



Annual Report
2018
NYC DESIGN

Contents

About the Public Design Commission	2
Commissioners	3
Staff	3
Conservation Advisory Group	3
Design Review	4
2018 Year in Review	7
Submissions by Type	8
Structures	9
Parks, Open Spaces, and Streetscapes	10
Artworks	11
Private Structures on or over City-owned Land	12
Carry-over Projects	12
Submissions Acted or Commented Upon	13
Review Cycles	13
Submissions and Projects by Lead Agency	14
Submissions and Projects by Borough	15
Highlighted Projects by Borough	17
Special Projects and Interagency Initiatives	29
The City's Art Collection	30
General Guidelines on Monuments and Memorials	34
Submission Requirements for Art	35
The Archive	36
City Hall Tour Program	37
Open House New York	38
Epicenter: The Black Experience Through the Eyes of City Hall	39
Designing New York: Quality Affordable Housing	40
Designing New York: Safer Streets for People	41
Annual Awards for Excellence in Design	42
Other Collaborations and Professional Development	44
Commissioner Biographies	46
Staff Biographies	49

The Public Design Commission



1926



2018

The Public Design Commission (PDC) is New York City's design review agency. Established as the Municipal Art Commission in 1898, the agency was renamed the Public Design Commission in 2008 to better reflect its mission and purview. As an advocate for excellence and innovation in the public realm, the PDC works to ensure the quality and viability of public projects, programs, and services for New Yorkers in all five boroughs.

The PDC reviews permanent works of architecture, landscape architecture, and art proposed on or over City-owned property. The PDC also acts as caretaker and curator of the City's public art collection, which is located throughout public buildings and open spaces in New York City.

The Commission comprises 11 members, including an architect, landscape architect, painter, sculptor, three lay members, and representatives of the Brooklyn Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York Public Library, and the Mayor. Members serve pro bono and meet monthly to review and vote on City projects.

The PDC maintains an extensive archive of projects reviewed by the Commission since 1902, documenting more than 7000 sites throughout New York City and providing a unique view into the history of the City's public works.

The PDC's jurisdiction and procedures are outlined in Chapter 37 of the New York City Charter and the Rules of Practice and Procedure. For more information, see www.nyc.gov/designcommission.

Commissioners

Signe Nielsen, President, Landscape Architect
Philip E. Aarons, Vice President, Lay Member
Laurie Hawkinson, Architect
Manuel Miranda, Lay Member
Richard Moore, Brooklyn Museum
Susan Morgenthau, The New York Public Library
Ethel Sheffer, Mayor's Representative
Dr. Merryl H. Tisch, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
Shin-pei Tsay, Secretary, Lay Member
Mary Valverde, Sculptor
Hank Willis Thomas, Painter

Staff

Justin Garrett Moore, Executive Director
Keri Butler, Deputy Executive Director
Grace Han, Director of Capital Projects
Rebecca Macklis, Senior Urban Design Manager
Jenna E. Miller, Urban Design & Policy Manager
Carolina Llano, Project Manager
Julianna Monjeau, Archivist & Senior Records Manager
Mary Beth Betts, City Hall Tour Manager
Gail Cornell, Gary Deane, Gail Green, Deirdre LaPorte, and Patricia Orfanos, Docents

