

# STAKEHOLDERS & OTHER MEETINGS

## Meeting Notes-DRP Internal Stakeholders Meeting

Date: Thursday February 1, 2007

Location: Olmsted Center

### Attendees:

Peter Jarrett	DPR
Kimberly Fallon	DPR Capital - Queens Team
Carmen Baires-Smith	LIRR
Michael Bolger	DPR Capital - Queens Team
Bill Tai	DPR, NRG
Mike Feller	DPR, NRG
Andrea Keyes	DPR - Passerelle/PAC
Ellen Macnow	DPR
Asima Jansveld	NYC EDC
Sarah Ashcroft	NYC EDC
Jackie Langsam	DPR
Joe Oro	DPR Enforcement
Jeremy Parnes	New York City Transit
John Krawchuk	DPR - Director of Hist. Pres
Sybil Young	DPR - Preservation projects Mgr
Ronée Mattingly	Parks
Michael Pokorny	LIRR
Nicholas Quennell	Quennell Rothschild & Partners
Laurie Hawkinson	Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects
Henry Grosman	Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects
Lev Kushner	DPR
Jennifer Kao	DPR
Erik Linsalata	DPR
Hector Garcia	LIRR
Bruce Eisenberg	DPR
Estelle Cooper	DPR

### Agenda:

- The meeting opened with a presentation by the QRP/SMH team. The presentation showed initial analysis of Flushing Meadows Corona Park (based on data provided by Parks and site visits) and some preliminary results from our survey of park users. The presentation set the tone and scope for the discussion to follow. Presented below is a summary of the discussion organized thematically.

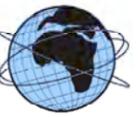
### Transportation

- Other than big events very few people use subway
  - . except summer weekends (JP-NYCT)
  - . Ridership statistics are available for nearby subway

- . approx. 1500-2000 people per day
- Access to Shea across Roosevelt Ave on Game days is problematic.
  - . Mets to redesign the rotunda for the new Shea
- LIRR station only active during events (MP-LIRR)
  - . LIRR station being partially renovated
  - . What number or riders would be the threshold to make it a full-time station? (BE)
- Regarding Willets point: EDC has been told that a station will open full time once demand is in place.
- QMA would like access to its parking lot from GCP (BE)

### Circulation and Access

- Some kind of park-wide circulation (like a monorail) could reduce the need for cars in the Park (MB)
- Working on the Streetscape to encourage movement from NE Flushing Community (AJ-EDC)
- Would like to create a new pedestrian crossing over the river at 37th Street and a promenade on the east side of the Flushing River (AJ-EDC)
- Access to Willow Lake is by appointment only (MF-NRG)
  - . would not like to restore unrestricted pedestrian access
- Access between the Flushing Bay Promenade and Shea area is being reconfigured with new stadium (JK)
- There has been discussion of bringing people to the park by ferry (JL)
- Pedestrian access from the Van Wyck on the East side of the Park has always been problematic
- Parking
  - . Parking for Cultural Festivals is in the Shea Parking Lots (EC)
  - . Last year there were 8 days of conflict between Mets game and USTA
  - . the year before there were 3 (JL)
- There is no master plan for the greenway around the park (JK)
  - . Shea is incorporating pedestrian access from the north at the rotary
  - . a greenway could be routed around Meadow Lake
  - . 0515 Meeting Minutes 070201 DPRSTAKEHOLDERS.doc
  - . page 2 of 3
  - . from NE Flushing Community (AJ-EDC)



- Circulation Problems in the Park
  - . Need to drive through boathouse parking lot to get on Van Wyck (JL)
  - . People park on the road (JL)
  - . Is a one way traffic system feasible (like central park)
  - . Lack of signage for cars – once cars are in the park they should act appropriately (EM)

#### Relevant Developments in the Area of FMCP

- New Pool and Rink Recreation Center may entail a new entrance to the park from the Northeast (BE)
  - . Parking has not been extensively planned for these facilities
  - . parking may be located under the highway and the Allied Building is being demolished and might also become parking.
- There will be a public esplanade as part of the Queens Corridor project. (AJ-EDC)
  - . Need to understand how to make the connection between the esplanade and the park.
- Queens Botanical Garden is being partially reconstructed (MB)
- Flushing has a lot of large-scale housing development going on (MB)
- Corona is also experiencing significant growth at the moment (MB)
  - . But the Corona community is not always happy about big events in the Park
- Willet's Point (AJ-EDC)
  - . HPD has made it an urban renewal area
  - . planning 5500 units of housing
  - . potential 400,000 sf conference center
  - . 1.9 million sf of retail and mixed-use
  - . will be de-mapping streets in the area so a developer can come in with a clean slate
  - . will entail a new entrance to park from that corner (BE)
- Other Developments
  - . Bland Houses to be renovated
  - . Flushing Commons

#### Design Opportunities

- The Kissena Corridor project is an opportunity for an ecological agenda (MB)
- Areas under the highways could be more inviting (MB)

- Demolition of Allied Building (MB)
- Playgrounds (BE)
  - . Playground for all Children (long-finished) is a regional draw
  - . the skateboard park is coming (where should it go)
  - . the Unisphere is a world wide destination for skaters – who do a lot of damage
- Wet Design did a design for the unisphere
- Willow Lake (MF-NRG)
  - . Bird Blind
  - . Nature Center
  - . Community Service Based Maintenance
  - . Can there be access to WL area from E train?
  - . Need a way to cross the Kew Gardens interchange
- LIE/GCP/VWE Interchange Project (EM)
  - . Construction to start in 2011 and last 3-4 years – in EIS now Will need to rebuild about 8 pedestrian bridges – affords the opportunity to make sure the new bridges work with desired parks circulation
  - . connection between NYS Pavilion area and Ederle area will be redone as well
  - . opportunity to rethink relationship between highways and park
  - . FMCP has highways at, below, and above grade
- The Boathouse may be renovated (BE)

#### The Historic Park

- Landmarks (JoK)
  - . NYS Pavilion and QMA not landmarks but are eligible for National Register of Historic Places
  - . Unisphere is a landmark
  - . US Green Building Council to do a study on NYS Pavilion to be finished in June

#### General Discussion

- Everything from Meadow Lake South is really like a neighborhood park – to the North FMCP is much more of a regional Park

