

February 17, 2016

Commissioner Mitchell Silver  
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation  
830 Fifth Ave  
New York, NY 10065

Dear Commissioner Silver:

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to extend my enthusiastic support for Friends of Kivlehan Park's proposal for inclusion in the Parks Without Borders initiative. The proposal would address paving needs, improve park entrances, and repurpose the former D'Amato Field. In my opinion, this detailed and well thought out proposal is exactly the type of project envisioned for the Parks Without Borders initiative.

These improvements would address aesthetic and safety issues in the area. Paving, as well as adding plantings and signage, would allow easier access to the park and encourage greater utilization. D'Amato Field, which remains unused after it was destroyed during Hurricane Sandy, would be re-purposed as athletic courts, providing space for local athletes to play, and also creating a new venue for alternative community programming, such as live concerts or movie screenings.

Corporal Allen F. Kivlehan Park is located in New Dorp Beach, an area badly affected by Hurricane Sandy. As New Dorp Beach and surrounding neighborhoods continue to recover from the storm, improvements to Kivlehan Park would help make it the heart of a neighborhood in resurgence. Providing an inviting and safe park would greatly benefit the neighborhood's continued recovery.

I strongly encourage you to support the Friends of Kivlehan Park proposal for the Parks Without Borders initiative.

I thank you for your time, courtesy, and consideration.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo  
Borough President

cc: Borough Commissioner Lynda Ricciardone

