

**November 15, 2023**  
Crawford Memorial United  
Methodist Church



# Office Announcements

## Welcome

The Office of Council Members Kevin C. Riley is happy to welcome you this evening!

## Questions

If you have any questions, please write them down on the Q&A cards. We will share them later in the presentation.

## Assistance

If you need assistance, please check in with a Team Riley staff member so we can assist you.

*Thank you,  
Team Riley*

November 15, 2023

November 15, 2023

Crawford Memorial United Methodist Church



# Let's talk about PARKS

• COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS •



Seton Falls Park

# TONIGHT'S EVENTS

*Our Topics of Discussion*

## **Parks & Rec in our District**

*New York City Council Member*

**Kevin C. Riley**

## **NYC Department of Parks & Recreation**

*Director of Capital Projects, Bronx*

**Katerine Borrrome**

## **Legislative Update**

*District 12 Legislative  
Team*



## **Welcome!**

*Introductions*

## **Participatory Budgeting**

*New York City Council Member*

**Kevin C. Riley**

## **Bronx River Alliance**

*NYC Parks & Bronx River Alliance Team*

## **Q&A**

*Please Ask Away!  
(Interactive)*

*NYC Council Member*

**KEVIN RILEY**

• **PARKS & REC IN THE 12TH DISTRICT** •

# DISTRICT 12 PARKS

*Current v. Gaining*



**CURRENT PARKS  
& PLAYGROUNDS**

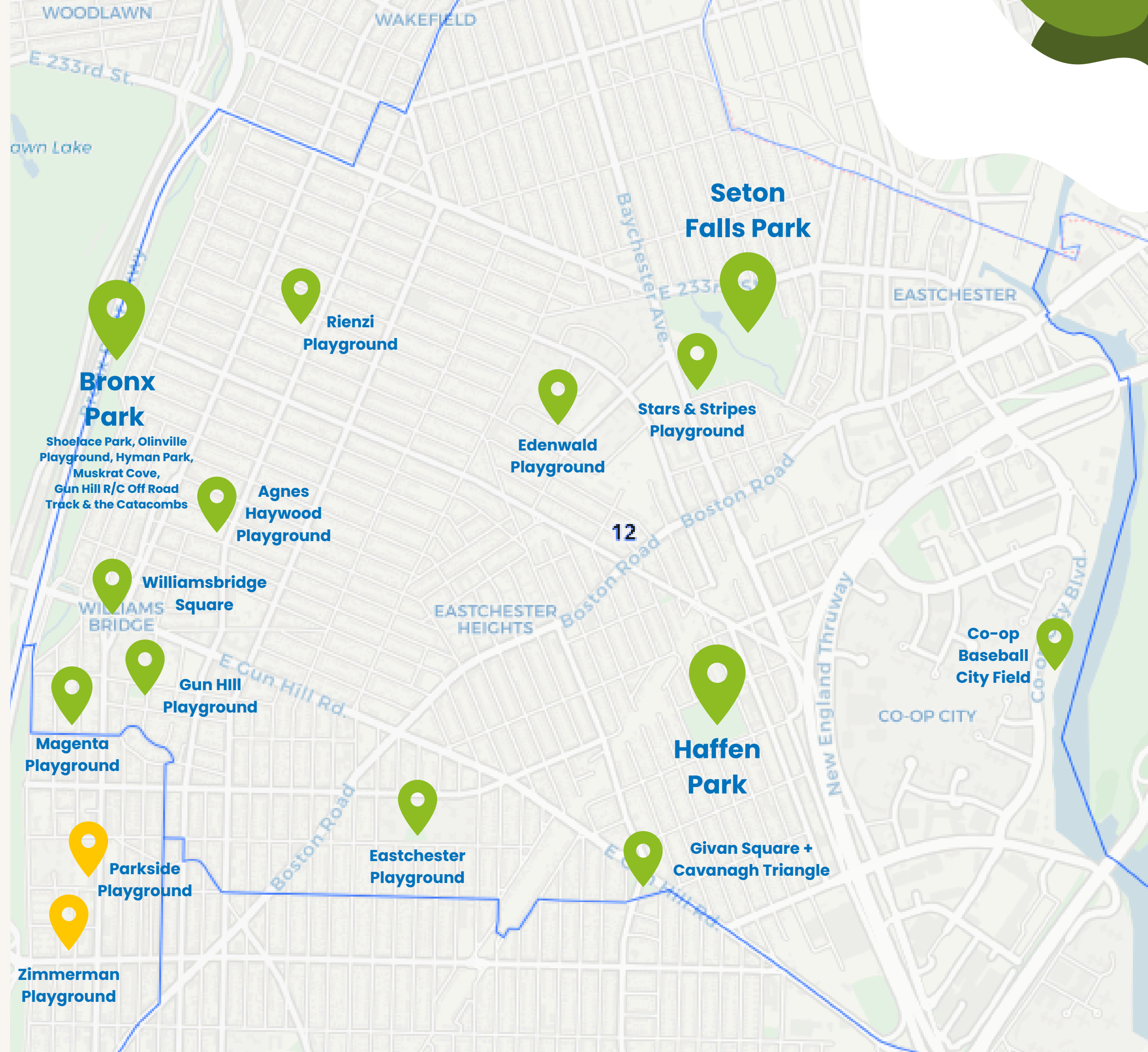


**PARK GAINED  
IN 2024 (2)**

We are proud to share that each park has received **capital** or **expense funding** through strategic **community partnerships**. This means that even if a support for the park could not be *directly* allocated in the city budget, **nonprofit partners** worked closely with our office to ensure services to each park.

There are a number of **additional park-spaces** offered through **NYC Parks GreenThumb** program via collaboration. Some of these organizations include **New York Restoration Project**, some newly-forming garden groups, and parks-assigned pedestrian islands that are not depicted on this map.