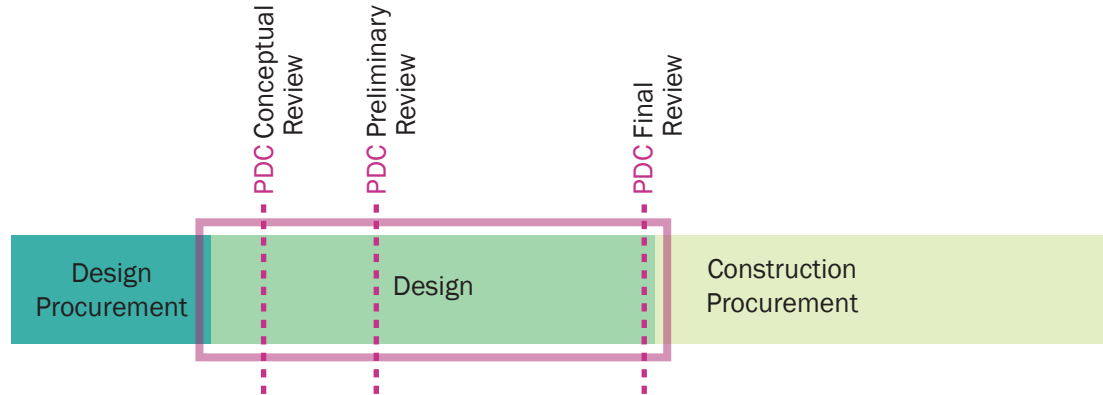
Conservation Advisory Group

The Conservation Advisory Group (CAG) was established to advise the PDC on projects specific to art and building conservation. CAG includes conservators, art historians, artists, and preservationists who serve pro bono.

Lucy Belloli, former Senior Conservator, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
Dr. Michele H. Bogart, Professor, Department of Art, SUNY Stony Brook
Lauren Bradley, Associate Conservator of Paintings, Brooklyn Museum
Lisa Bruno, Carol Lee Shen Chief Conservator, Brooklyn Museum
Phyllis Samitz Cohen, Director of Adopt-a-Monument/Mural Programs, The Municipal Art Society
Isabelle Duvernois, Associate Conservator, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
Stephen E. Gottlieb, AIA and formerly of WASA
Kendra Roth, Associate Objects Conservator, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
John Willenbecher, Artist and former Art (PDC) Commission member

Design Review

A Typical Capital Project Schedule



When determining whether to approve or reject proposals, the Commission considers a diverse range of design parameters, including the unique context of the site and surrounding area, the history of the site and project, the durability and resiliency of the materials, the sustainability and maintainability of the design, the appropriateness of the design in terms of how it will facilitate the desired function and program, and how to best serve the public through long-term planning and innovative solutions.

The PDC has developed guidelines for certain types of projects intended to provide a general sense of designs the Commission supports, clarify requirements, provide guidance to applicants, and streamline the review process. In addition, staff has worked with City agencies to develop expedited review strategies for prototypical and standardized designs and projects with small scopes.

Due to the iterative nature of design development, the PDC has established multiple levels of review – Conceptual, Preliminary, and Final – that are integrated into typical project schedules established by City capital agencies. The charts on these two pages indicates where the different levels of PDC review fit within a typical capital project schedule. Individual projects may be submitted multiple times within a year as the design progresses through the levels of review.

Conceptual

Conceptual review is required for all artworks, ground-up buildings, major infrastructure projects, master plans, other large-scale or complex projects, as well as projects that are subject to the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP). Submissions are made early in the design process when drawings are at the pre-schematic level.

