

Parks & Environment Committee Meeting
Community Board 7
April 20, 2026

Agenda:

1. Presentation from Heng-Gil Han and Lucia Warck-Meister on public art proposal for installation in Sunset Park.
 - Lucia Warck-Meister's project ("Tell Me Your Tree Story") is part of "Shared Dialogue, Shared Space" (a series of citywide public art projects)
 - Project unfolds through two components:
 - (1) A series of 9 participatory events so members of the public can engage with the artist and artwork. 3 will be in Sunset Park near the installation:
 - Pre-inaugural workshop: create felt and paper collages with pre-cut shapes of different flowers and make ofrendas.
 - Inaugural workshop: Braid yarn/fabrics and share stories
 - Post-inaugural workshop: Paint mini flowerpots with images from folk stories. Soil and seeds will be provided for participants to take home.
 - (2) An outdoor installation of sculptural Ceibo (coral tree) flowers that honors the legend of Anahi, the indigenous South American woman that resisted colonization and found solace transforming into the ceibo tree.



"Through participatory and community storytelling, the project also explores how folklore shapes Latine and other communities' identities within the ongoing experience of diaspora. Folklore is a vital thread connecting us to our ancestral roots. It preserves memory and cultural continuity, even across distance and displacement."

- Details:
 - Proposed installation date range: October 1-15
 - Potential locations: Sunset Park Lawn (5th Ave between 41st St and 43rd St). (Flexible to moving to another part of the park if in the way of the Healing Grove).
- Waiting for Parks to approve application for installation and are looking for letter of support to send to DOT, Parks and city council members to move project along.

Parks & Environment Committee Meeting
Community Board 7
April 20, 2026

2. 2026 Community Update from Helios Rodríguez (Prospect Park Alliance):
 - Prospect Park Alliance gives a yearly presentation to the five community boards that surround the park.
 - Presented on:
 - Budget + Expense Funding
 - Play Fair Advocacy
 - Park Operations + ReNew Initiative
 - Capital Projects Overview
 - Recent/Upcoming Construction
 - Proposed Shirley Chisholm Pavilion
 - Landscape Management
 - Cultural Programming
 - Health & Wellness
 - Visitor Services
 - Strategic Plan Updates
3. Presentation from Jason and Mary Ellen of the Brooklyn SWAB (Solid Waste Advisory Board)
 - SWABs are volunteer citizens' advisory board
 - Dedicated to helping borough residents stay informed on waste topics and advocate for innovative, sustainable, and equitable waste policy
 - Board members are appointed by the Borough President and include concerned citizens and professionals
 - SWABs advise the City Council, City Administration, and other city and state leaders on solid waste-related policies and programs
 - NYC generates ~ 13 million tons of waste a year
 - 3.7 to 4 million tons are Residential Waste
 - 75% of Residential Waste is 'divertible' or recyclable
 - Goals:
 - Increased diversion
 - 2026 Solid Waste Management Plan sets a goal of 30.5% by 2036 – currently at ~19%
 - Zero waste sent to landfills or incinerators
 - Local Law 87 of 2023 stipulates that DSNY should reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and incineration by 90% by 2030
 - Waste equity for all residents
 - Local Law 152 (2018) aims to reduce the concentration of private waste transfer stations in overburdened communities
 - Brooklyn CB1 is the biggest impacted but Circular Services is located in CB7
 - How can Community Board help?
 - Collaborate with SWABs on local community initiatives, including waste fairs, tours and clean-up events

Parks & Environment Committee Meeting

Community Board 7

April 20, 2026

- Encourage and educate residents on curbside composting and recycling
- Monitor and report on evolving waste management trends and the impact of pilot programs within the community
- Engage with local leaders to advocate for waste reduction laws and consistent enforcement that promote effective waste management and environmental justice
- Ask if new buildings have adequate space and staffing for robust, 24/7 waste collection and recycling: textiles, e-waste, organics, MGP, paper and trash