We are taking **suggestions** tonight for future projects!



# DISTRICT 12 PARKS

## Recent Capital Projects

1

### Seton Falls Park Capital Funding

- Sidewalk and Fence Reconstruction

Total Funding:  
\$1,181,000

2

### Eastchester Playground Funding

- Funding for **playground** and **handball court** reconstruction

Total Funding:  
\$4,990,000

3

### Shoelace Park Capital Funding

- Funding for **new exercise equipment**
- Adult **fitness** in the park corridor.

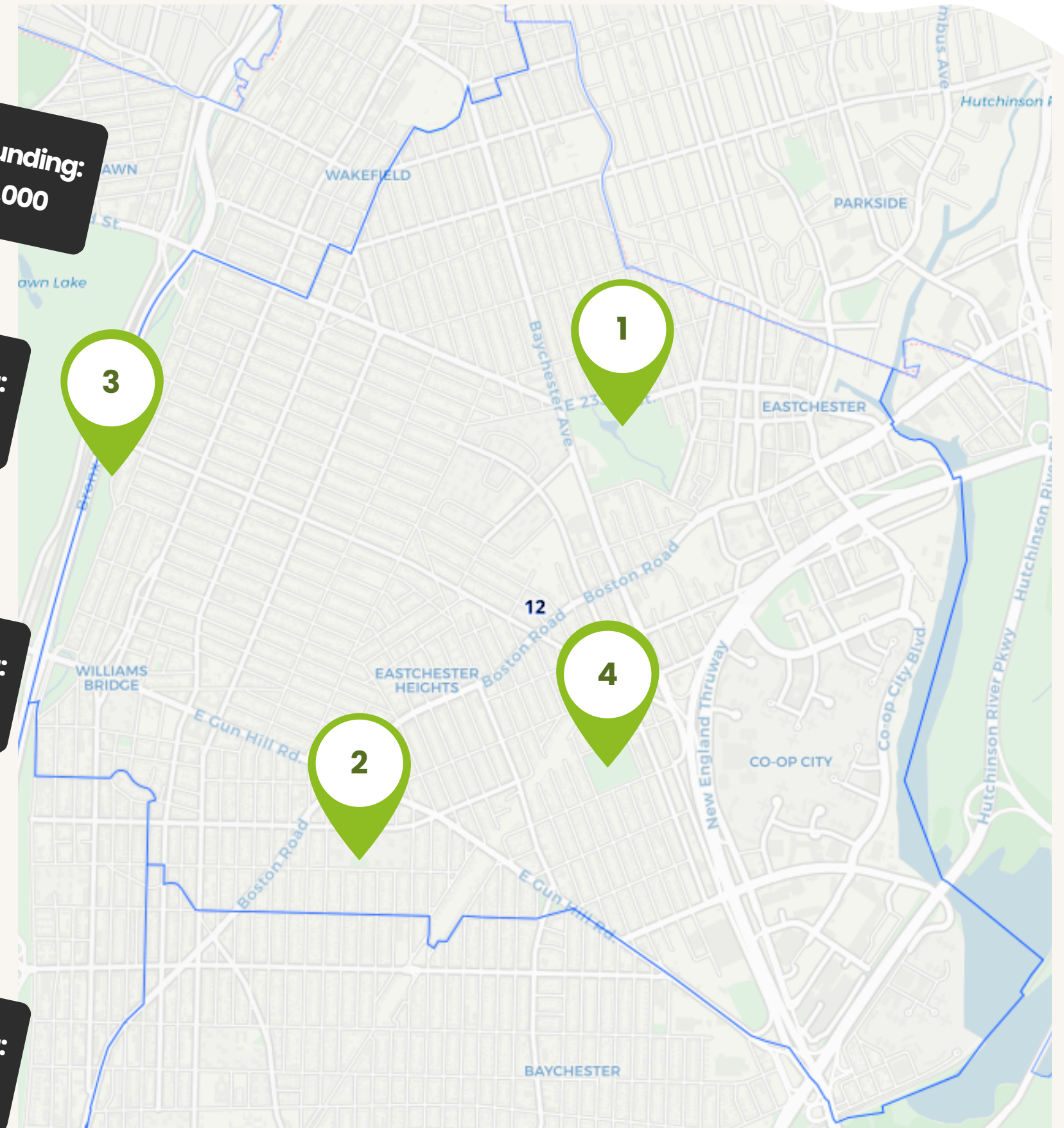
Total Funding:  
\$1,550,000

4

### Haffen Park Capital Project

- Funding for **complete renovation**
- Adult Fitness, Landscape Reconstruction, Field House, Bathrooms
- Courts, Synthetic Turf Field, Playground
- Amphitheatre Reconstruction
- Pool Complex Reconstruction

Total Funding:  
\$43,000,000





# DISTRICT 12 PARKS

*Expense Funding*

*Fiscal Year 2022 (July 2021 – July 2022)*

- **\$55,000** for **community programming**, including:

**Community  
Family Days**

**Silent Disco  
Parties**

**Movies Under the  
Stars**

*Fiscal Year 2023 (July 2022 – July 2023)*

- **\$50,000** for **community programming**, including:

**Youth  
Soccer  
League**

**Family  
Days**

**Silent  
Discos**

**Skate  
Parties**

**Movies Under  
the Stars**

*Fiscal Year 2023 (July 2023 – July 2024)*

- **\$50,000** for **community events** to be determined.
- **\$50,000** for a project in partnership with *NYC Dept. of Parks & Rec.* and the *Courts of Dreams* Foundation:

