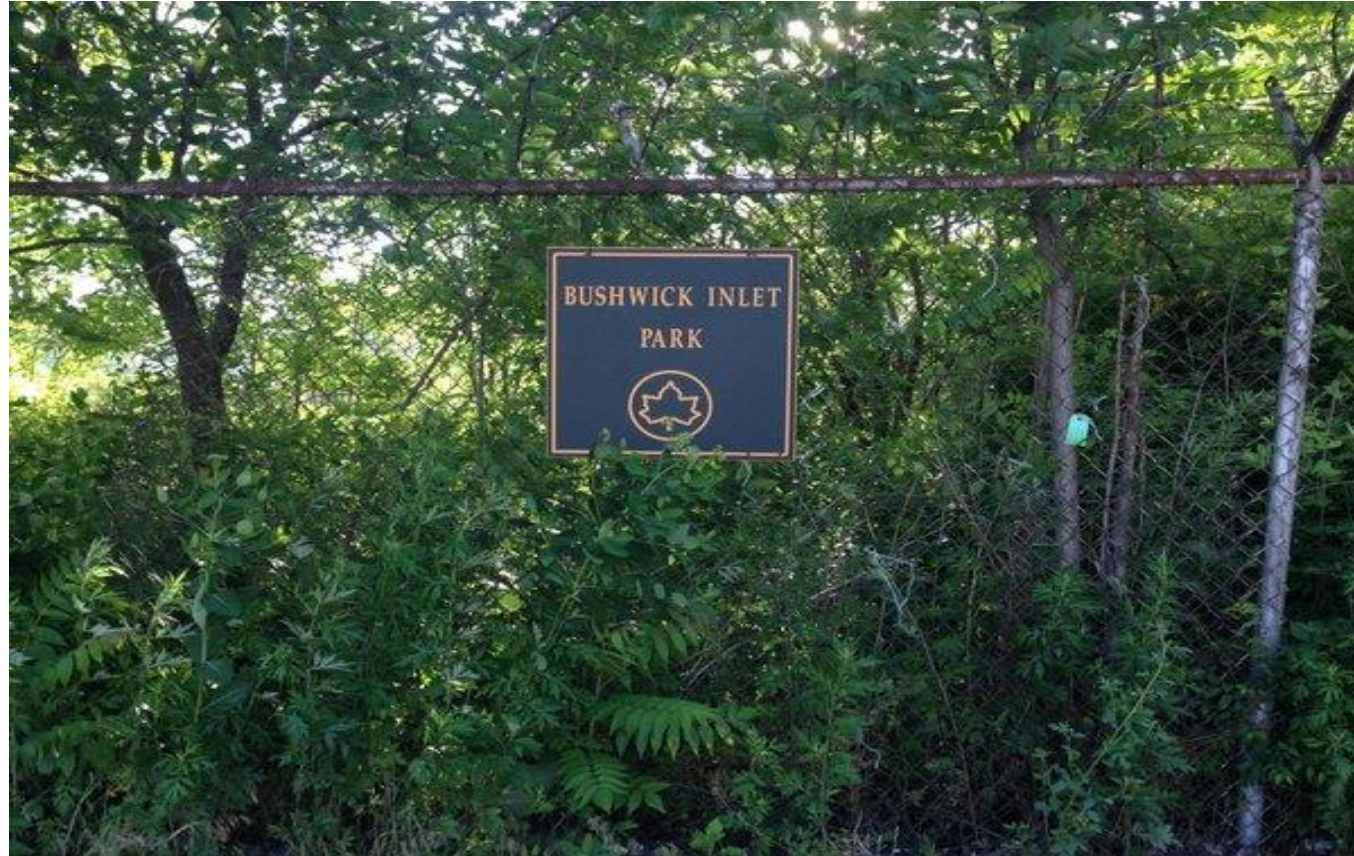


Brooklyn Needs More Green Space



Environmental Economics 2505-D727

Roman Pienkowski

Professor MacDonald

Greenpoint, Brooklyn is not as green as advertised.



Credit:Quiggyt4 flickr.com

According to the NY Times, “the community district has an open space ratio of 0.58 acres per 1,000 residents far below the 2.9 acre citywide average.”

A Brief History of Bushwick Inlet Park

As part of a rezoning deal to build luxury housing on the Williamsburg waterfront in 2005, then mayor Michael Bloomberg promised to build a 28 acre park

According to the NY times, the city has already spent \$225 million purchasing only 9 acres of the 28

In recent news, an 8 acre plot was bought for \$53 million from Bayside Fuel Oil Depot

The final 11 acres are the most troublesome part of the deal as the owner of Citi Storage, Norm Brodsky, valued it at \$300 million

This park may cost the city over half a billion dollars for land alone

(Gothamist.com)

