BROOKLYN, May 24, 2016 – A Prospect Park Alliance proposal to improve Flatbush Avenue is one of eight citywide to receive funding through the NYC Parks’ Parks Without Borders Initiative. The Alliance will use this funding to create two new park entrances along Flatbush Avenue, to restore a third entrance near Empire Boulevard and Ocean Avenue at the Park’s Children’s Corner, and to fund additional park improvements. Currently, there are no entrances between Grand Army Plaza and the Children’s Corner.

“The Prospect Park Alliance is committed to making the Park open and accessible to all communities bordering the Park,” said Prospect Park Alliance President Sue Donoghue. “We are thrilled that so many community members came out in support of our proposal, and I want to thank Commissioner Silver and NYC Parks for their support and vision through Parks Without Borders."

Parks Without Borders seeks to make parks more open by improving entrances, transforming underutilized areas, and creating vibrant public spaces. The City has dedicated $50 million to the program, $10 million of which has already been allocated to parks throughout the city, with another $40 million determined through a public input process that took place earlier this year. NYC Parks collected community input from thousands of New Yorkers both online and through in-person events. The Flatbush Avenue perimeter project in Prospect Park was the most highly requested project.

“In addition to Parks Without Borders funding, the Alliance has previously received $2.4 million from Borough President Eric L Adams and Councilmember Laurie Cumbo to renovate the Flatbush Avenue perimeter. Through this funding, the Alliance will restore and widen the pedestrian walkway, install new decorative fencing and add an allée of street trees along the park perimeter from Grand Army Plaza to the Children’s Corner, restoring the Flatbush Avenue perimeter to its original grandeur.

“Generations of Brooklyn families have known Prospect Park as the ‘Backyard of Brooklyn’ — the place to make memories while enjoying a bike ride, holding a barbecue, or reading a book,” said Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams. “Prospect Park’s inclusion in the Parks Without Borders Initiative will allow for critical enhancements in the historically-neglected perimeter of the park along Flatbush Avenue, allowing residents of Crown Heights and Prospect-Lefferts Gardens dramatically improved access to the many resources available in the park. Prospect Park earning more votes than any other
park in New York City demonstrates the enormous, and highly deserved, public support for this beloved institution. I applaud the stewards of Prospect Park, as well as Fort Greene Park, for garnering Parks Without Borders funding.”

“I’m very excited to hear that Prospect Park has been selected as one of the showcase parks for the Parks Without Borders project, said Council Member Brad Lander. “Prospect Park is Brooklyn’s backyard, and a place where families from across the borough go to spend time together and enjoy the outdoors. The Parks Without Borders funding will further integrate Prospect Park into its many surrounding neighborhoods. Thank you to NYC Parks for this significant investment in our Park.”

"From outdoor performances and barbecues to nature walks and sports tournaments, millions of New Yorkers and tourists visit Prospect Park every year. The outpouring of community support exemplified through Parks Without Borders is a clear indication of Prospect Park’s significance and our collective commitment to preserve its unique beauty and character. The restoration of this park’s perimeter and entrances will ensure year-round access to such an incredible green space that has become a popular destination to celebrate milestones and make new memories,” said Council Member Laurie A. Cumbo.

“Prospect Park is such a beautiful place and its new entrances will allow even more people to experience its charm,” said Council Member Mathieu Eugene. “The NYC Parks’ Parks Without Borders Initiative will help ensure that this stunning green space is easily accessible to individuals and families who want to spend their day at one of New York City’s most iconic parks.”

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About the Prospect Park Alliance
The Prospect Park Alliance is a non-profit organization that sustains, restores and advances Prospect Park, Brooklyn’s flagship park, in partnership with the City of New York. The Alliance cares for the natural environment, restores historic design, and provides public programs and amenities for the Park, which receives more than 10 million visits each year. Learn more at [www.prospectpark.org](http://www.prospectpark.org).

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