**Basketball Court Renovation in Shoelace  
Park at East 219th Street**



# DISTRICT 12 PARKS

## Advocacy

<i>Location</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Estimated Cost</i>
<b>Zimmerman Playground</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Field House</b> Upgrade</li> </ul>	To Be Determined
<b>Stars and Stripes Playground</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground <b>Reconstruction</b>: \$6.8M; Sports Courts: \$7.5M; Asphalt Path &amp; Benches: \$850K.</li> </ul>	\$15,150,000
<b>Bronx River Shoelace Park Olinville Playground</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demolition of existing playground and <b>construction of a new playground</b> at 213th Street outside of flood zone.</li> <li>• New playground will include <b>play equipment, safety surface, new pavements</b> and <b>landscaping</b>.</li> <li>• New <b>water connections</b> and <b>park security lighting</b>.</li> <li>• Entrance at 216th Street will be <b>enhanced</b> for the ADA accessibility.</li> </ul>	\$11,200,000
<b>Bronx River Shoelace Park 227th St. Playground</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demolition of existing playground and construction of <b>three new play areas</b> outside of flood zone.</li> <li>• New playground will include <b>play equipment, safety surface, new pavements</b> and <b>landscaping</b>.</li> <li>• New <b>water connections</b> and <b>park security lighting</b>.</li> </ul>	\$9,500,000
<b>Rienzi Playground</b>	Playground <b>Reconstruction</b> : \$5.5M; <b>Multi-purpose Field</b> (Natural Turf Option): \$3.6M; Multi-purpose Field (Synthetic Turf Option): \$6.3M;	\$9,100,000 – \$11,800,000

Council Member Riley is a proud advocate of the **1% for Parks / Play Fair Coalition** advocating for the city to baseline 1% of the overall city budget for NYC's parks. This coalition was founded in 2018-2019 by New Yorkers for Parks, the New York League of Conservation Voters, and DC37 (NYC Parks workers' union), and now has over 400 groups & organizations in support. We must continue to fight for parks equity in the City Budget and remain committed to doing so.



# YOUR CAPITAL PROJECT IDEAS

Participatory Budgeting

Thank  
you.

*Thank you for your participation!*

This cycle, we have **received over 300 suggestions** to improve our public spaces!

- **30** ideas were collected online
- **270+** ideas were collected in person

*Any last minute ideas?*

The Idea Collection phase has **recently concluded**. However, **you are still welcomed to submit your idea**, and we will do our best to consider it this cycle.

*Vote for your favorite projects in April 2024!*

Submitted project ideas will be checked for **eligibility** and placed on a **ballot**. In April 2024, you will then be able to **vote** for the capital project of your choice!

KEVIN C. RILEY

HOW COULD \$1M TRANSFORM OUR DISTRICT?

SHARE YOUR COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS WITH US Today!

1 Submit your idea by Nov 11th!

2 Vote for your favorite projects in April 2024!

3 Winning projects will be funded in May 2024!

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING NYC FUNDS PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS THAT BENEFIT THE PUBLIC, COST AT LEAST \$50,000, AND HAVE A LIFESPAN OF 5+ YEARS. E.G. IMPROVEMENTS TO SCHOOLS, PARKS, LIBRARIES, PUBLIC HOUSING, STREETS...

[HTTPS://COUNCIL.NYC.GOV/PB/](https://council.nyc.gov/pb/)