## Meeting Notes-Community Stakeholders Meeting

Date: Thursday February 1, 2007

Location: Queens Museum of Art

### Attendees:

Jorge Gydolin	MetroKids
Tom Finkelperl	Queens Museum of Art
Denise McClean	Queens Zoo
Valerie Smith	Queens Museum of Art
Anne Marie	Dean Petracca & Sons
Carol Conslato	Con Edison
Mark Gelfand	Terrace on the Park
Nancy Prince	DPR - Capital
Amanda Kraus	Row New York
Tom Lowenhaupt	CB3
Sari Dickson	NY Hospital Queens
Caren Mangiacapre	USTA
David Newman	NY Mets
Max Joel	Queens Botanical Garden
Kevin Doyel	Queens Theatre in the Park
Willy Mosquera	Queens Theatre in the Park
Sal Rapaglia	ENY Soccer
Alfonso Vargal	Allfut
Dino Dominguez	Allfut
Mark Scott	Queens Borough President's Office
Tom Campagna	Queens Borough President's Office
Henry Bunch	MetroKids
Marilyn Bitterman	CB7 - District Manager
Kim Ohanian	CB7 - Parks Chair
Ana Sánchez	President TASCA
Pat Beckles	TASCA / CB3
Richard Italiano	CB4
Patricia Dolan	FMCP Conservancy
David Strauss	Queens Museum of Art
Daniel Zausner	USTA National Tennis Center
Nicholas Quennell	Quennell Rothschild & Partners
Laurie Hawkinson	Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects
Henry Grosman	Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects
Estelle Cooper	DPR
Michael Bolger	DPR Capital - Queens Team
Bill Gilbert	DPR - FMCP

### Agenda:

The meeting opened with a presentation by the QRP/SMH team. The presentation showed initial analysis of Flushing Meadows Corona Park (based on data provided by Parks and site visits) and some preliminary results from our survey

of park users. The presentation set the tone and scope for the discussion to follow. Presented below is a summary of the discussion that ensued.

Comments have been summarized and organized according to the institutions and stakeholders present. Major themes and ideas have been highlighted as a way of teasing out the general concerns at-a-glance.

### Community Board 7 – Kim Ohanian & Marilyn Bitterman

- Would like a promenade/esplanade all the way around the park and along east side of Flushing River
- Places where people can go birding
- Linkages from the city to natural areas
- FMCP should have things for people of all ages
  - . batting cages
  - . skateboarding – a donor wants to build a skateboard park
  - . kayaking
  - . toddler play areas
  - . tennis
  - . concerts in summer at Ederle plaza
    - Conflicts between bikers and pedestrians a circulation problem

### NY Mets – David Newman

- The Corona Railyards are a blight – could they be made into an opportunity
- Would be in favor of bridging over the railyards for parking

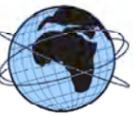
### Community Board 3 – Tom Lowenhaupt

- The map needs to show the whole Flushing Promenade
- Restore the promenade on the west side of Flushing Bay toward Laguardia
- damaged swan habitat

### Queens Museum of Art – Tom Finkelperl

- Fifty percent of museumgoers drive to the museum
  - . The GCP goes right by the park – there is an exit going west/east – if only there were a GCP exit going south for the Mets, USTA, and QMA people could come more easily and not get lost.
  - . congestion from USTA and Mets is a big problem

### Allfut – Alfonso Vargal & Dino Dominguez



#### **ENY Soccer - Sal Rapaglia**

- Should keep Shea stadium and use it as a soccer venue
- Bridging over railyards to build parking is a good idea
- Would like to see area near Fountain of the Planets cleaned up

#### **Row New York – Amanda Kraus**

- Access to boathouse is difficult
  - . work with young people who do not drive
  - . it is a mile walk from Shea area to the boathouse they don't let kids walk at night
  - . RNY picks them up from Shea in a van (not ideal)
  - . path under the LIE is also very scary at night

#### **TASCA – Ana Sanchez & Commodore Pat Beckles**

- Similar concerns about boathouse access
  - . students come from all 5 boroughs (over 300 students)
  - . classes are at night – access and safety are a factor in people's decision to enroll
- Concerns about water quality in Meadow Lake – sometimes people capsized
- The excluded area of the map (see above CB3) is a wetland which is needed to get some of the birds away from meadow lake
- Concerned that the boathouse deck is in need of serious repair

#### **Metrokids – Henry Bunch & Jorge Gydolin**

- 2000 kids play soccer in the park – need more fields so there is room for adults and kids to play soccer
- Perhaps there could be lights on the soccer fields to allow play at night
- Could not play during USTA events
- Would like a way to encourage people to go to museums and cultural institutions when they come to the park for soccer.

#### **Queens Borough President's Office – Mark Scott & Tom Campagna**

- Need to Examine water quality in the Lakes
  - . A dredging report was done in preparation for the Olympic bid
- Flushing Creek should also be cleaned
  - . stormwater runoff is a big problem
- NYS Pavillion must be saved and restored
  - . it has become unsafe and needs to be addressed now

- There is funding to shore up the infrastructure of the boathouse buildings \$3.5M
- QTIP is doing a major renovation right now
- \$1M earmarked for Unisphere repair
- Signage needs to be addressed

#### **Community Board 4 – Richard Italiano**

- How do we connect all areas of the park to one another?
  - . there was a trolley, but it was underused
  - . perhaps a monorail
- Need better lighting and signage
- Security is a big issue – has been pushing for a full-time police precinct in the park
- Parking is a big problem
  - . during large events there are cars all over the fields
  - . a multi-level garage would be good

#### **Baseball(?) – Did not sign sheet**

- Need more baseball fields
  - . 8 ballfields lost at College Pt
  - . 4 lost building USTA

#### **FMCP Conservancy – Patricia Dolan**

- Would like the marsh restored at Willow Lake
- Perhaps a nature center near Jewel Avenue in the West
- get rid of phragmites around Meadow and Willow Lakes
- event parking is a disaster

#### **USTA – Caren Mangiacapre**

- Better access to/from highway
- parking for people who come to play on the courts
- better access to public transportation

## Conversation with Department of City Planning- Queens Office

Date: Thursday March 15, 2007

Location: DCP – Queens – 120-55 Queensboro Blvd

Attendees:

Debra Carney	DCP – Queens
Fred Lee	DCP – Queens
Paul Phillips	DCP – Queens
Mark Phillips	DCP – Queens
Henry Grosman	Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects

The meeting opened with a brief introduction to the Strategic Framework Plan by HG. What followed was a discussion of the impact of the Park on the surrounding neighborhoods and the impact of planned or anticipated residential developments on the Park. The major points of this discussion are summarized below.

