



Prospect
Park
Alliance

Prospect Park Capital Improvements: Lakeshore

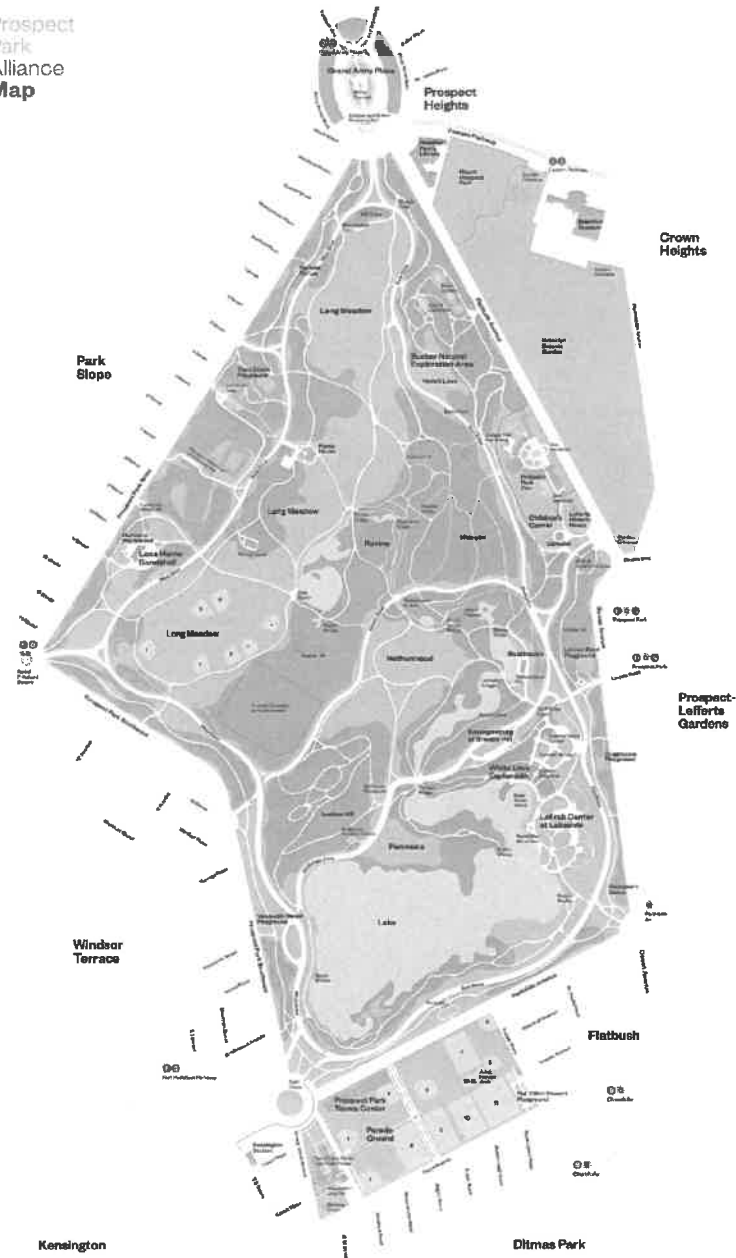
FY23 Budget Presentation
Brooklyn Delegation

Prospect Park Alliance



For 35 years, Prospect Park Alliance has sustained Brooklyn's most treasured green space, transforming the park after many decades of neglect and decline into the green and vibrant oasis it is today.

We could not have revitalized Brooklyn's Backyard without our partnership with the City of New York. Thanks to the support of the City and private funding, the Alliance has overseen the **investment of more than \$150 million** in Prospect Park. The Alliance has a **35-year track record of successful capital improvements** in the park that are completed on time and on budget, and has won multiple awards for this work.