Preliminary

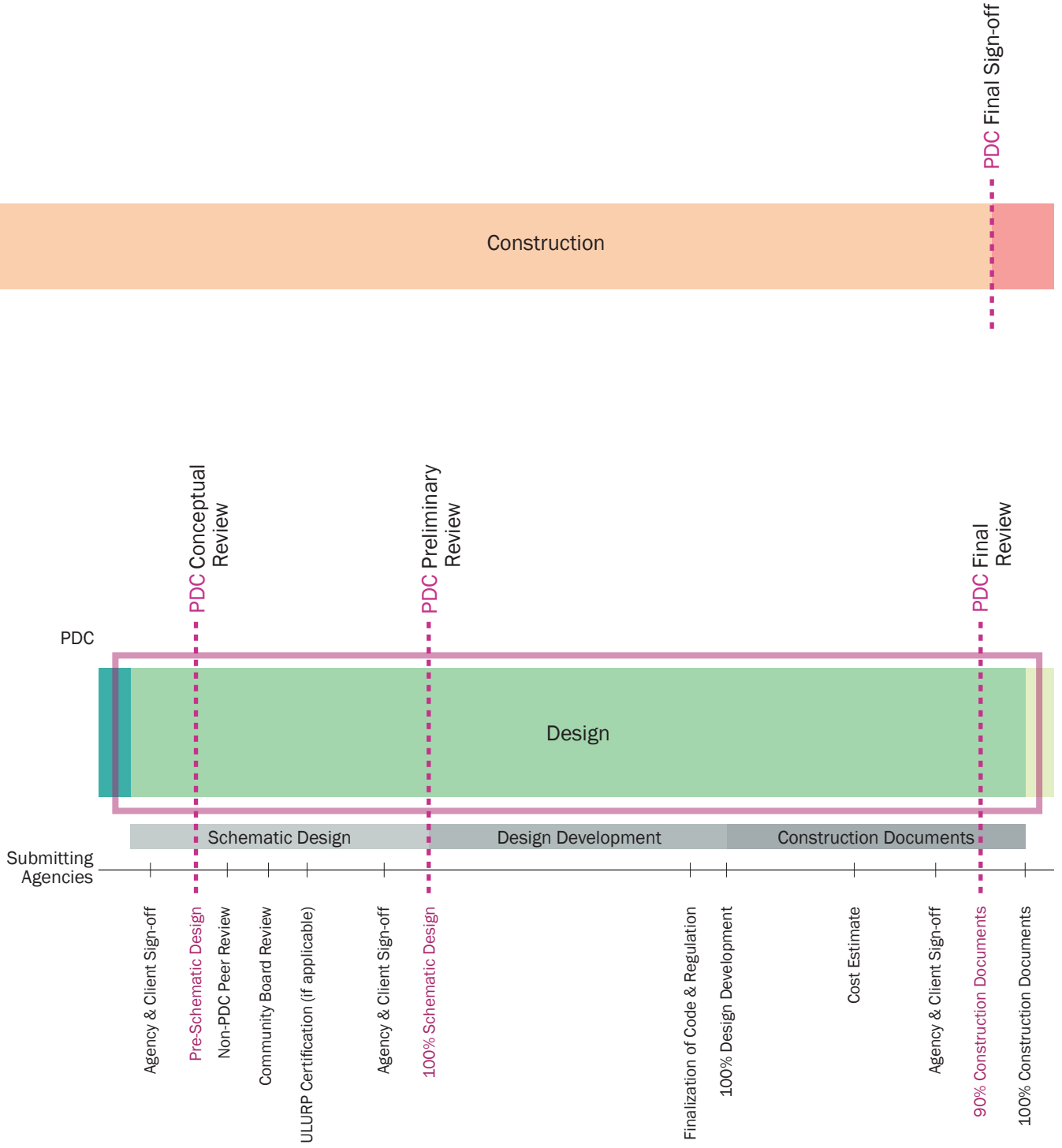
For structures and landscapes, preliminary review occurs at the end of the schematic design phase. For artworks, preliminary review occurs when the artist has completed fabrication drawings.

Final

For structures and landscapes, final review and approval occurs at approximately 90% completion of construction documents. Once final approval is granted, construction can commence. For artworks, final review takes place after the artwork has been installed and includes the submission of photographs documenting the installed artwork.

Final Sign-off

Final sign-off occurs after a project has been completed and photographic documentation has been submitted.





Year in Review 2018



Total Number of Submissions by Type

The Public Design Commission reviews approximately 800 to 1,000 submissions (600 to 800 unique projects) every year. Most of the projects that the PDC reviews fall under the major categories of structures, parks, open spaces, and streetscapes, and artwork. These main categories are further broken down and described in the following pages.