*NYC Parks & Recs Dep.*

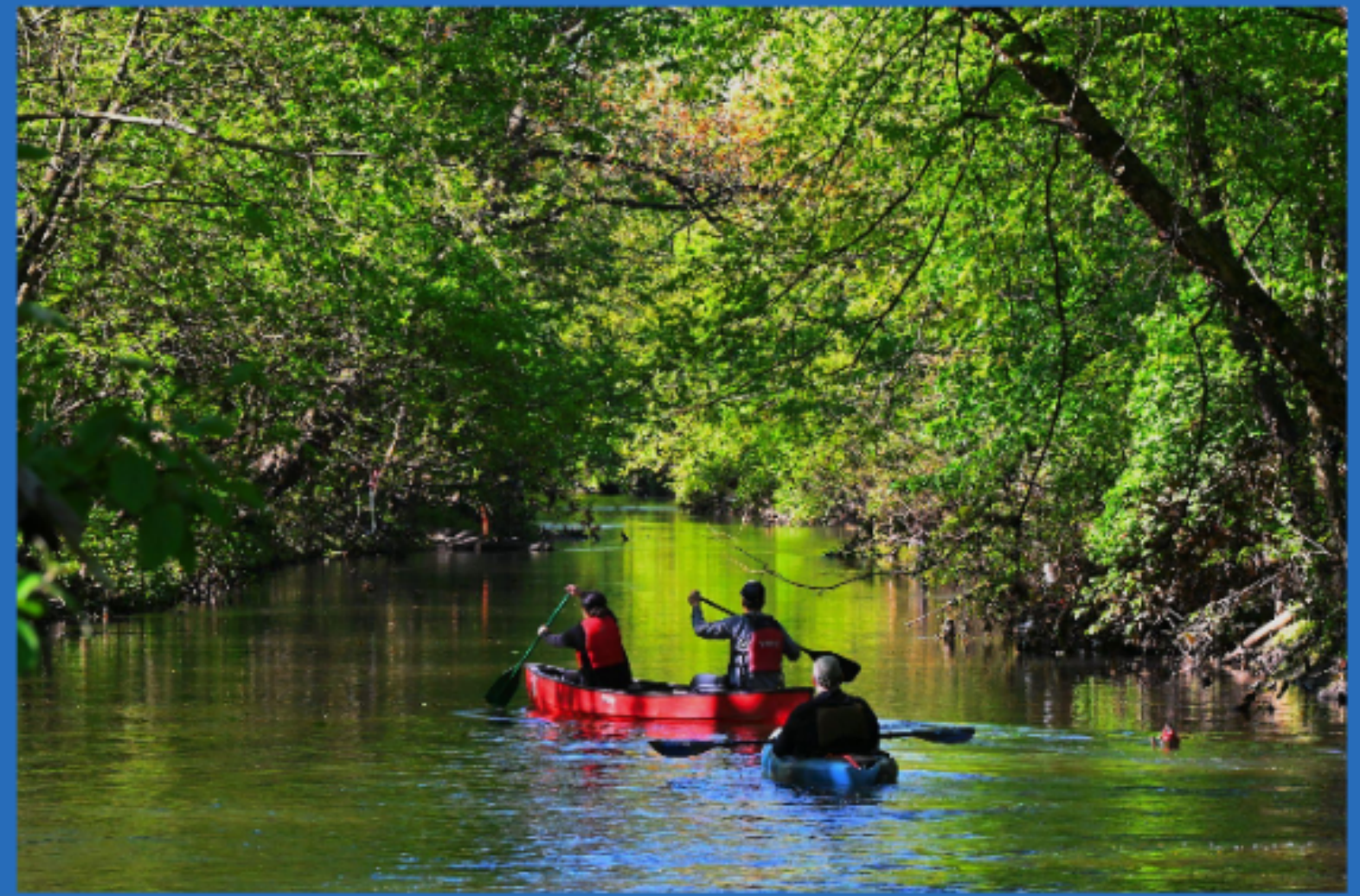
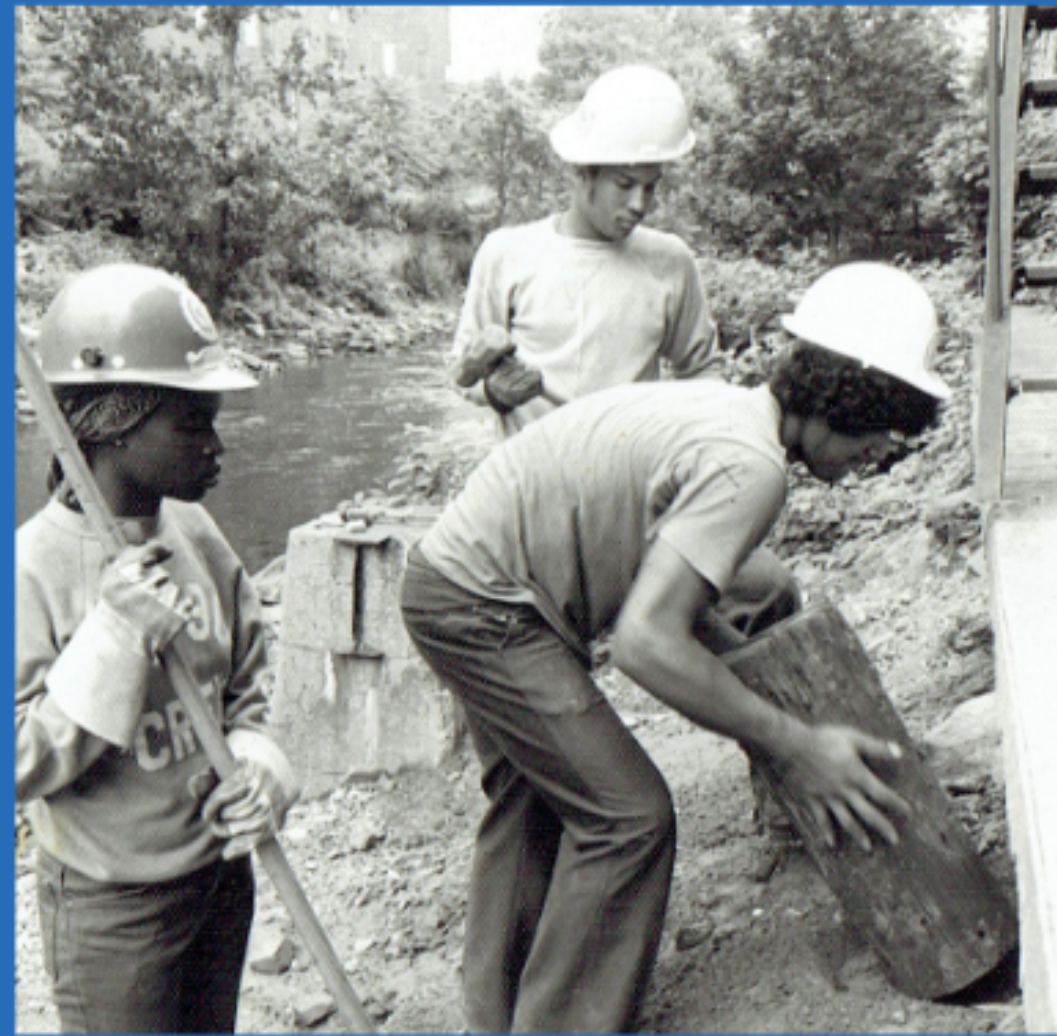
# KATERINE BORRROME

• DIRECTOR OF CAPITAL PROJECTS, BRONX •

A person is sitting on a bench in a park, surrounded by trees and a path. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting dusk or dawn. The text 'Bronx RIVER ALLIANCE' is overlaid on the image.

