

*“Let’s not kid ourselves; a major brush fire is inevitable. So, what’s the holdup? Money.”*

**-BP ODDO**

**BOROUGH PRESIDENT’S  
DIRECT CONNECT SUNDAY**

**AT THE PETRIDES SCHOOL**



HEALTH & WELLNESS QUALITY OF LIFE DEVELOPMENT TRANSPORTATION **SAFETY** JOBS RECREATION EDUCATION TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2017, Borough President Oddo made an important announcement regarding the funding of parks projects, including the allocation of taxpayer dollars to fund the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) on our brushfire-prone East Shore.

The initial step in developing the CWPP called for the formation of a working group with representation from various members of local government, local fire authorities, and the state agencies responsible for the protection and management of New York’s natural resources. Much work was done in the years immediately preceding 2012 until Hurricane Sandy struck, putting a halt to that work. After getting to Borough Hall, BP Oddo revived this effort.



The CWPP is designed to aid at-risk communities vulnerable to catastrophic wildfires and to safeguard those responsible for fighting and controlling such fires – all the while preserving and protecting the natural environment. The main goal of the CWPP is to mow and manage the overgrowth of phragmites, an invasive and highly flammable species that poses a great wildfire risk.

After convincing Mayor Bill de Blasio of the importance of such protections, Borough President Oddo was able to secure a commitment of \$460,000 in baselined funding from the Mayor’s Office for the removal of phragmites. This funding will go to the Parks Department, who will then implement the Community Wildfire Protection Plan to mow and manage phragmites, creating a buffer to protect adjoining homes from disastrous fires.



On September 13, 2017, BP Oddo joined with NYC Parks Borough Commissioner Lynda Ricciardone, Council Member Steve Matteo, and representatives from FDNY to announce a total budget allocation of \$460,000 from the Mayor’s Office for phragmites removal.

# Community Wildfire Protection Plan

MITIGATING THE DANGER OF DANGEROUS BRUSHFIRES