

COMMUNITY VISIONING COHORT

People Make Parks

What is community visioning?

A public input process led by community members that gathers ideas, desires, and concerns from a broad and diverse audience to effect changes in their neighborhood park.

What is the Community Visioning Cohort?

The Community Visioning Cohort is a learning community for park groups selected to participate in a five-part training series that prepares them to lead participatory activities and surveys within their community to uncover priorities for their local parks and advocate for those priorities. Participants will develop a strategy to gather public input around one of two key areas: physical improvements to park structure and design, or park programming and events. The resulting data will be used to advocate for additional resources and investments in these parks.

What can community visioning do for my park group?

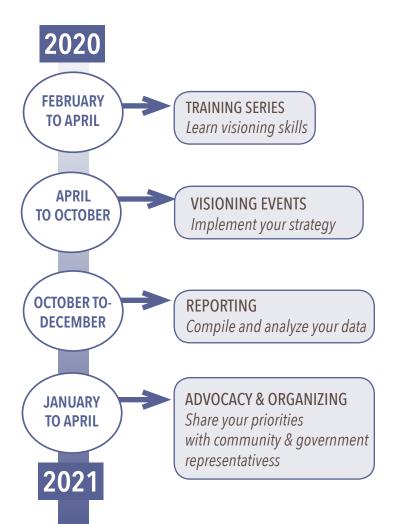
- Develop new relationships with community members and recruit volunteers
- Identify the range of needs and interests of diverse park users
- Discover public preferences for events and programming
- Decide on top priorities for physical park improvements
- Obtain a general consensus about the "feel and flavor" of a potential park redesign
- Educate the public about the NYC Parks capital process
- Build community engagement, collaborative leadership, and advocacy skills

Preferred candidates have:

- A well-developed group structure (e.g. consistent volunteer base, multiple group members 3+)
- A strong motivation to learn from neighborhood park users and utilize that information to guide their group strategy
- A demonstrated history of collaborative work with Partnerships for Parks, NYC Parks, and/or City Parks Foundation, and a long-term commitment to stewardship
 - A group budget of less than \$10,000 or limited fundraising capacity
 - Supported parks in underserved neighborhoods

2020 VISIONING COHORT TIMELINE AND EXPECTATIONS

- Completed applications submitted by Friday, January 10, 2020
- Applications reviewed and groups selected in January for a mid-February start
- The five-part training series takes place in lower Manhattan between February and April with an estimated time commitment of 10-15 hours
- Attendance is required at all five training sessions by at least two members of the group
- Upon completion of the training, groups will have up to six months to implement their visioning strategy
- By the end of 2020, groups will develop community vision reports highlighting park priorities for planning and advocacy efforts



PARTNERSHIPS for PARKS