Total Number of Submissions Received: **980**

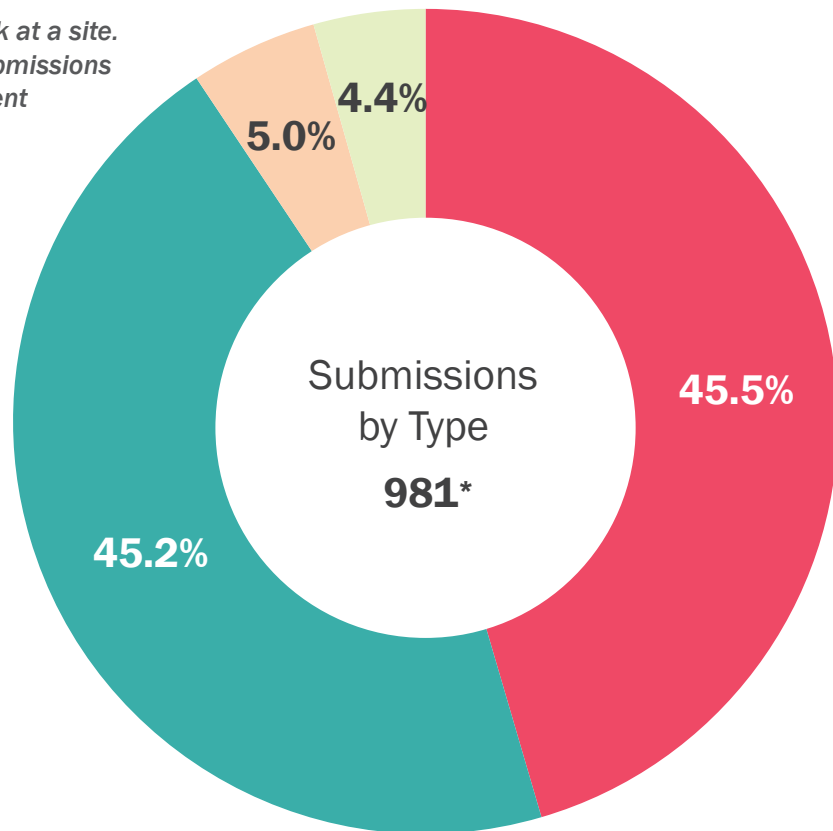


Total Number of Unique Projects Reviewed: **694**



A **submission** is a package of review materials for a single project at a specific level of review.

A **project** is a unique scope of work at a site. One project may have multiple submissions within one year, such as for different levels of review.



■ Structures	45.5% [446]
■ Parks, Open Spaces, and Streetscapes	45.2% [443]
■ Signage	5.0% [49]
■ Artworks	4.4% [43]

* The construction of Parachute Way Plaza includes the installation of an artwork and therefore was counted as both a Parks, Open Space, and Streetscapes submission and as an Artwork submission, bringing the total count of submissions by type to 981.

NOTE: All numbers have been rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent.

Architecture and Structures

Architectural projects range in size and scope from large-scale multi-building developments to small-scale building improvements such as HVAC installations. Projects may include new affordable housing, libraries, police stations, sanitation garages, and bridges as well as renovations or restorations of existing buildings or bridges and the installation of mechanical units or other equipment.

Typical subcategories include but are not limited to:

Building Modifications and Minor Structures

Installation of prefabricated structures or small-scale additions of specific elements such as photovoltaic panels, HVAC units, or lighting

Construction

An entirely new building, bridge, or other structure

Rehabilitation

An upgrade for the purpose of making a building functional today, such as improvements to life safety and HVAC systems

Reconstruction

Replacement of an existing structure with a new one of the same function

Renovation

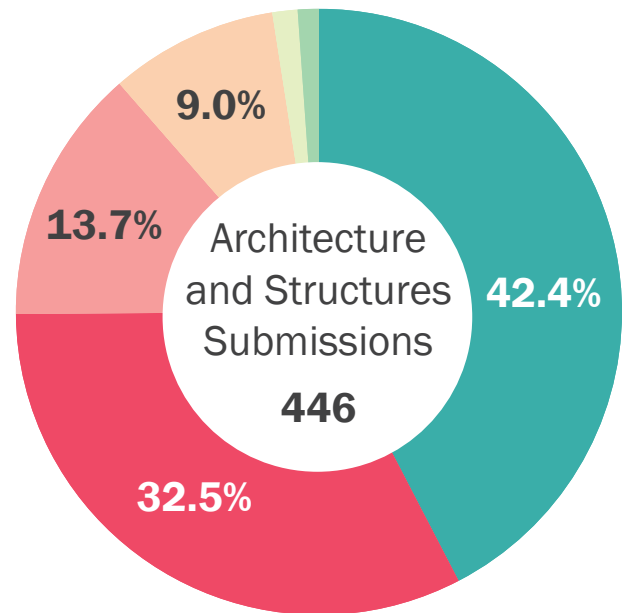
Significant changes to an existing structure

Prototype

A typical design that can be replicated at multiple locations, requiring only minor site specific adjustments

Restoration

Bringing a structure back to its condition at a specific period in time using the same construction materials and methods as the original



Building Modifications and Minor Structures	42.4%	[189]
Constructions	32.5%	[145]
Rehabilitations	13.7%	[61]
Reconstructions	9.0%	[40]
Renovations	1.3%	[6]
Prototypes	1.1%	[5]
Restorations	0%	[0]

NOTE: All numbers have been rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent.