### Plans for Neighborhoods adjacent to FMCP

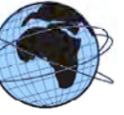
- Corona
  - . Growing at a very rapid pace
  - . Neighborhood is a mix of residents who have lived here for many years and many recent immigrants
  - . No anticipated zoning changes in the near future
- Forrest Hills
  - . May be up-zoned in the near future
  - . Perhaps 400 – 1000 new units of housing
- Willets Point
  - . A master plan is being prepared by EDC – to be developed by a private developer
  - . Development will incorporate 5000-6000 new units of housing
  - . Also mixed-use, retail, possible convention center and hotel
  - . 10-20 years in future
- Downtown Flushing
  - . Being developed according to DCP's Downtown Flushing Plan
  - . Area closest to FMCP rezoned to allow for residential development in a formerly industrial area
  - . Muss Development is first property developed according to plan
  - . 1100 units of housing
  - . 2500 parking spaces in parking garage
  - . Planned for 2009
  - . Municipal Lot in the heart of Downtown Flushing is also planned to be developed according to the Downtown Flushing Plan.

- . DFP also includes a Waterfront Access Plan
- . Ensures access along and preservation of view corridors to the Flushing River
- . Provided by developers

- Other Possible Rezoning
  - . DCP considering area east of new pool and north of rec center
  - . Would reinforce desired connection under Van Wyck from Rec Center area to the rest of the park
  - . Possible in the next 3-5 years
- General Notes
  - . The development in the Flushing and Willets Point areas anticipate that major upgrades to number 7 subway service will be required
  - . LIRR service may also increase
  - . All of the new developments will have 20% inclusionary housing
  - . May increase reliance on public transportation
  - . Area along the West side of the Flushing River (east of Willets Point) is undeveloped "green" space. – could connect to park
  - . Shea is moving to the east. Parking will be in current Shea location, but could be developed as housing sometime in the future.

### The Relationship of the Surrounding Neighborhood to the Park

- Public Safety
  - . A big issue especially for Corona – CD 4
  - . Councilman Monserrate has been working to establish a police precinct in the Park
  - . On-street lighting especially near the park is very poor
- Permeability / Access
  - . Need to provide better access to encourage more people to use the park
  - . The "West Park" (Terrace on the Park, Hall of Science, Zoo area) is the most permeable
  - . Would like to provide stronger link between marina and WF area
- Containment of Park Activities
  - . Large-scale events affect residents in neighboring areas – but this is unavoidable
  - . Providing better access would enhance the benefits of living near a major Park and offset the inevitable disadvantages
  - . By providing enough sports fields (soccer) we could relieve some of the pressure on other neighborhood parks and keep some areas of FMCP free of soccer for other uses
  - . Access should be restored to the Willow Lake area
  - . Large sections of Kew Gardens and Forest Hills are cut off from FMCP



# QUESTIONNAIRES & SURVEYS

## Summary of Questionnaire Responses

March 5, 2007

In collaboration with Cmsr. Estelle Cooper's office, we developed questionnaires, in accordance with the provision of the Contract. Surveys were sent to the Queens Community Boards, Local Community Organizations, Local Sports Organizations who utilize the Park, and the Institutions and Concessions in the Park. In addition, the survey was posted on the DPR website. Over 1000 surveys were sent out in four different languages, English, Spanish, Chinese and Russian. We received about 150 surveys from the groups listed above. While this is probably not a representative sampling of the population of Flushing/Corona community, the fact that these people took the time to respond may indicate the stronger interest on their part and therefore provide a more valuable picture of the community's concerns. Aside from the basic statistical data they include, such as how far from the Park they live, many of these responses reveal certain similar attitudes to the Park.

A meeting of the stakeholders, which included the aforementioned community groups, was held on February 1, 2007, to elicit ideas for the Park's future. This followed a meeting with DPR staff. At both meetings a supplemental questionnaire was distributed to seek individual's attitudes to the Park and what ideas they might have for the future. This produced a total of eleven responses from DPR staff and two from Stakeholders. Unlike the earlier questionnaires, these were, intentionally broader in the questions we asked and thus evoked more personal responses.

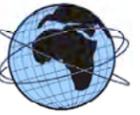
### Summary

While it is hard to summarize the results of such a broad-ranging effort we have identified certain themes which recur again and again.

1. Many people, both residents and stakeholders, feel that the Park would benefit from
  - a. Improved signage
  - b. More bathrooms
  - c. Better police presence
  - d. Better control of traffic during Mets games
  - e. Better garbage pickup

2. Many people responded positively to the scale and size of the Park and to its World's Fair heritage, although there seemed to be more references to the structures than to the overall layout of the Park as recalling the World's Fairs. (It is probable that most respondents are too young to have visited the 1964 World's Fair!)
3. Several people expressed an interest in restoring access (pedestrian and bicycle) to the Willow Lake area.
4. Many people were resentful of the encroachment of the Mets and USTA – especially when their events coincided. This group included local residents whose lives are clearly affected by the traffic and crowds, both within the Park and in their neighborhoods, as well as Park users and DPR personnel who resent the inconvenience to their ability to get to the Park and the damage the overflow parking causes.

Specific recommendations from individuals with obvious strong points of view included : replacing asphalt with porous paving, encouraging art in the Park (sponsored by QMA), removing artificial turf playing fields, and creating a Flushing Meadows Corona Park Conservancy on the lines of the Central Park Conservancy.



**Flushing Meadow Corona Park Framework and Restoration Plan**

**Stakeholder Questionnaire**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How would you rate the following:

- |                                       |                                    |                               |                               |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pedestrian access to the Park?        | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor |
| Bicycle access to the Park?           | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor |
| Vehicular access to the Park?         | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor |
| Pedestrian access to the Institution? | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor |
| Bicycle access to the Institution?    | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor |
| Vehicular access to the Institution?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor |

2. From the perspective of the agency/group/institution you represent, what are the five most critical changes needed to improve the experience of your facility or use group?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What are the five most critical changes that would improve the experience of the park in general for all users?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

4. If you represent an agency/concession/institution at the Park, what capital improvements or operational changes are you considering that may impact Park planning?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. If you represent an agency/concession/institution at the Park, who are your primary user groups?

