COMMUNITY-DESIGNED WATERFRONT GREEN SPACE FOR THE SOUTH BRONX

MOTT HAVEN-PORT MORRIS WATERFRONT PLAN | SOUTH BRONX UNITE

The South Bronx is rich in culture, creativity, and resourcefulness, including activism and community organizing. However, systemic discrimination and disinvestment have left South Bronx residents vulnerable to social, economic, and environmental challenges and with limited access to resources. Compared to other areas in New York City, the South Bronx waterfront is characterized by polluting infrastructure, including power plants, waste transfer stations, last-mile warehouses, and expressways. New Yorkers for Parks data show that public and private investments in Bronx parks and open space are lacking compared to other boroughs.

The Mott Haven-Port Morris Plan Waterfront Plan, developed through a community visioning process led by South Bronx Unite, aims to increase access to the local waterfront and create green spaces to improve quality-of-life, mitigate air pollution, create better health outcomes, and protect the community from flooding from coastal storms and sea level rise.

TOTAL OPEN SPACE MOTT HAVEN 1.1 ACRES per 1,000 residents STANDARD IN NYC 2.5 ACRES

Table 1. Park maintenance costs by borough in Fiscal Year 2021

BOROUGH	MAINTENANCE COST	COST PER PARK ACRE
Queens	\$16,823,320	\$2,164
Brooklyn	\$16,037,076	\$3,318
Manhattan	\$13,801,987	\$4,786
Staten Island	\$10,810,830	\$1,413
Bronx	\$10,217,803	\$1,418

Adapted from New Yorkers for Parks (2014), "Mott Haven Open Space Index"

per 1,000 residents





THE WATERFRONT PLAN WILL PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED COMMUNITY BENEFITS

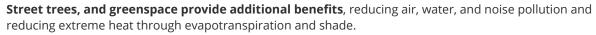
Earth Economics, South Bronx Unite, and the Center for Sustainable Urban Development's Resilient Coastal Communities Project collaborated to estimate the value of Waterfront Plan's economic and community benefits.

The analysis finds that the Waterfront Plan will provide over \$258 million (USD 2021) in social, environmental, and economic benefits every year.

In addition, the Waterfront Plan will support 537 construction jobs and another 1,063 jobs in related industries, generating at least \$105.3 million (USD 2021) in local economic activity over 50 years.



Waterfront access points, waterfront trails, and parks beautify the community, increase opportunities to be in nature, and provide spaces for people to gather and engage in healthy physical activity, improving physical and mental health and nurturing a greater sense of belonging. Water-side parks and greenspaces can also host education and community events that help people feel connected to each other and the neighborhood.





Bioswales, rain gardens and pervious pavements also provide environmental benefits, including lower stormwater management costs. Bioswales and raingardens are large garden beds filled with mulch, low-growing plants, and trees that collect, store and filter polluted stormwater before it infiltrates into the groundwater.

Investing in the Mott Haven-Port Morris Waterfront Plan will

- (1) advance environmental justice and equity in the South Bronx,
- (2) revitalize local business, and
- (3) support, strengthen, and promote local businesses.

Together, these benefits of the Waterfront Plan reduce the impacts of unexpected events and natural disasters while strengthening community power and the ability to adapt to ever changing conditions.

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