In 2018, PDC reviewed 34 comfort station submissions, including 12 new constructions and 22 rehabilitations.

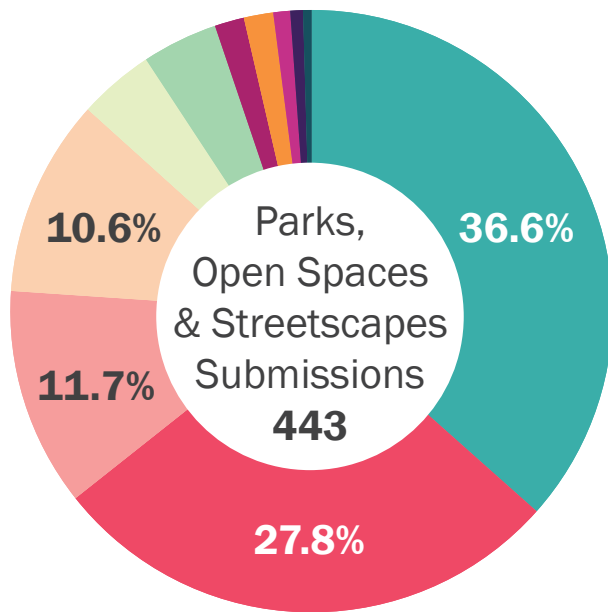
Comfort Station Submissions



Parks, Open Spaces, and Streetscapes

Landscape projects range in scale from master plans for large-scale open spaces and streetscapes to the installation of specific site furnishings, such as benches or newsstands. The most common type of landscape architecture submission is the reconstruction of parks, including playgrounds and athletic fields. Projects may also include parking lots, dog runs, path reconstructions, streetscapes, planter installations, esplanades, flood mitigation measures, and shoreline stabilizations.

Typical subcategories include but are not limited to:



Reconstructions	36.6%	[162]
Constructions	27.8%	[123]
Minor installations	11.7%	[52]
Newsstands	10.6%	[47]
Street Furniture	4.1%	[18]
Distinctive Sidewalks	4.1%	[18]
Distinctive Lighting	1.6%	[7]
Rehabilitations	1.6%	[7]
Master Plans	0.9%	[4]
Restorations	0.7%	[3]
Stabilizations	0.5%	[2]

NOTE: All numbers have been rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent.

Reconstruction

Replacement of an existing park, plaza, or streetscape with a new one

Construction

An entirely new park, plaza, or streetscape

Minor Installation

The addition of specific elements, such as artificial turf, tennis bubbles, or adult fitness equipment

Newsstand

Prototypical street furniture approved for sidewalk vending

Street Furniture

Amenities installed on a sidewalk

Distinctive Sidewalk

Non-standard sidewalk treatments, materials, scoring patterns, or tints

Distinctive Lighting

Light fixtures distinct from the typical poles for a neighborhood

Rehabilitation

An upgrade for the purpose of making an open space functional today, such as improvements to pathways, and site furnishings

Master plan

A framework for a large site that often includes landscape as well as structures

Restoration

Bringing a site back to its condition at a specific period in time using its original construction materials and methods

Stabilization

Modification to control shoreline erosion

Artworks

Artwork projects include the installation of new artworks as well as the conservation, relocation, and removal of existing artworks. Artworks may be installed within buildings, on the facades of buildings or structures, or outside in public plazas or parks. Artworks may include but are not limited to sculptures, bas reliefs, engravings, paintings, mosaics, photographs, and electronic media.

The City typically commissions artworks for City-owned property through the Department of Cultural Affairs' Percent for Art Program. The sponsoring City agency and the Percent for Art Program are jointly responsible for the selection of the artist and the development of the work of art. A member of the Public Design Commission serves as an advisor on the Percent for Art artist selection panel. Once the proposal is approved by both the sponsoring agency and the Percent for Art Program, it is submitted to the Commission for review.

For projects that are not going through Percent for Art, the PDC requests that applicants follow the Percent for Art process, where a panel including art professionals selects the artist. Please see the updated guidelines and submission requirements on pages 34 and 35.