What ages? \_\_\_\_\_

Where do they come from? \_\_\_\_\_

How do they arrive at the Park? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What's the best thing about the Park?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What's the worst thing about the Park?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. From your perspective, how important is preserving the historical legacy of the World's Fairs?

- Very
- Somewhat
- Not Important

9. Do your employees use the park, if so how?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. In general, what is your vision for the Park? What should be its identity and function?

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11. If not addressed above, how would you suggest improving:

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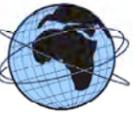
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STAKEHOLDER QUESTIONNAIRE							
	QUEENS THEATER	QUEENS ZOO	QUEENS BOTANICAL GDN.	NY HALL OF SCIENCE	PITCH & PUTT	USTA	TASCA
1. How would you rate the following:							
Pedestrian access to the Park?	F	E	F	E	F	F	F
Bicycle access to the Park?	E	E	F	E	F	F	F
Vehicular access to the Park?	E	F	F	F	F	F	E
Pedestrian access to the Institution?	E	E	F	F	F	F	D
Bicycle access to the Institution?	E	E	F	E	F	F	F
Vehicular access to the Institution?	E	D	E	E	D	D	E
2. From the perspective of the agency/group/institution you represent, what are the five most critical changes needed to improve the experience of your facility or user group?							
	Control traffic during Mets games	More parking on 111th St	Wayfinding signage	Wayfinding signage from 111th St	Separate parking for customers	Parking	Boathouse needs major repair
	Discontinue festivals	Better signage	ADA Access over Cigs Pt Blvd	Better signage from park	Better access during Mets games	Traffic flow	Security Fencing
	Fix up Towers	Advertising	Impacts of new C53 on parking	Security fence on 111th St	Broken food gates cause flooding	Limit conflict with Mets games	
		Relieve congestion during big events	Signage on Van Wyck	No soccer or volleyball in open areas	Signage	More land	
		Improve access		More security at night			
3. What are the five most critical changes that would improve the experience of the park in general for all users?							
	Keep park clean	More parking	Signage in park	Ban vehicular traffic	Signage	Parking	Drainage
	Improve signage	Identify location in case of emergency	Better Security & more restrooms	Enforce speeding tags	More restrooms throughout park	Better cleaning	Bathrooms
	Improve access via public transport	Signage	More garbage containers	More security		Security	Separate bikes from pedestrians
		Lack of central police station	Better trolley program	More soccer fields		Drainage	More benches, better garbage removal
		Need new Zoo Master Plan	Better traffic & pedestrian circulation	More restrooms			Fewer big events (e.g. Billy Graham)
4. If you represent an agency/organization/institution at the Park, what capital improvements or operational changes are you considering that may impact Park planning?							
	Fix up Towers	New Jaguar exhibit with tram cars, vehicles	Improve Access over Cigs Pt Blvd	Security fencing	NA	None	Improving landscape, repairing deck and bathrooms
5. If you represent an agency/organization/institution at the Park, who are your primary user groups?							
	General Public	General Public & school groups	60% women, 40% men, 14% ethnic diverse	Families, teachers, youth groups			260 members
What age?	All	All	Avg. 47, 50% over 44	All	All	All	15-30
Where do they come from?	Queens & Metro NY	70% Queens, 6% LI, 25% other brocs.	6% Queens	Downtown region	5 boroughs & LI	To State	5 boroughs & LI
How do they arrive at the Park?	Car, bus, subway	70% car, 30% public transp.	41% car, 45% walk, 14% bike	Buses, subway, auto	36% auto, 6% publ. transp.	Car, train	Most by auto, some walk or bike
6. What's the best thing about the Park?							
	Great cultural institutions, lakes, fields	Open space	Open space, cultural instns, Unsphere & Wilds Fair legacy	Multiverse, Major stadium	Lots of activities	Diversity of uses	The lake's. Low Cost sailing in safe setting
7. What's the worst thing about the Park?							
	Not enough bathrooms	Air traffic, highway traffic, signage	Overcrowding, garbage, vandalism, Crowding, large events, signage	Security at night & weekends	Visitors don't clean up their garbage	Access	Flooding and lack of bathrooms
8. From your perspective, how important is preserving the historical legacy of the World's Fair?							
	Somewhat	Very	Very	Very	Somewhat	Somewhat	Very
9. Do your employees use the park, if so how?							
	Yes - cultural instns	Baseball, exercise, other cultural instns	Exercise, other cultural instns, research at Omnid Ctr	Baseball, exercise, other cultural instns	BBQ's fishing, bike riding, walking	Baseball, exercise	Members sail, walk, help trash pickup & maintain landscape
10. In general, what is your vision for the Park? What should be its identity and function?							
	Embrace all cultures, offer north & culture, draw on wider demographic	Queens Cultural center, 2nd largest park in City	Highlight community activities, Promote as "heart" of NYC Parks & for its history	Continue to be best & most used park in NYC		Best multi-purpose park in NYC	Multi-cultural, family oriented park which promotes diversity of activities
		Should be promoted as tourist attraction					
11. If not addressed above, how would you suggest improving the park?							
	Improve signage & access	Need Park Conservancy like CPC	Better maintenance of plantings, better signage & security, more sustainable landscaping				More shade trees

