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## NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLYMAN WALTER T. MOSLEY 57<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

April 27, 2020

Mr. James Johnson Corporation Counsel New York City Law Department 100 Church Street New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr. Johnson,

I write to you in opposition to the Parks Without Borders redesign of Fort Greene Park. Conversations with constituents has shown that this initiative is more of a redesign of the North West section of the park rather than a maintenance and repair project. I share my constituent's concerns of removing mature trees and the effects this will have on air quality, local animal/pollinator populations and overall health of the immediate community, specifically particulate matter and asthma rates. Preservation of our green spaces is of primary importance and we must keep existing trees along with planting new trees to be proactive in helping mitigate negative impacts of climate change.

There is widespread agreement that the North West area of Fort Greene Park needs major repair and maintenance, however, my constituency has no desire for a full redesign of this section of the park. Additionally, with the impending Brooklyn Hospital and LIU development projects, this project increases the risk of browning within Fort Greene Park. The Community Counterproposals offered by Friends of Fort Greene Park offer numerous restoratives and enhancing ideas that will give this section of the park the long-needed updates it deserves without drastically altering this well-established aspect of the community.

I ask that you sit and meet with community members to discuss what improvements, short of a redesign, are acceptable to the community. Maintenance and repairs to Fort Greene Park must not come at the expense of existing trees and character of Fort Greene Park and the community. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

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Walter T. Mosley New York State Assemblyman, 57th Assembly District

c: Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver Brooklyn Parks Commissioner Martin Maher