Typical subcategories include but are not limited to:

Installation

Commissioning of a new artwork for a site, usually through the Percent for Art program

Conservation

The treatment by a conservator to preserve an artwork, including but not limited to cleaning, recreation of missing elements, crack repairs, stabilization, repainting and repatination

Relocation

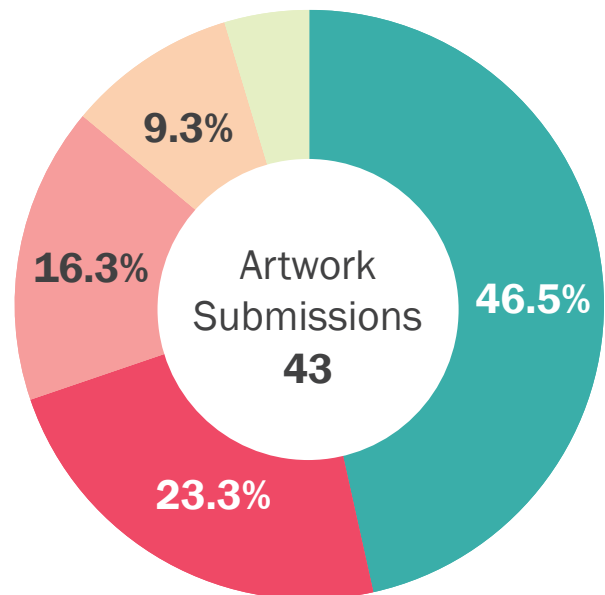
The moving of an artwork from one site to another site

Reconstruction

Replacement of an existing artwork with a reproduction, typically due to the inability to repair or conserve the original

Removal

In rare cases, an artwork may be completely removed from public view



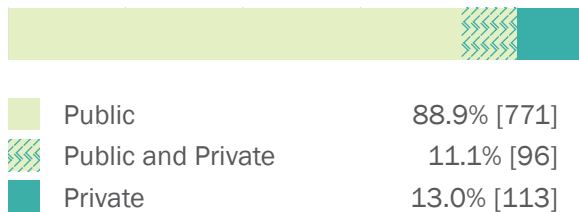
■ Installations	46.5% [20]
■ Conservations	23.3% [10]
■ Relocations	16.3% [7]
■ Reconstructions	9.3% [4]
■ Removals*	4.7% [2]

NOTE: All numbers have been rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent.

* The two removals include: (1) the demolition of 107th Street Pier (1991) by Andrea Blum and (2) the relocation of James Marion Sims (1892) by Ferdinand von Miller II.

Private Structures on or over City-owned Land

The PDC reviews privately-owned and/or operated structures and installations sited on or over City-owned land. Examples may include a concessionaire such as a restaurant or a recreation facility within a park, a mixed-use development on leased City-owned land, a newsstand, a distinctive sidewalk, or a stoop that extends onto the public right-of-way.



In 2018, the PDC reviewed 113 submissions for private structures or installations on or over City-owned property.



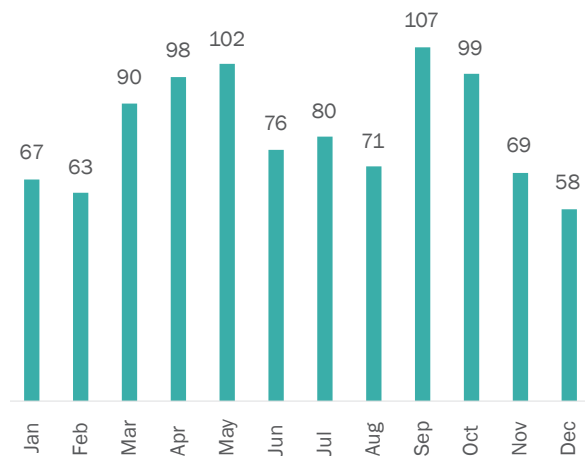
1. 14th @ Irving, Manhattan
Economic Development Corporation
Davis Brody Bond Architects and Planners
2. Bronx Point, Bronx
Economic Development Corporation
S9 Architects, Marvel Architects, Abel Bainsson Butz,
L+M Development Partners, Type A Projects

Carry-over Projects

The PDC works year-round and typically the submission deadline for the January meeting is in December, so this one-month review cycle extends into the following year.