DPR PERSONNEL QUESTIONNAIRE											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1. What do you like about the Park?	Bigness, World's Fair memories, Cultural institutions, diverse trees, Good access from subway	Open space, open water bodies, variety of birds, long flat walking paths, historic remnants of the World's Fair and Unsphere	Bigness/World's Fair history	Enormous size and opportunity for variety of program elements	Good auto access	Open space. New postmark	Size, programs	Openness and historic connections in its many attractions	Size & topography	The zoo	Long interesting trails are beautiful vistas. People doing many different things.
2. What do you dislike about the Park?	Noise from highways, Poor maintenance, Lack of design consistency, Water features don't work	Very poor planting layouts & choice of plants. Poor drainage. USTA & Met's parking on 111th St. Wayfinding doesn't work	No website. Lack of police presence and poor sense of security	Difficult access on foot or bike. Nearly 100% of park is closed. No cover smells terrible. Security is a problem	Visit areas are not maintained, uninvited and unlit. Lakes need to be remediated. Access points poorly defined. USTA causes enormous problems.	Interference. Out of date forgotten World's Fair structures	Parking for USTA, better access from subway, more rangers esp. at weekends	Poor drainage	USTA expansion into temporary structures and parking	Abundance of underutilized resources & facilities. Museums are poorly maintained. Most see failure in the experience.	
3. What changes would you like to see?	Green buffer at roads. Restore water features. More varied topography	A real Flushing Meadows Conservancy. Team of gardeners. Better access to Willow Lake with access to birding spots	More vendors...a green market? More picnic tables & bike racks	Reopen Willow Lake areas but keep natural. Better cycling facilities. Rehab NY's Pavilion	Resolve Metro/USTA parking and traffic problems, improve signage and lighting	More horticultural variety. More topographic interest. Remove or renovate unneeded structures	Better signage. Better lighting. Unified curbs, planting, benches, etc.	Remove all asphalt parking in green areas and replace with porous pavement	Better clarity in the park's organization. Improve water bodies (value for water fowl)	Bring people to the park. Plan activities to encourage interplay. More art and related activities.	
4. Other comments	QMA should show up in the park. Quality outdoor cafe (near QMA7)	Police should not harass DPR personnel during Mets games		Could be a greenway trail for pedestrians and cyclists, especially if Willow Lake opened.		More topographic relief would give park more interesting scale and visual interest	Park needs larger playgrounds. Better edge definition at traps. More toilets. Better organized parking		No more plastic playing fields. Shea parking lot should be reestablished as a wetland		

**Flushing Meadow Corona Park Framework and Restoration Plan**

**Community Questionnaire**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Community Board: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How close do you live to the Park?

- Within ½ mile (1-10 Blocks)
- ½ to 1 mile (10-15 Blocks)
- Over 1 mile

2. Do you usually walk, drive or bike to the Park?

- Walk
- Drive
- Bike

3. If you walk, how would you rate access from your neighborhood to the park and what entrance do you use?

- Excellent
- Fair
- Poor

Entrance: \_\_\_\_\_

4. If you drive, how would you rate access from your neighborhood to the park and what entrance do you use?

- Excellent
- Fair
- Poor

Entrance: \_\_\_\_\_

5. If you bike, how would you rate access from your neighborhood to the park and what entrance do you use?

- Excellent
- Fair
- Poor

Entrance: \_\_\_\_\_

6. How often do you use the park?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 or more times a week | <input type="checkbox"/> 4-8 times a year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once a week            | <input type="checkbox"/> 1-4 times a year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 times a month      | <input type="checkbox"/> Once a year      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once a month           | <input type="checkbox"/> Never            |

7. Which part of the park do you most frequently visit, see attached map?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Core World’s Fair Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Queens Botanical Garden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> World’s Fair Marina        | <input type="checkbox"/> Shea Stadium            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hall of Science            | <input type="checkbox"/> USTA                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queens Zoo                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Meadow Lake             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queens Museum of Art       | <input type="checkbox"/> Willow Lake             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queens Theater in the Park |  |

8. How familiar are you with the other areas of the park other than the area you most frequently visit?

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very Familiar     | List Areas: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat Familiar | _____             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unfamiliar        | _____             |

9. Do you use other areas of the park other than the area you most frequently visit?

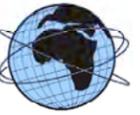
- |                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | List Areas: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No  | _____             |

10. What are the primary reasons for your use of the park (check all that apply)?

- Active Recreation (sports: soccer, baseball/softball, cricket etc.)
- Passive Recreation (picnic, strolling, people watching etc)
- Attend Events (US Open, Mets Games, fairs, festivals)
- Visit Cultural Institutions (Hall of Science, Queen Museum of Art, Botanical Garden, and Queens Theater in the Park etc).
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

11. If you use the park for Active Recreation, what type of activities do you play (check all that apply)?

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer            | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball/Softball | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket           | <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biking            | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Skating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating           | <input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jogging           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball        |                                      |



12. If you use the park for Passive Recreation, what type of (check all that apply)?

- Picnic
- Barbeque
- Strolling
- Hiking
- Bird Watching
- People Watching
- Fishing
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

13. If you visit Cultural Institutions which ones do you visit (check all that apply)?

- Hall of Science
- Queens Zoo
- USTA Tennis Center
- Queens Theater in the Park
- Shea Stadium
- Queens Museum of Art
- Queens Botanical Garden

14. What other types of uses/features/facilities would you like to see in the Park (check all that apply)?

- Large formal gathering space
- Outdoor performance facilities
- Natural / Wooded areas
- Pastoral areas
- Botanical flower gardens
- Barbeque / Picnic area
- Outdoor swimming pool
- More soccer fields
- More softball fields
- More tennis courts
- More basketball courts
- Other types of sports (please list) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- More Playgrounds
- Bike Trails
- Jogging Path

Other uses/features/facilities not listed above:

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15. Comments: Please provide any additional comments and/or suggestions you have regarding Flushing Meadow Corona Park (for example, the best and/or worst things about the park).

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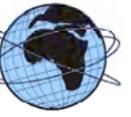


