METHODOLOGIES USED TO IDENTIFY AREAS UNDERSERVED OR WELL-SERVED BY OPEN SPACE

Areas of the City were identified by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation as underserved or well-served by open space using the following methodologies and assumptions:

UNDERSERVED

- Locations were identified by multiplying population density by distance from parkland to get the highest values across the city (bivariate analysis). These areas have both high population density and are the greatest distance from parkland.
- Census tracts were used to define an approximate one mile square area around each of these locations.
- Neighborhood names were created using DCP neighborhood delineations as a guideline.
- Areas with an open space ratio below 2.5 acres per 1000 residents were identified as underserved.

WELL-SERVED

- A GIS network buffer tool (Network Analyst Extension) was used to define areas within a 0.25 mile walk of accessible entrances to regional parks following streets with pedestrian access.
- Regional parks are large parks with a wide array of both passive and active open space resources, listed here.
- If the network buffer identified any portion of a block as being included in the 0.25 mile walk of a regional park entrance, then the entire block was included in the well-served area.
- Additional well-served areas were also defined by determining the open space ratio for each city neighborhood using DCP neighborhood delineations as a guideline. Neighborhood areas with an open space ratio (OSR) above 2.5 acres of open space per 1000 residents were included as well-served. For this methodology, open space is defined as an area with accessible or developed open space, whether it be active or passive.
- Blocks located within neighborhoods with an OSR greater than 2.5 were removed if they were not within 0.5 mile from active recreation (0.5 mile network buffers were used in this case because it is assumed that people will travel longer distances to use active recreation facilities).