*Bronx*  
RIVER  
ALLIANCE

# Bronx River Restoration → Bronx River Working Group → Bronx River Alliance



**20 YR**  
ANNIVERSARY  
*bronx river alliance*

Kensico Reservoir,  
Valhalla, NY

Bronx River

Shoelace Park,  
The Bronx, NY

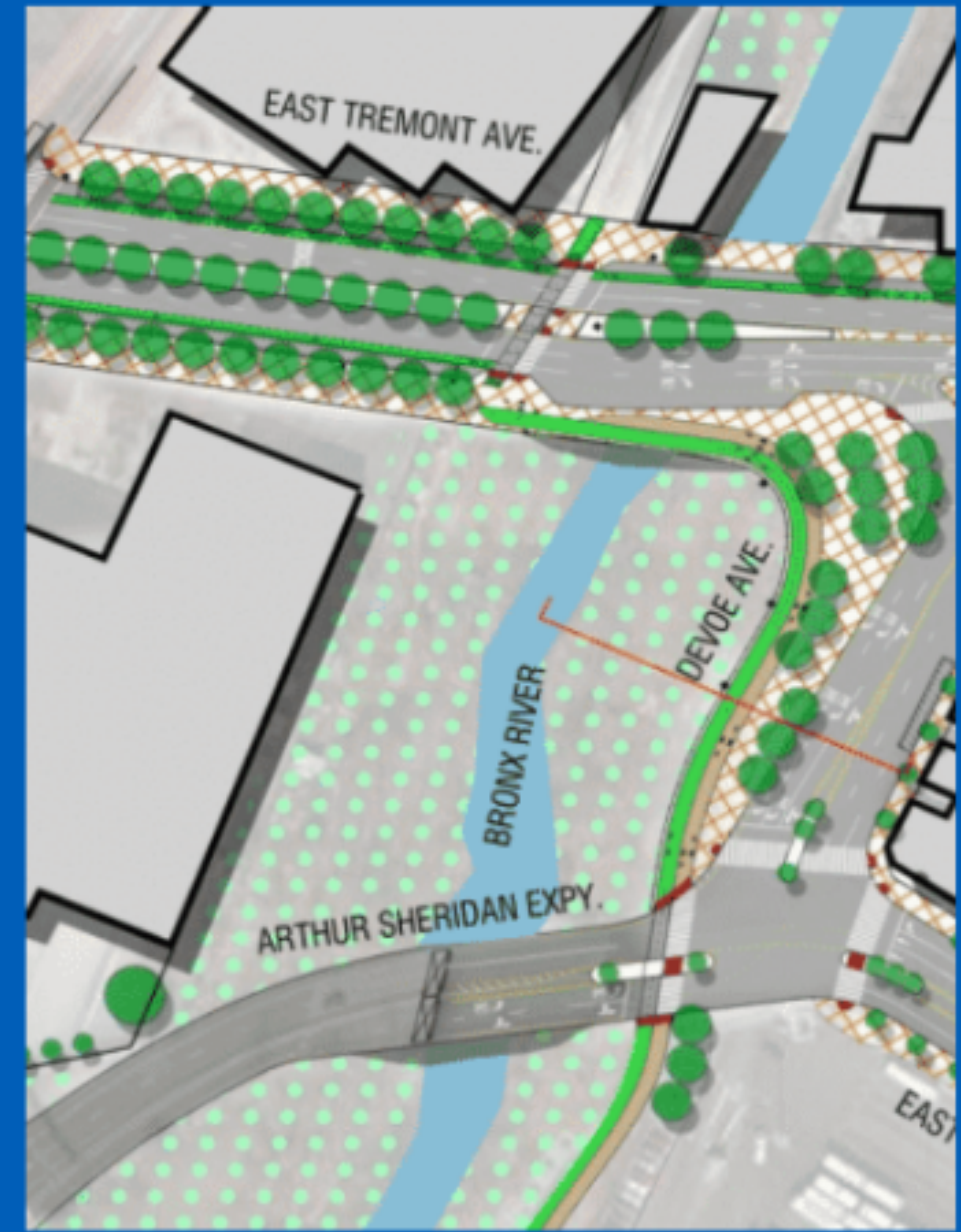
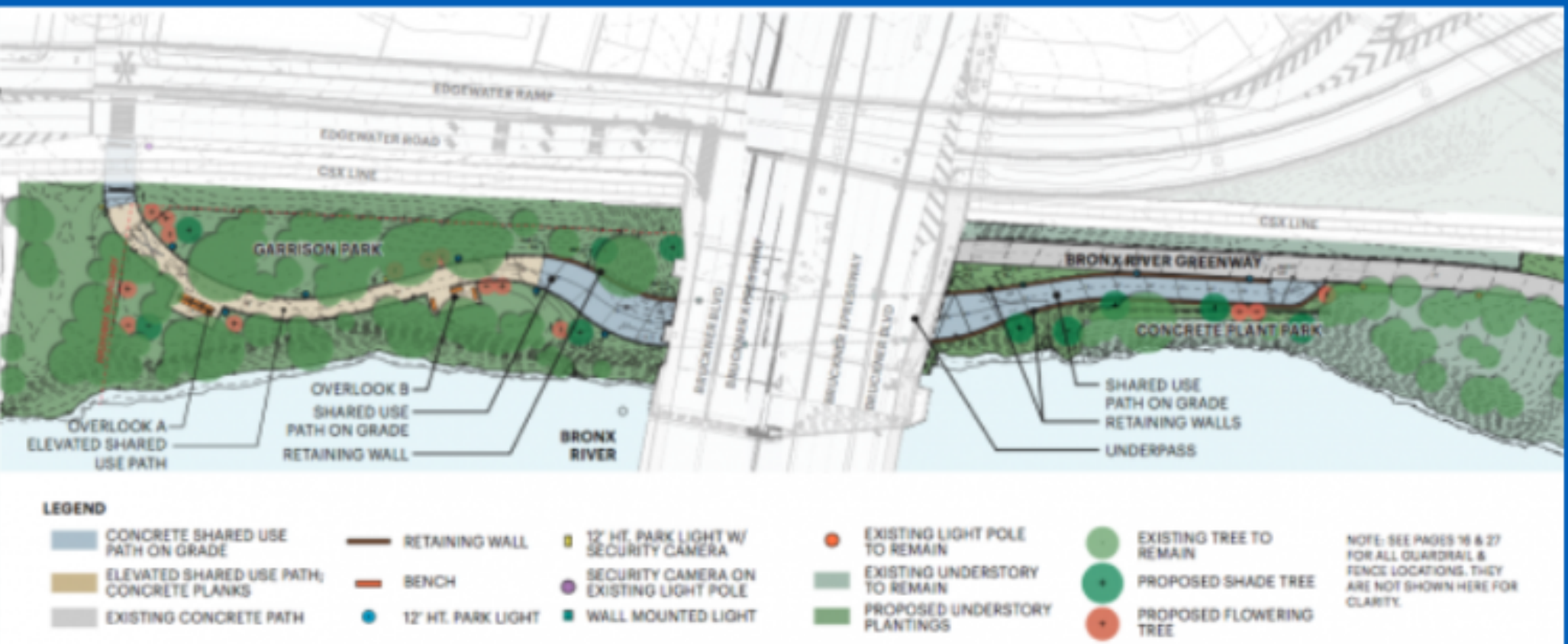
Soundview,  
The Bronx, NY