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# NYDPR DATA



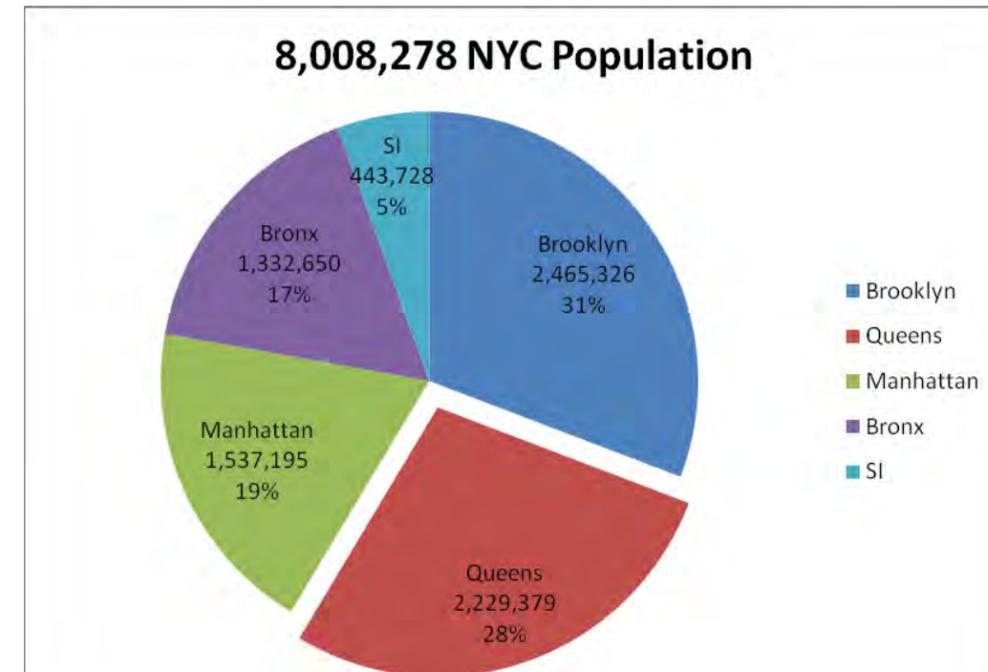
Credit: NYC Department of City Planning

### Neighborhoods

There are five community boards, CB 3, CB 4, CB 6, CB 7, and CB 8, which are adjacent to Flushing Meadows Corona Park. CB3 is comprised of the following neighborhoods: East Elmhurst, North Corona, and Jackson Heights. CB4 is comprised of Elmhurst and Corona. CB6 is made up of Rego Park and Forest Hills. CB7 consists of Flushing, Whitestone, College Point, and Clearview. CB8 includes the neighborhoods of Kew Gardens Hills, Briarwood, Pomonok, Utopia, Hillcrest, Fresh Meadows, Jamaica Hills, Jamaica Estates, and Holliswood. The residents in the community boards surrounding the park are made-up of the following demographics.

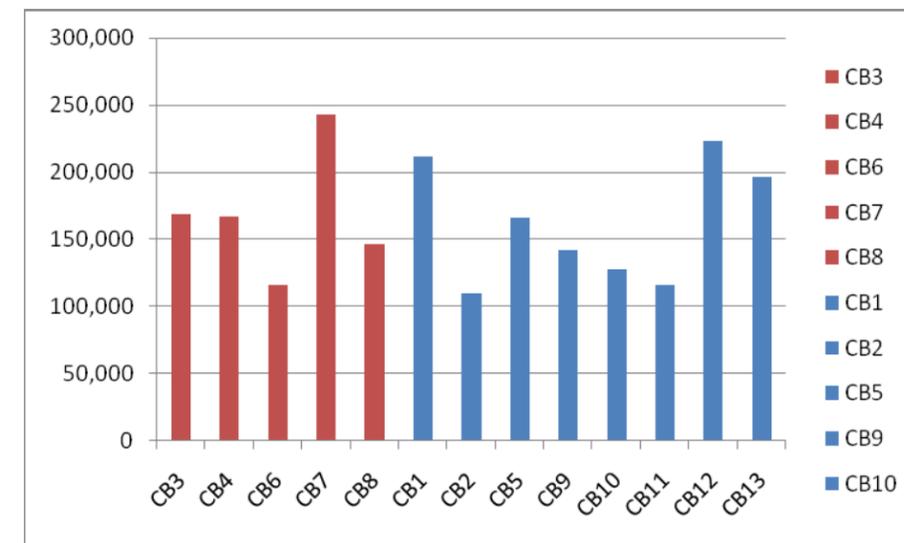
### Population

The overall City's population is just over 8 million while the Queens' population is over 2 million.

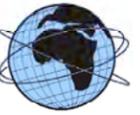


NYC Population by Borough

Of the five community boards that are adjacent to the park, CB7 has the largest population with over 240,000 residents; CB6 has the smallest population with just over 115,000 residents. CB7 comprises 13% of the Queens' population while CB6 comprises 5% of the population.

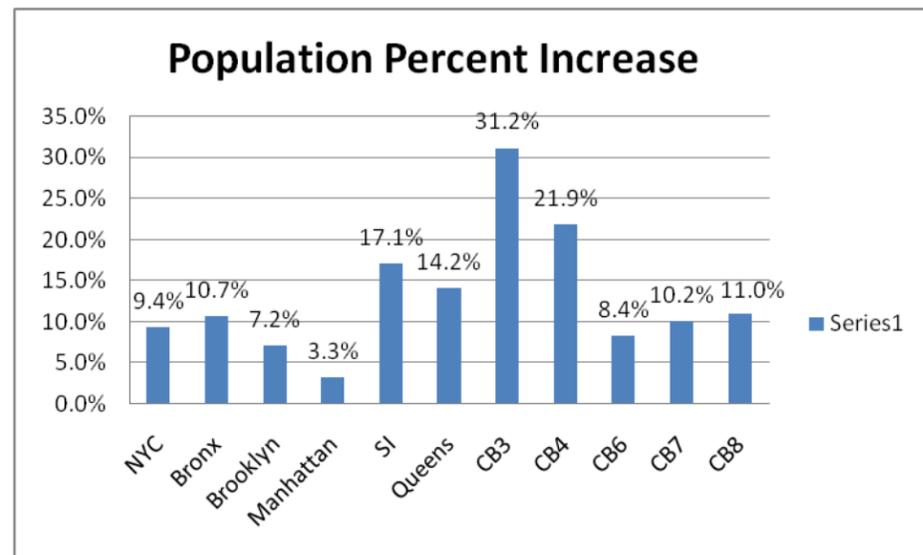


Queens Population by Community Board



**Change in Population from 1990-2000**

Every Community board has had an increase in population since the 1990 census; however, some more than others. CB3 has grown the most with a 31% increase in the population since the 1990 Census. CB4 has the second highest percentage increase since the 1990 census, with 21% increase in population. CB 7 and CB8 have the same amount of increase in population with around 10% while CB 6 has the lowest increase, 8%. The overall city population has increased but the rate of increase has only been 9%. The Queens’ population has increased by 14%.



