

# 2016 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## AGENCY NAME

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

## DIVISION

Planning

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## AGENCY DESCRIPTION (Max characters 3000)

The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation manages 14 percent of the land in New York City. These assets range from playgrounds and large parks, to tranquil wooded areas and miles of beaches. Parks serve as New Yorkers' backyards, as meeting areas for outdoor play and recreation - but also as critical engines for economic growth and development.

NYC Parks' mission is to plan resilient and sustainable parks, public spaces, and recreational amenities, build a park system for present and future generations, and care for parks and public spaces to benefit New Yorkers across the five boroughs.

Through an effort to improve the quality, accessibility, efficiency and sustainability of our city parks by increasing investment in underserved neighborhoods and expanding parkland: NYC Parks' **Community Parks Initiative**, at the center of the Mayor's plan, is completely redesigning and reconstructing parks in neighborhoods across the city with the greatest needs --35 of which are nearing the construction phase.

NYC Parks is also leading in innovative park design with **Parks Without Borders**, a new design approach that focuses on improving park entrances, edges, and spaces adjacent to parks. By extending parks into communities, Parks Without Borders will improve New Yorkers' access to quality parks.

Ongoing work to care for our parks has:

- Reconnected the City's two most northern boroughs, Manhattan and The Bronx, when NYC Parks' historic High Bridge was reopened.
- Re-energized Flushing Meadow Corona Park in Queens, one of New York's largest parks, drawing visitors from around the globe.
- Reinforced our commitment to growing greenspaces by meeting our goal to plant 1,000,000 trees.

The work of the agency goes far beyond the maintenance of New York City's nearly 30,000 acres. Parks is the City's leading programmer of cultural, athletic and social activities, including nature walks, concerts, learn-to-swim classes, sports clinics, historic house tours, and much more. Each year Parks hosts annual events such as WinterJam, Adventures NYC, and the Fall Field Day.

The Parks Commissioner is appointed by the Mayor to oversee and direct the work of the agency. The Commissioner appoints Deputy Commissioners, Borough Commissioners, and Assistant Commissioners who are responsible for managing the agency's divisions. These senior officials supervise the work of thousands of Parks employees. They work with elected officials to complete capital improvements for parks, playgrounds, and recreation centers. They work with the private sector to sponsor free public events. They get the community involved in Parks through volunteer initiatives and educational and athletic programming in recreation and nature centers. They prepare Parks' budget and monitor the work of Parks' ice-skating skating rinks, golf courses and other concessions.

## UNIT DESCRIPTION (Max characters 1000 )

*The Planning Division is engaged in planning for the City's parks and open spaces, including:*

- Resiliency planning
- Strategic planning and analysis
- Conceptual plans
- Environmental review
- Real estate management
- Site analysis and research

## POSITION TITLE (Max characters 100)

Planning Division Intern

## INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES (Max characters 1500 )

*Participate in a variety of resiliency and climate change adaptation projects as needed:*

- Research and draft memoranda on resiliency and park issues, project background and proposals
- Review conceptual plans, design documents, environmental impact statements, reports, and public outreach documents
- Participate in interagency sessions to review designs, discuss issues, brainstorm solutions, and evaluate feasibility
- Coordinate with project stakeholders and participate in outreach events
- Prepare materials, maps and graphics for meetings with senior staff, partner agencies, or the public

## QUALIFICATIONS/SPECIAL SKILLS/AREA OF STUDY (Max characters 1500 )

- Planning or landscape background is preferred, but not required
- Demonstrated interest in urban and park planning, and/or climate change resilience
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Strong writing, analytical and organizational skills
- Strong, independent problem solving skills
- Familiarity with ArcGIS and Adobe Illustrator preferred

Self-direction, critical thinking and strong communication skills are essential.

## APPLICATION PROCESS (Max characters 700 )

Please email cover letter and resume to [Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov](mailto:Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov)

## SALARY RANGE

Unpaid

Internship may be used to fulfill college credit requirement

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / COMMENTS (Max characters 700 )

Please submit along with your resume and cover letter the following: writing sample (2 pages max) and optional portfolio

The Planning and Parklands Division is seeking to hire one (1) intern to support resiliency and climate change adaptation efforts. Work may include contributing to the preparation and review of master plans and park designs, engaging project stakeholders, and planning and participating in community engagement events. Interns are given a broad range of professional development opportunities and will be encouraged to provide creative input in to projects and tasks. Learn more about the work of the Division at: [nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/planning](http://nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/planning)