**BRONX**  
*river alliance*

- **The Bronx River House**
- **23 mile River & Greenway**
- **10 NYC Parks**
- **Green Infrastructure & Tree Canopy**
- **River Health & Accessibility**





**Greenway**

# Ecology





**Invasive species removal and management**



# Habitat Restoration & Climate Resilience



**Green infrastructure & stormwater capture**



**Native trees and shrubs**



**Native wildlife**



# Intermunicipal Watershed Management Plan Updates

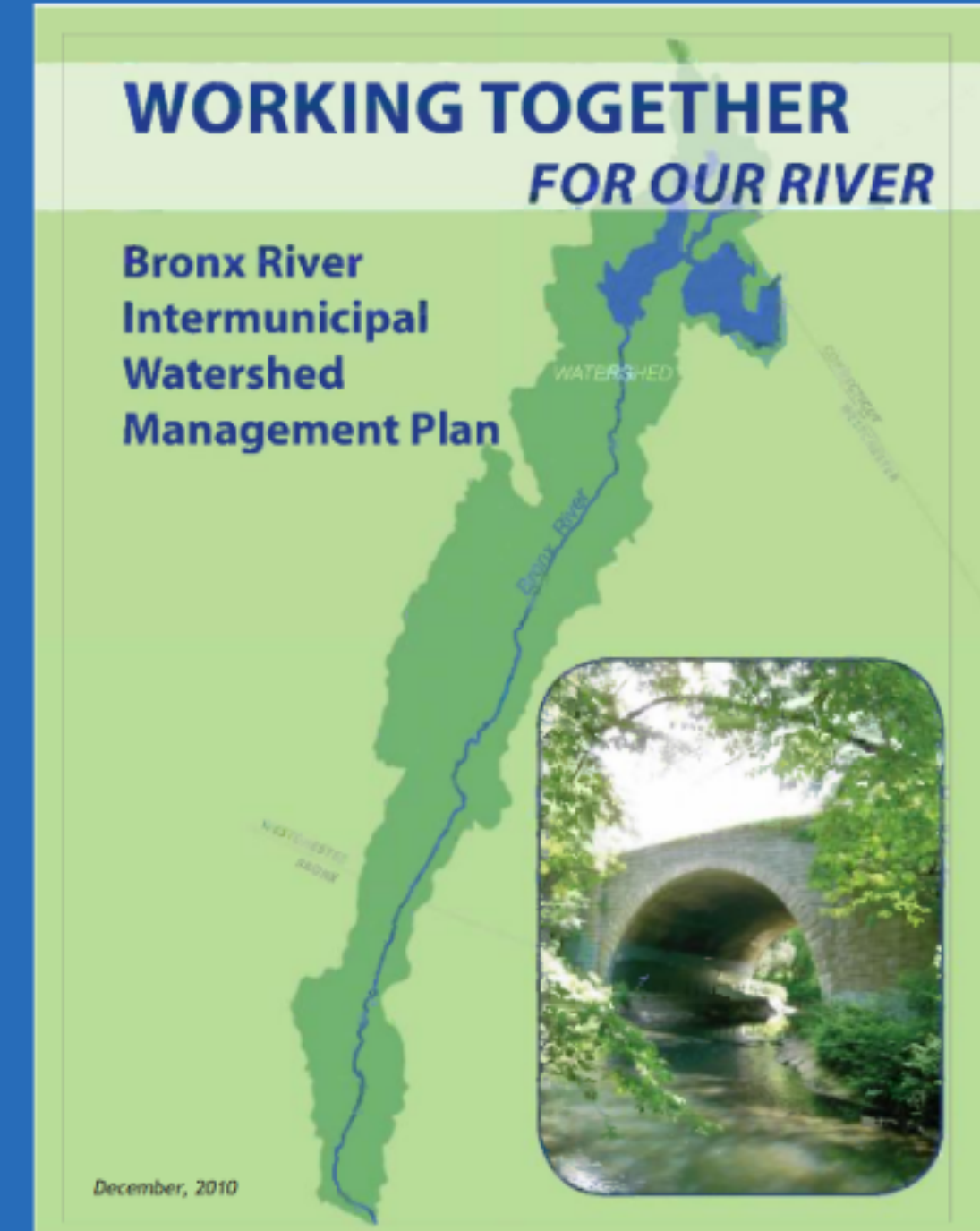
Issues Addressed in 2010:

