; now, therefore, be it

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Page 2

Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan calls on the City Council to pass and the Mayor to approve a budget that includes 1% of the City's annual operating budget for parks and 1% for arts.

Sincerely,



Katherine Diaz

Chairperson

cc: Hon. Adrienne L. Adams, NYC Council Speaker
Hon. Anthony Perez, Borough Commissioner NYC Parks
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. Manny De Los Santos, Assembly Member
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Council Member
Hon. Shaun Abreu, Council Member