

Commentary/Op-Ed - June 2018

# Op-Ed: Revitalizing New York's Aging Parks Infrastructure

With more than 100 million parks visitors each year and the city's population at a record high, New York's 1,700 public parks have never been busier. But age and underinvestment in basic maintenance in has taken a toll. By investing wisely in parks' revitalization, these essential open spaces can continue to thrive into the next century and beyond.

by Eli Dvorkin

New Yorkers are familiar with the consequences of aging public infrastructure. Exhibit A: the subways. But another vital piece of public infrastructure is also several decades old, years behind on basic maintenance, and nearing a breaking point: New York City's parks system.

In this *Gotham Gazette* op-ed, CUF Managing Editor Eli Dvorkin asserts that age, record usage, and underinvestment in basic maintenance are taking a toll on New York City's public parks. Parks have benefited countless New Yorkers for well over a century; by investing wisely in their revitalization, these essential open spaces can continue to thrive into the next century and beyond.

Read the op-ed here.

This op-ed is a continuation of the Center for an Urban Future's extensive research on aging infrastructure in New York, including the recent study, *A New Leaf: Revitalizing New York City's Aging Parks Infrastructure*.

**Photo Credit: John Surico**

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