Map of Land Parcels by Owners

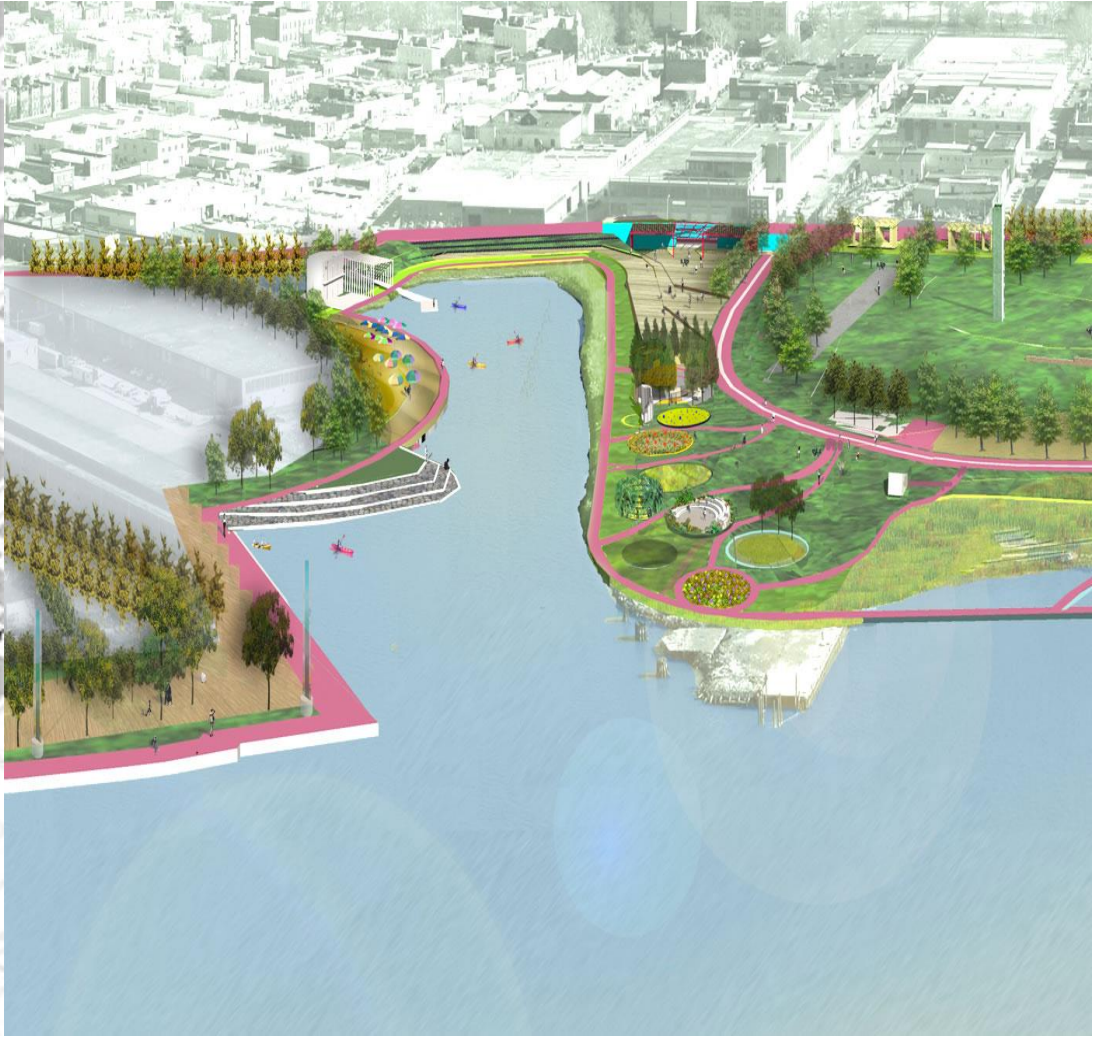


Credit: bushwickenletpark.wordpress.com

Images of Land Development Plan



Credit: Freewilliamsburg.com



Credit: Bushwickinletpark.org

Current Images of Site



Credit: Roman Pienkowski

Images Continued



Credit: Roman Pienkowski

Images Continued



Credit: Roman Pienkowski

Field Research Site

Community Board 1 in Brooklyn, NY

Attended parks and waterfront committee meeting

The consensus was that money is the biggest barrier to get the park completed

I was one of the first people to find out that the Bayside Oil site was purchased, and it will now undergo land reclamation as it is contaminated

According to the board, they have \$22 million saved for either land purchase or money to start building the park once the final piece of property is bought

When asked about the value of the Citi Storage property, they said a judge will have to determine that

Why Invest So Much Money in a Park?

According to Harnick and Welle, well maintained parks can add 15% value to your home

They also believe that tourists will come to visit and spend money

There are health benefits as people engage in physical activity

Parks have the ability to create unity in the community through interaction

It reduces the cost of managing storm water runoff

The air quality is better

How Can We Fund These Projects?

The National Recreation and Park Association has a few recommendations

Partner with government agencies who have a similar mission

Promote fundraising campaigns with nonprofit organizations

Attempt to get donations from foundations and or corporations

Collecting donations from private individuals is also a possibility

Matt Tinoco of Laist.com reported that in Los Angeles they were thinking about charging land developers \$5,000 per apartment unit they built, and that money would go towards city parks.

Private Donations Seem Far Fetched But it Happens

In recent news, plans will go forward on a floating park thanks to a \$113 million donation by billionaire Barry Diller. (Businessinsider.com)



In 2012, billionaire John Paulson donated \$100 million to Central Park (Bloomberg.com)

Conclusion

Parks are a great investment. The cost of Bushwick Inlet Park may be great but it will pay off in the long run. The added value to real estate coupled with access to one of the nicest parks in the New York will make us a happier and healthier city. Lets make Greenpoint green.

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