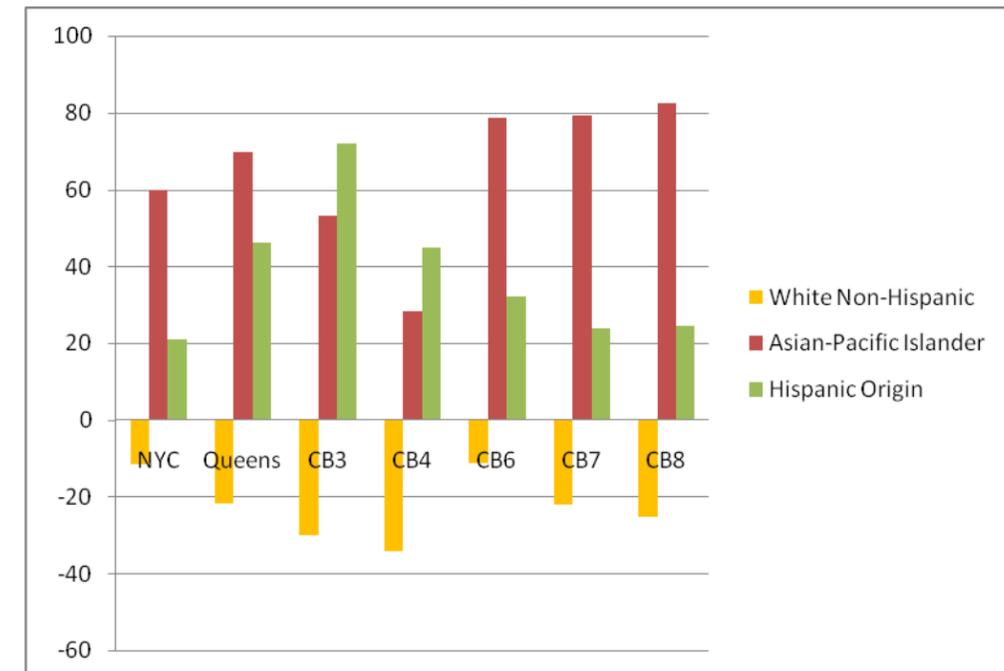
Percent of Change in Population from 1990-2000 for NYC, Queens, and 5 Surrounding Community Boards

**Heritage<sup>1</sup>**

The majority of people in CB3 (57.5%) and CB4 (49.7%) identified themselves as being from Hispanic Origin. In CB6, CB7, and CB8 the majority of people identified as being white non-Hispanic. The second most popular identification in all the community boards, except for CB3, was Asian or Pacific Islander non-Hispanic. In CB3, the second most popular identification was White non-Hispanic and the third was Asian or Pacific Islander non-Hispanic. However, the most interesting data is that even though it was the second most popular, there was actually a 30% decrease in population of White non-Hispanic and a 53% increase in Asian or Pacific Islander non-Hispanic. The same is true in all the Community boards, while the White non-Hispanic population in all the community boards decreased, Asian or Pacific Islander non-Hispanic has either the highest or one of the highest percentage increases of all the races identified in all the five Community boards. White non-Hispanic makes up 35% of the City’s population, Hispanic origin 27%, Black/African American non-Hispanic 24%, and Asian-Pacific Islander non-Hispanic 9%. The majority of the overall city’s population identifies as White non-Hispanic; this population has decreased by about 11% since 1990. The second most popular identity was Hispanic origin. This group

<sup>1</sup> Since the 2000 Census was the first time respondents were permitted to “check one or more” race categories, the 1990-2000 change may overstate a loss or understate an increase in a race category.

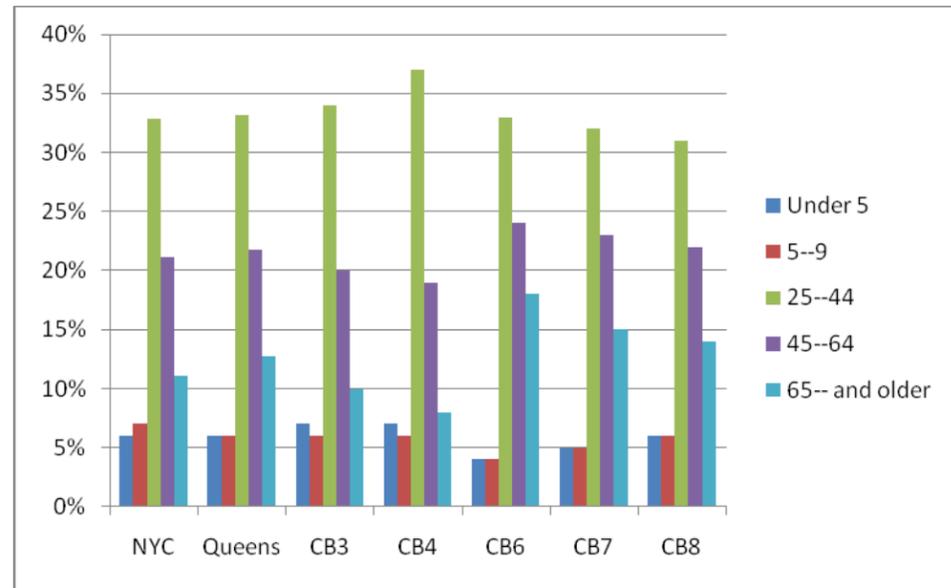
increased by about 21%. However, the highest percentage increase in population from 1990-2000 census has been the Asian- Pacific Islander non-Hispanic population with an increase of over 59% (the only other population with a higher increase was “some other race non-Hispanic” which had a 177% increase; however, the actual population is only .7% of the entire NYC population). The same is true in Queens. White non-Hispanic makes up the majority of the population but has decreased by 21%. Black African American non-Hispanic also makes up the third most of the population but has only increased by 8%. Whereas, Hispanic origin and Asian-Pacific Islander non-Hispanic have had the highest increase with 46% and 69% increase respectively (again with the exception of “some other race non-Hispanic” which had a 323% increase however, the actual population is only 1.3% of the entire Queens population).



Percent of Change in Selected Population from 1990-2000

**Age**

In terms of age, there is the same trend with all of NYC, Queens, and the individual five community boards. The highest percentage is those 25-44, which is either at or around 33% of the population for NYC, Queens, and the five individual community boards. The second highest is 45-64, which is either at or around 21%. The third highest is 65 and older, which is either at or around 11%. The same trend continues throughout all the age groups. For example, those under 5 generally make up around 7% of the population and 5-9 also make up around 6% of the population. CB6 and CB7 stray a bit with 4% and 5% of the population under 5 and ages 5-9 respectively. At the same time, CB6 and CB7 again stray with 18% and 15% of the population 65 years and over respectively. This shows that the makeup of CB6 and CB7 is composed of an older population than the other community boards surrounding the park.



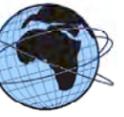
Percentage Make-up of Population by Age

### Income Support

CB4 has the highest percentage (34%) of its population on a form of income support; whereas, CB 6 has the lowest percentage (16%).

