Public Space
The Not-So-Secret Ingredient for Healthy Lives.... But Needs Work

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WHAT IS A COMPLETE STREET?

ACTIVE SIDEWALKS
Sidewalks should be smooth, wide, feel safe, and have appropriate transitions to the street, making them easy to walk or use a wheelchair on.

DEDICATED BIKE LAKES
Simple pavement markings creating a dedicated bike lane make both motorists and bicycle movement more predictable, and therefore safer for both. They may increase the likelihood of casual riders using bicycles for transportation.

ACTIVE ROADWAY
One lane of car traffic going in each direction with a two-way-left-turn-lane (TWLTL) in the center would reduce the amount of car crashes on Government Street by providing turning vehicles a refuge from through traffic, while keeping through traffic moving more efficiently.

SAFE CROSSWALKS
Clearly marked crosswalks allow pedestrians and wheelchair users to cross streets safely, while making sure cars know where to expect them.

PLANTING STRIP
Street trees and landscaping slow speeding traffic, improve the aesthetics of the roadway, provide shade, and create a buffer between cars and people, making a more inviting environment for pedestrians.

GREEN SPACES
Parks and public green spaces create a destination, encouraging community interaction and providing a rest from the surrounding urban environment.
Open Space

varieties

Region to Block
Resilience (coastal protection) safe water, fresh food
NYC PARKS PROJECTS IN COMMUNITY PARKS INITIATIVE ZONES

CPI consists of 35 capital projects that will be the center of our community outreach and act as hubs within the CPI zones for the initiative’s full set of program components. Capital investment in these communities is just the start. In each Community Parks Initiative zone, we will focus expanded resources and strategies, creating a catalytic program that builds not just one park, but expands parks’ positive impacts across a community.

NYC Parks will continue to work with communities and public agency partners to identify and prioritize more opportunities for capital investment, programs, and other improvements to the community park networks in CPI zones.

Activating Community Parks
Playground associates are seasonal staff that will provide a presence at the parks indicated here to offer programs and maintenance within CPI zones. Locations shown on the map at right are subject to change as CPI capital work on some of those sites advances.

Parks at Work in a Neighborhood Near You
NYC Parks is already implementing projects in parks in CPI zones and this work will complement the CPI capital program by improving park resources in the same communities. The active capital projects on this map represent only a portion of the more than 450 projects currently underway throughout the city. 44 of these active capital projects are already underway within CPI zones, representing a total budget of over $60 million. These active capital projects are shown on the map at right.

The Future of CPI
Through our analysis and fieldwork, we identified more community parks than we could fully address with our capital budget. An expanded CPI program would require additional investment and further analysis, and respond to community priorities.

About CPI Zone Boundaries
Neighborhoods and communities can be hard to define on a map. Our CPI zones are based on the New York City Department of City Planning’s Neighborhood Tabulation Area (NTA) boundaries. NTAs are statistical geographies that generally align with New York City neighborhood boundaries.
Cross Disciplinary Knowledge

Research Needed
Urban Green Space and Its Impact on Human Health

Michelle C. Kondo,1,* Jaime M. Fluehr,2 Thomas McKeon,2 and Charles C. Branas3

Original Investigation | Public Health

Effect of Greening Vacant Land on Mental Health of Community-Dwelling Adults
A Cluster Randomized Trial

Eugenia C. South, MD, MS1,2; Bernadette C. Hohl, PhD3; Michelle C. Kondo, PhD4; et al