- Disturbed Hydrology
- Poor Water Quality
- Aging Infrastructure
- Invasive Vegetation
- Degraded Habitat
- Dams



Community members attend a public meeting in White Plains

Changing conditions  
require the development  
of a **climate resilience**  
strategy

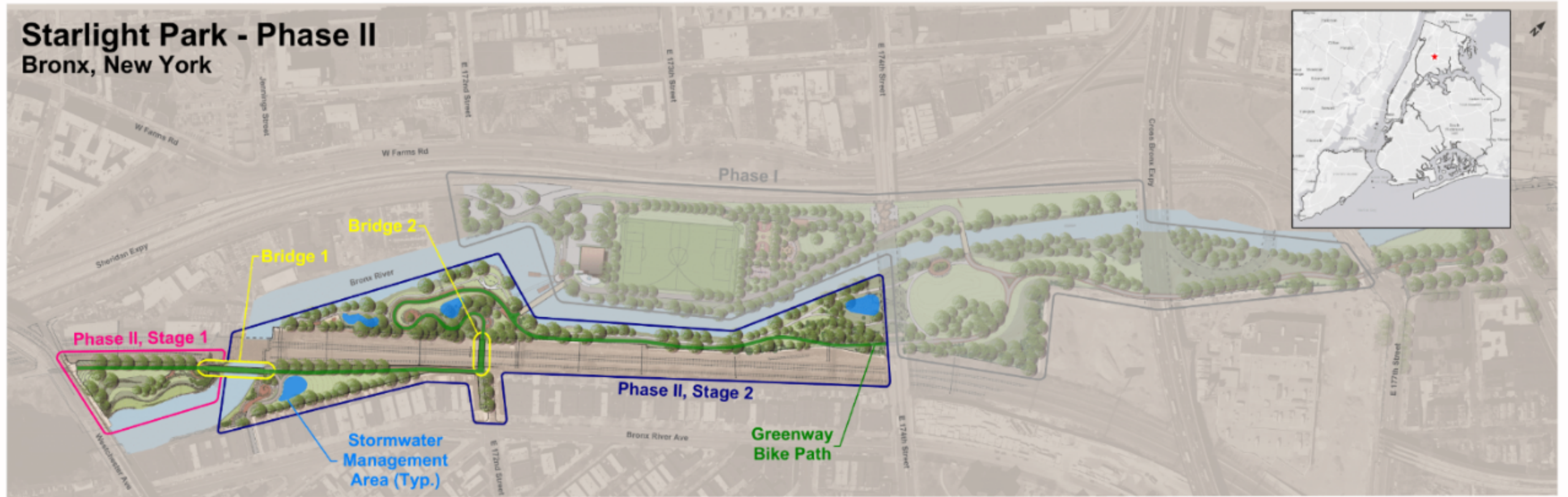


The 2010 Bronx River Watershed Plan

# Starlight Park Phase II



## Starlight Park - Phase II Bronx, New York



**3 new acres of NYC Parkland, 4 new community access points, and 3 pedestrian bridges!**

- **Fills in a missing link in the Bronx River Greenway**
- **Expands connections east and west of the Bronx River**
- **Renaturalizes the shoreline, with new habitat & protections**



# Shoelace Park (and the Master Plan)



# Shoelace Park (and the Master Plan)

- ADA accessibility
- More recreation opportunities
- Flood control
- Habitat Restoration

**High Priority:  
Moving park resources  
assets up and out of the  
floodplain.**



# Outreach & Volunteer





# Upcoming Events:

## Join the Bronx River Alliance Advisory Teams!



For more information, visit [bronxriver.org](http://bronxriver.org) or call 718-542-4124



### ECOLOGY TEAM

Learn about & support the ecological health of the river.

Virtual meetings quarterly, from 5:30-7pm.

Learn what's happening at the Foodway & how to plug in.



### FOODWAY TEAM

Virtual meetings on the second Wednesday of every month, from 5:30-6:30pm.



### GREENWAY TEAM

Help shape the future of the Bronx River Greenway.

Virtual meetings on the first Thursday of every month, from 6:30-8pm.

For more information:  
[bronxriver.org](http://bronxriver.org)  
718.542.4124  
[info@bronxriver.org](mailto:info@bronxriver.org)

## Winter Activities:

### Tree Plantings:

Thurs 11/16 - Bronx Park

Thurs 12/7 - Muskrat

## Stewardship - Concrete Plant Park

## Bronx River Assembly

February 2024

## Earth Day / Week

April 2024

## Amazing Flotilla

May 2024





# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES



## What is a resolution?

## What is an introduction?

A resolution is a **correspondence** developed by the **City Council** and issued to another level of government.

An introduction is a **law** for actions governed by the **City Council**.

Eg. A resolution to the NY State Legislature and Governor to pass a law providing flood barrier assistance funding.

Eg. An introduction establishing a Mayor's office of Climate Resiliency and Infrastructure

Both types of legislation go to a relevant committee for a **hearing**. The committee generates a **report** once it is heard, and legislators meet for **edits**.

The legislation can then go for a **full vote** to be passed. Resolutions are **adopted** and then sent to the relevant entity. Introductions are sent to the Mayor who can then **veto** it and send it back to the council, **sign it**, or return it **unsigned**. When signed by the mayor, it becomes a local **law**. If unsigned, once the required time eclipses, it becomes an enacted law.



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

*Promoting Parks & Recs Through Law*

Council Member Riley has drafted, and supported a number of bills regarding **parks and recreation**, including many related to renovation, maintenance, infrastructure, budgeting, and athletic programs.

