



Open Space

14

community parks and
playgrounds in Bushwick

1

new park under
construction

Bushwick is home to fourteen community parks and playgrounds containing play equipment, sports courts, athletic fields, grassy open areas, and other park amenities. The neighborhood is anchored by Maria Hernandez Park in the west and Irving Square Park in the east, both offering passive and active recreation, play equipment, areas for relaxation, and trees for shade. Bushwick is also dotted with playgrounds and community gardens. There are several park reconstruction projects in progress that will expand Bushwick's array of open space facilities. A new comfort station is under construction at Green Central Knoll, and Hope Ballfield is undergoing a full reconstruction to upgrade the ballfield, seating area, playground and adult fitness equipment. Additionally, the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (NYC Parks) is constructing a new half-acre open space, Beaver Noll Park, which will include a play area, seating, and greenery. Work is underway to provide Rudd Playground with a new skate park and basketball courts, and to provide a new synthetic turf and an adult fitness area at Maria Hernandez Park.



Actions

NYC Parks is working on several capital projects to provide new amenities in Community Board 4, an investment of over \$10 million.

Hope Ballfield Reconstruction

This project will include the construction of a new natural turf baseball field, as well as new adult fitness equipment, play equipment, sitting and picnic areas, and perimeter sidewalks. The project is in construction and expected to be completed in 2019.

Green Central Knoll Comfort Station Construction

NYC Parks is constructing a new comfort station and accessible ramp in Green Central Knoll. The comfort station is under construction and is expected to be completed in 2019.

Maria Hernandez Synthetic Turf Field Construction

NYC Parks will construct a new synthetic turf field and fitness area in the northeastern portion of Maria Hernandez Park. NYC Parks is procuring a contractor and, pending successful procurement, expects to break ground in 2020.

Rudd Playground Skate Park and Basketball Courts Reconstruction

NYC Parks will construct a new skate park with a seating area, and a new accessible ramp to connect the two levels within the park. NYC Parks will also reconstruct the basketball courts, stairs, and fencing; and upgrade the benches, planting, drainage, water supply systems, and park security lighting. NYC Parks is procuring a contractor and, pending successful procurement, expects to break ground in 2019.

Objective: Enhance and expand Bushwick's neighborhood open spaces

Provide new recreational amenities in Bushwick's parks

- Bushwick contains an array of recreational amenities, yet there is still a demand for additional recreational opportunities to serve people of all ages. In Bushwick, NYC Parks is constructing new facilities in Rudd Playground, Maria Hernandez Park, Hope Ballfield, and Green Central Knoll.

Expand Bushwick's open space network

- The majority of Bushwick's residents live within a walk to a park; however, Bushwick has a lower open space ratio than the citywide average. NYC Parks is exploring multiple approaches to improve park access and expand park acreage, ranging from developing new parks to forming partnerships, such as

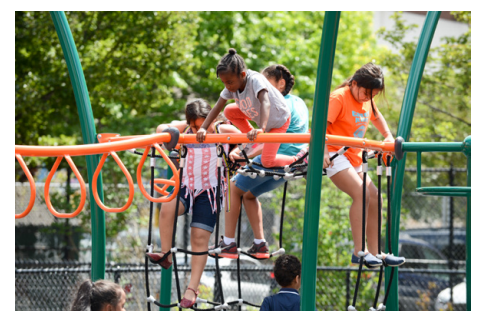
88%

of Bushwick residents live within walking distance of a park or open space, just above the citywide goal of 85%.

New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, OneNYC



Proposed Green Central Knoll Comfort Station



Heckscher Playground

BUSHWICK OPEN SPACE AMENITIES:

19

basketball courts

18

handball courts

2

soccer fields

4

baseball and softball fields

2

running tracks

10

spray showers

6

restrooms

potential partnerships with the Department of Education or NYCHA, to secure additional publicly accessible open space.

- Bushwick’s newest park, Beaver Noll Park, is currently under construction. The new park will feature new play equipment and a spacious seating area with trees and greenery. Additionally, Bushwick residents will soon enjoy increased open space with the opening of PS 377’s schoolyard to the public. The schoolyard will be reconstructed by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, through New York State’s Vital Brooklyn initiative. This newly accessible open space will serve Bushwick residents who currently live outside of a walk to a park.

Activate Bushwick parks with public programming

- NYC Parks recognizes that people make our parks and is dedicated to creating vibrant, active community spaces with a variety of public programming options. Among the many public programs available to New Yorkers, community members can request that [Mobile Recreation Vans](#) visit their community parks to provide free play and fitness programming. NYC Parks also works to bring free, drop-in fitness classes through the [Shape Up program](#). With Shape Up, NYC Parks partners with local organizations to secure all-weather spaces for fitness programming to provide a fun outlet for New Yorkers to stay active.

Objective: Build capacity of park stewardship groups

Support and cultivate dedicated park partners with Partnerships for Parks

- NYC Parks works in tandem with [Partnerships for Parks](#) to cultivate community partners dedicated to the advocacy and stewardship of their local parks. By hosting trainings and workshops, outreach coordinators assist park partners who want to expand their group membership, host an event or stewardship activity, or fundraise. [Partnerships for Parks also provides grants](#) to help park “friends” groups fund their park projects.
- Bushwick has a strong community-led “friends” network, which is pivotal to the programming and stewardship of the community’s parks. Partnerships for Parks works with community groups and others to host It’s My Park stewardship events, and will provide tools and support needed to organize the event.

FEATURED PROJECT: BEAVER NOLL PARK CONSTRUCTION

NYC Parks is constructing a new open space, Beaver Noll Park, at the intersection of Bushwick Avenue and Beaver Street. This project will add approximately half an acre of new open space and will feature a new seating area, play equipment, and greenery. The project is in construction and will be completed in 2019.



Schematic design for Beaver Noll Park, a new park on Beaver Street and Bushwick Avenue.

FEATURED PROJECT: THOMAS BOYLAND PARK RECONSTRUCTION

NYC Parks recently completed a \$4.5 million reconstruction of Thomas Boyland Park, located on Broadway between Granite and Aberdeen streets. The project was completed through the Community Parks Initiative, a mayoral program to re-imagine local parks in dense and growing neighborhoods that have not seen significant capital investment in a over twenty years. The upgraded park now includes water play, adult fitness equipment, a seating area, basketball and handball courts, and a ballfield.

