



THE LEGISLATURE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

BY EMAIL:

Honorable Bill de Blasio
Mayor of New York City
City Hall, New York, New York 10007

May 20, 2021

Mayor de Blasio:

Just over four years ago, local leaders and residents from North Brooklyn proudly stood with you at Bushwick Inlet Park to celebrate the acquisition of the CitiStorage property—the last piece of the vexing puzzle that is Bushwick Inlet Park. As you well know, North Brooklyn has experienced dramatic population growth over the past decade and remains one of the most under-served neighborhoods in the City in terms of access to open space. Bushwick Inlet Park — a promise from the 2005 Greenpoint-Williamsburg Waterfront Rezoning — was intended to mitigate these conditions. But 16 years after the rezoning, less than 20% of Bushwick Inlet Park (BIP) is open to the public.

Your leadership has been critically important in acquiring the final outstanding parcels of land and starting to build the park. We are so pleased that construction of 50 Kent is moving forward and look forward to that parcel opening one year from now. We trust that the Motiva site is not far behind, and that between Parks, City Hall and OMB, funds will be released in a timely fashion so that the badly needed turf replacement at 86 Kent can be completed by Spring 2022.

But that leaves the remaining two thirds of the park completely unfunded and a huge storage building sitting in the middle of what is supposed to be open space. As the principal elected officials representing Greenpoint and Williamsburg, we call on you to take the steps necessary to live up to the City's promise to North Brooklyn and establish a full capital plan for completing the remediation, design, and construction of BIP. Specifically:

1. We call on the City to include funding for the demolition of CitiStorage (the cost estimate for which we understand to be approximately \$16M) in the FY22 budget.
2. We call on City Hall, OMB, Parks, and the Council to collaborate on a capital plan that fully funds the remaining remediation, design, and construction of the Citistorage and Bayside parcels as part of the 2022 Financial Plan that will be released later this year.

As colleagues in government, we look forward to working with City Hall, OMB, our fellow Council Members, NYC Parks, and other relevant city and state agencies to support the completion of BIP. This is *your* legacy. It is past time for the City to fulfill the promise it made in 2005. The moment is now to secure the long-term funding for the park.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter, and for all that you do. Most importantly, thank you in advance for your action. We look forward to working with you to complete the job.

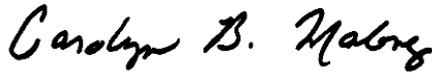
Sincerely,



Assemblymember Emily Gallagher



State Senator Brian Kavanagh



U.S. Representative Carolyn B. Maloney



State Senator Julia Salazar



Councilmember Stephen T. Levin



Councilmember Antonio Reynoso



Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams



NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer

With copies to

U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer
U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Rep. Nydia Velazquez
NYC Council Speaker Corey Johnson
NYC Councilmember Brad Lander
NYC Deputy Mayor Vicki Been
NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver
Brooklyn Borough Parks Commissioner Martin Maher
Community Board #1, Brooklyn
North Brooklyn Open Space Coalition
Friends of Bushwick Inlet Park