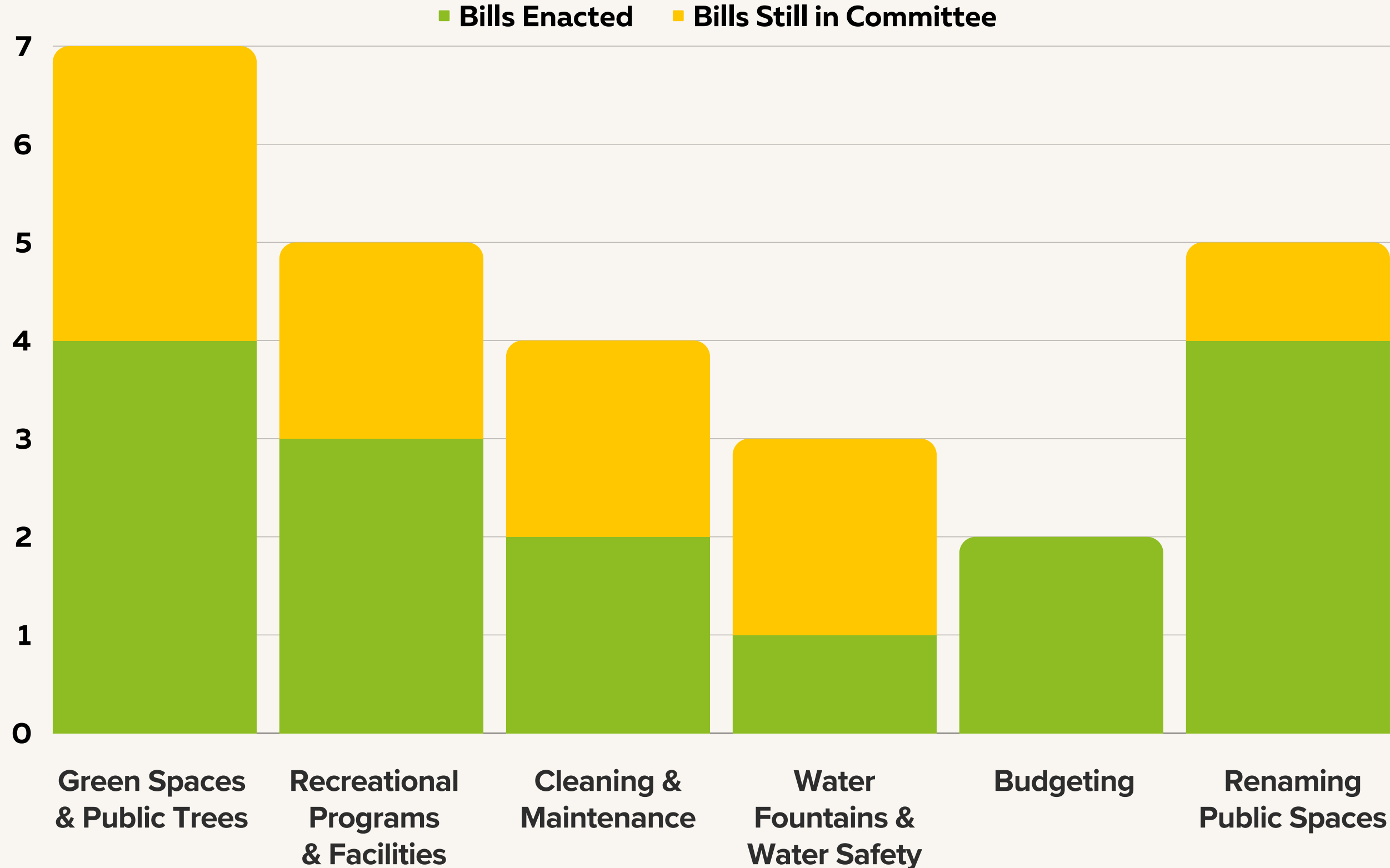
For example, on **Nov 2nd 2023**, Council Member Riley introduced **Intro 1245-2023**, a bill to facilitate the **identification and use of indoor facilities for basketball games**.

Council Member Riley has introduced **3 new bills** and co-sponsored **23 bills** heard by the Committee on Parks and Recreation. These bills aim to **strengthen the operations** of New York's parks and recreational programs and **present solutions** to relevant public issues.

Of those **26 bills**, **16** have already successfully been **passed** by Council Members via a full vote.

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

*26 Parks & Recs Bills Supported By Council Member Riley*



## - Examples -

**Intro 1217-2023:**  
A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York in order to address structurally unsound privately-owned trees encroaching on public spaces

**Int 0962-2023:**  
A Local Law to facilitate the construction of public swimming pools, with a focus on communities that do not have access to pools, and to require that DPR offer free swimming lessons at indoor pools under its jurisdiction

The background is a photograph of a park area with green grass, trees with autumn foliage, and tall apartment buildings in the distance. In the top right corner, there is a decorative graphic consisting of overlapping white and green shapes.


# Q&A

*Please ask away!*

# Thank you!

**Our team thanks you for listening!**

Simone A. Jones  
  
 Chief of Staff  
 Director of Land Use

Jahmal Yapp  
  
 Deputy Chief of Staff  
 Budget Director

Amanda Medina  
  
 Communications Director

Jayson Fox  
  
 Legislative Director

Leichele Walker  
  
 Scheduler  
 Education Liaison

Cynthia Prisco  
  
 Constituent Services Director  
 Legislative Coordinator

Kevon Bolt  
  
 Community Liaison

Samantha St. Surin  
  
 Council Member Aide  
 Budget & Community Aide

Louana Garraud  
  
 Legislative Fellow

**A special thank you to our partners.**

**Join our next community conversation!**

Look out for information about our next **Community Conversation** for January!



**Stay connected to our office!**

  @CMKevinCRiley

 718-684-5509

 District12@council.nyc.gov

 940 East Gun Hill Road, The Bronx