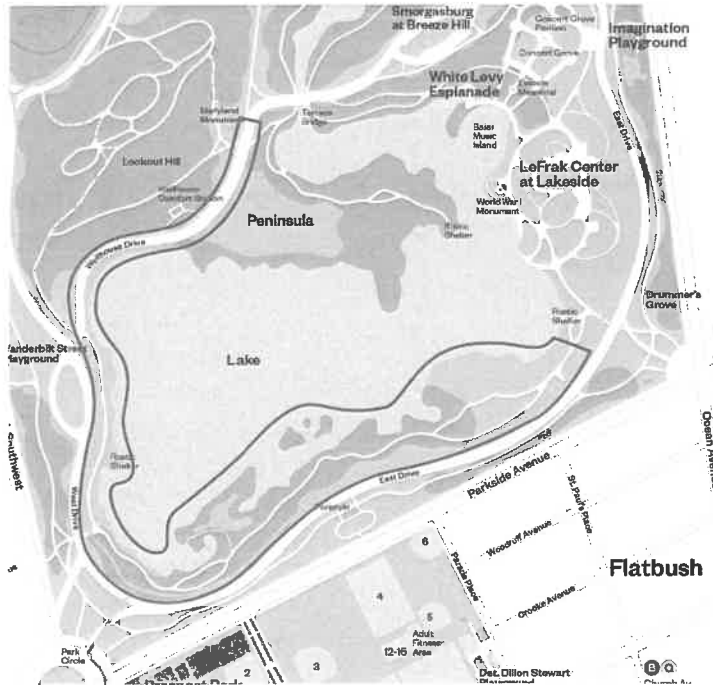
Prospect Park Alliance annually provides:

- 380,000 community members with free and low-cost recreation programs;
- 120,000 children and adults with free education programs;
- Award-winning team of landscape architects and designers who restore historic buildings and landscapes, and design new park destinations;
- Forestry technicians and arborists to care for the park's 30,000 trees, 250 acres of woodlands and 60-acre Lake;
- Horticulturalists and turf specialists to maintain 150 acres of lawns and gardens.

Prospect Park Lakeshore



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Lakeshore Restoration

\$20M multi-year request: City Council + Mayor

Prospect Park's 60-acre Lake is one of the treasures of Brooklyn's Backyard. A haven for wildlife and beloved by community members, the Lake's shoreline needs significant restoration that will provide safe, ADA-access to park visitors, improve water quality and resilience from flooding and major storms, and provide a haven for wildlife. This project would restore the waterfront from just south of the award-winning Lakeside to the Peninsula. In addition to restoring the Lake edge and three of its islands to improve wildlife habitat and nesting areas, this project also will transform the vehicular Wellhouse Drive into landscaped bike and pedestrian paths, which would add roughly two acres of additional green space to the park.

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Heavy erosion around an inaccessible water bottle filler and drinking fountain

Invasive Phragmites overtaking the Lake's shoreline

Existing Conditions

The Lake was constructed over 150 years ago, and its shoreline has slowly eroded to the point that its edge has collapsed and fallen into the water, and the drainage system no longer properly functions. This has resulted in significant flooding of adjacent parkland, which has become more frequent due to increased storm intensities and record rainfalls. This has led to a major loss of plant life as well as reduced habitat for birds and other wildlife. The Lakeshore is an important green space for community members, and occupies a significant portion of the parkland in the southeast corner of the park, and its surrounding landscapes are well used for picnicking and enjoying nature. The visitor experience has been impacted due to significantly deteriorated pathways, the growth of invasive plants and a lack of lighting, which was removed decades ago.

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Restored Lakeside

Precedent: Lakeside

The restoration of the Lakeshore will build upon the award-winning restoration of the Lakeshore from the Concert Grove to the Summer House, the rustic shelter at the Parkside and Ocean Avenue entrance, which brought back the historic shoreline, including Music Island, and provides ADA-accessible pathways and lawn areas for the enjoyment of the public. This project will be transformative for the community. The Prospect Park Lake is for many community members their primary interaction with nature. It is a place for immigrant communities to enjoy fishing; for all community members to enjoy picnicking and moments of reflection; and for nature lovers to observe a wide variety of wildlife, from egrets and herons to ducks and turtles, and the occasional bald eagle and beyond.



Support

The restoration of the Lakeshore has received significant community support, and we have received letters of support from the following organizations:

- Borough President Reynoso
- Brooklyn Community Foundation
- NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital
- Brooklyn Community Board 14
- Prospect Lefferts Gardens Neighborhood Association
- Brooklyn Bird Club
- Prospect Park Community Committee
- WILD Prospect Park

We have also received more than 1,100 letters of support from community members.

[View Letters of Support](#)

Prospect Park Alliance Team



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Thank you!

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