### Bibliography

NYC Department of City Planning. *District Profiles*. December 2007  
 <<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/lucds/cdstart.shtml>>



# GIS RESTORATION FRAMEWORK PLAN & SUMMARY

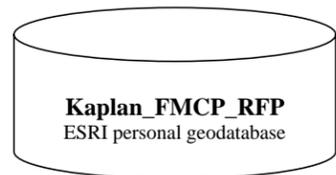
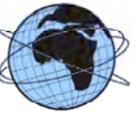
## GIS USAGE IN THE FMCP FRAMEWORK PLAN

The GIS information called the ESRI Personal Geodatabase Flushing Meadows Corona Park Restoration Framework Plan, taken from the 2004 FMCP Restoration Framework Plan funded by the J.M. Kaplan Fund and NYC DPR, was a valuable starting point for our investigations.

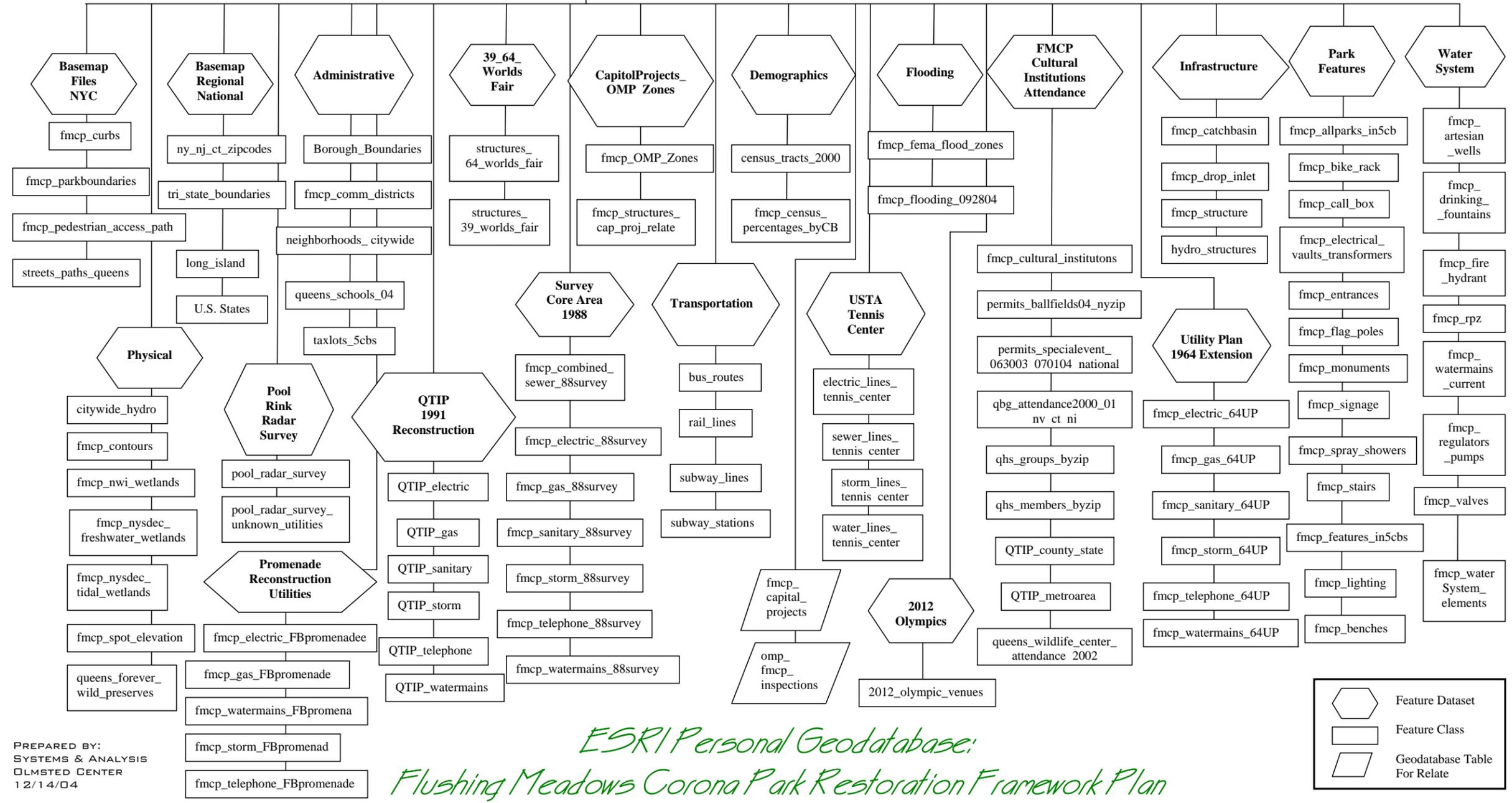
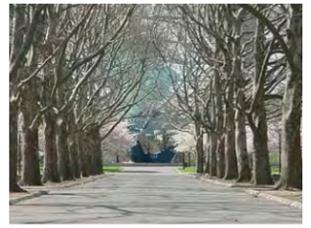
Flushing Meadows Corona Park has undergone much change since its creation for the 1939 World's Fair. Using the GIS methodology of "layering" information, we overlaid different features from different time periods in a single "neutral" base map. This GIS derived base map was used three ways:

- This map formed the basis for our many conceptual plans included within the report.
- We were able to draw complex relationships among disparate physical features of the Park's landscape and to assess potential design strategies in the context of the entire region around the Park.
- Because the GIS database functioned as a single clearinghouse for all of our information about the Park, it was very easy to see what data was missing or incomplete. This allowed us to make specific recommendations about what studies and surveys will be required to complete each aspect of the strategic framework plan.

The following illustrates the organization of the ESRI Personal Geodatabase: Flushing Meadows Corona Park Restoration Framework Plan.



- Basemap Aligned CAD Drawings Available**
- Carousel Comfort Station
  - Former Ederle Site
  - Jurassic Playground Layout
  - Isle Metzger Seating Area
  - Shea Stadium Lot Grading
  - Jurassic Playground Grading & Utility
  - Queens Botanical Garden Grading
  - Proposed Pool / Rink Bldg.
  - USTA Tennis Center
  - Wildlife Center Topo Survey
  - Triassic Playground
  - Triassic Playground Layout
  - DEP CSO Facility



PREPARED BY:  
SYSTEMS & ANALYSIS  
OLMSTED CENTER  
12/14/04

*ESRI Personal Geodatabase:  
Flushing Meadows Corona Park Restoration Framework Plan*

