



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CITY PARKS FOUNDATION AWARDS NYC GREEN FUND PATHWAYS GRANTS
TO INNOVATORS DRIVING PARK STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY**

*The grants will support four diverse organizations bringing positive change to NYC's parks
and open spaces*

AUGUST 13, 2025 - New York, NY - Today, [City Parks Foundation](#) awarded \$220,000 in grant funding to four recipients through the 2025 NYC Green Fund Pathways Grants program. This program supports groups and organizations pursuing systemic changes that will lead to a more equitable and resilient park and open space system, more and alternative funding sources, and improved operations between the city and its nonprofit and volunteer partners. This year's Pathways grantees include community-based organizations working toward increased park stewardship, community participation and decision making, coordination with policymakers and elected officials, and more:

Bronx River Alliance, which leads the Bronx Climate Justice Task Force, will assess existing open space and habitat restoration plans that have been developed recently by various municipal agencies and community organizations; prioritize proposed projects related to parks and climate resilience in the Bronx that would provide the greatest community benefit; and develop resources for community-led action to advance those priority projects. The Task Force will also work to promote effective and durable collaboration between municipal agencies, place-based partners, and community members.

Center for an Urban Future (CUF) will build on the research reports they have published recently – funded, in part, by the NYC Green Fund – on alternative revenue streams for parks, including tapping into real estate revenues (e.g., value capture, transfer fees, and/or zoning-based incentives) and unlocking public-private partnerships (e.g., investing in concessions infrastructure, reforming license agreement and insurance requirements, and/or changing rules around raising revenue). CUF will convene stakeholder groups and policymakers to build support around actionable ideas and create roadmaps that move ideas from concept to reality.

Natural Areas Conservancy (NAC) will help launch a new initiative to transform natural areas care in public parks, connecting local communities and activating them in the care of those natural areas that have the fewest resources. NAC will convene local natural area practitioners to foster coordination and innovation in urban natural areas care, develop and provide comprehensive training, create new data-informed stewardship tools, and design campaigns that promote sustainable funding for this work.

Public Housing Community Fund will pilot an interagency relationship between the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and NYC Parks (Parks). Because NYCHA does not have any dedicated City resources for tree care, this pilot will demonstrate the efficiency achieved by integrating NYCHA's

1,100 acre tree canopy into Parks' existing systems for tree care and maintenance. This effort will also help New York City meet its goal of 30 percent overall tree canopy.

For more information on the NYC Green Fund, visit cityparksfoundation.org/nycgreenfund.

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About City Parks Foundation

At City Parks Foundation, we are dedicated to invigorating and transforming parks into dynamic, vibrant centers of urban life through sports, arts, community building and education programs for all New Yorkers. Our programs -- located in more than 350 parks, recreation centers and public schools across New York City -- reach over 285,000 people each year. Our ethos is simple: thriving parks mean thriving communities.

About the NYC Green Fund

The NYC Green Fund is a pooled grant program intended to support an equitable and resilient network of parks and open spaces to benefit the well-being of all New Yorkers. The Fund was launched during the pandemic to support essential stewardship for the city's green spaces and has since evolved into a longer-term program to provide financial, network, and technical support for open space stewards. The NYC Green Fund is administered by City Parks Foundation.

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