In 2017, 5 submissions (out of 71) were submitted in December for the January 2018 meeting, but were found incomplete and were not acted upon in January 2018. 3 of these submissions were acted upon later in 2018, and the other 2 were not resubmitted.

In 2018, 58 submissions were submitted in December and were then reviewed in January 2019. Of the submissions, 56 were acted upon in January 2019 and 2 were withdrawn.



2018 Submissions by Month

Number of Submissions Acted or Commented Upon

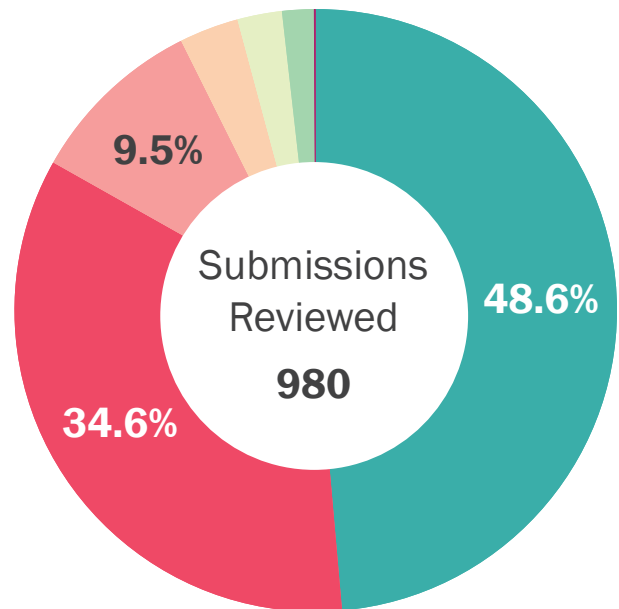
Design review is an iterative process and the PDC works to provide applicants with feedback and guidance so that their submissions can be approved in the shortest number of review cycles. Even if a submission is not formally acted upon by the Commission within a cycle, the PDC typically provides feedback that will help the agencies revise their proposal so that it may be approved the following month. Submissions that were commented upon but not acted upon may have been submitted for conceptual or informal review and include final sign-off and amendments to approved designs.

The term *“acted upon”* means an action was made by the Commission on a submission in the form of an approval, approval with conditions, or a rejection.

The term *“commented upon”* means written comments were provided to the sponsoring agency by the Commission, a special committee within the Commission, or the Executive Director as designated by the Commission.

■ Commented upon	48.6% [488]
■ Approved	34.6% [347]
■ Approved with conditions	9.5% [95]
■ Found incomplete	3.2% [32]
■ Informal/No Quorum	2.2% [24]
■ Withdrawn by Agency	1.7% [17]
■ Rejected*	0.1% [1]

* A proposal for a newsstand at 1879 Broadway, Manhattan, was rejected since it would block a significant view corridor.

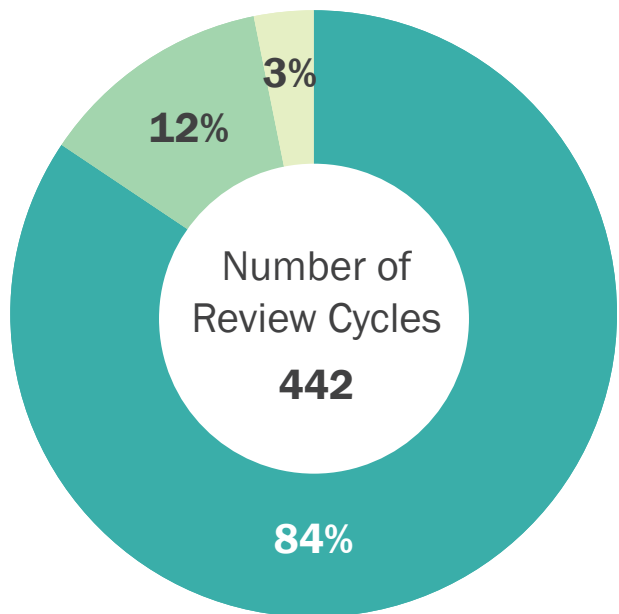


Review Cycles

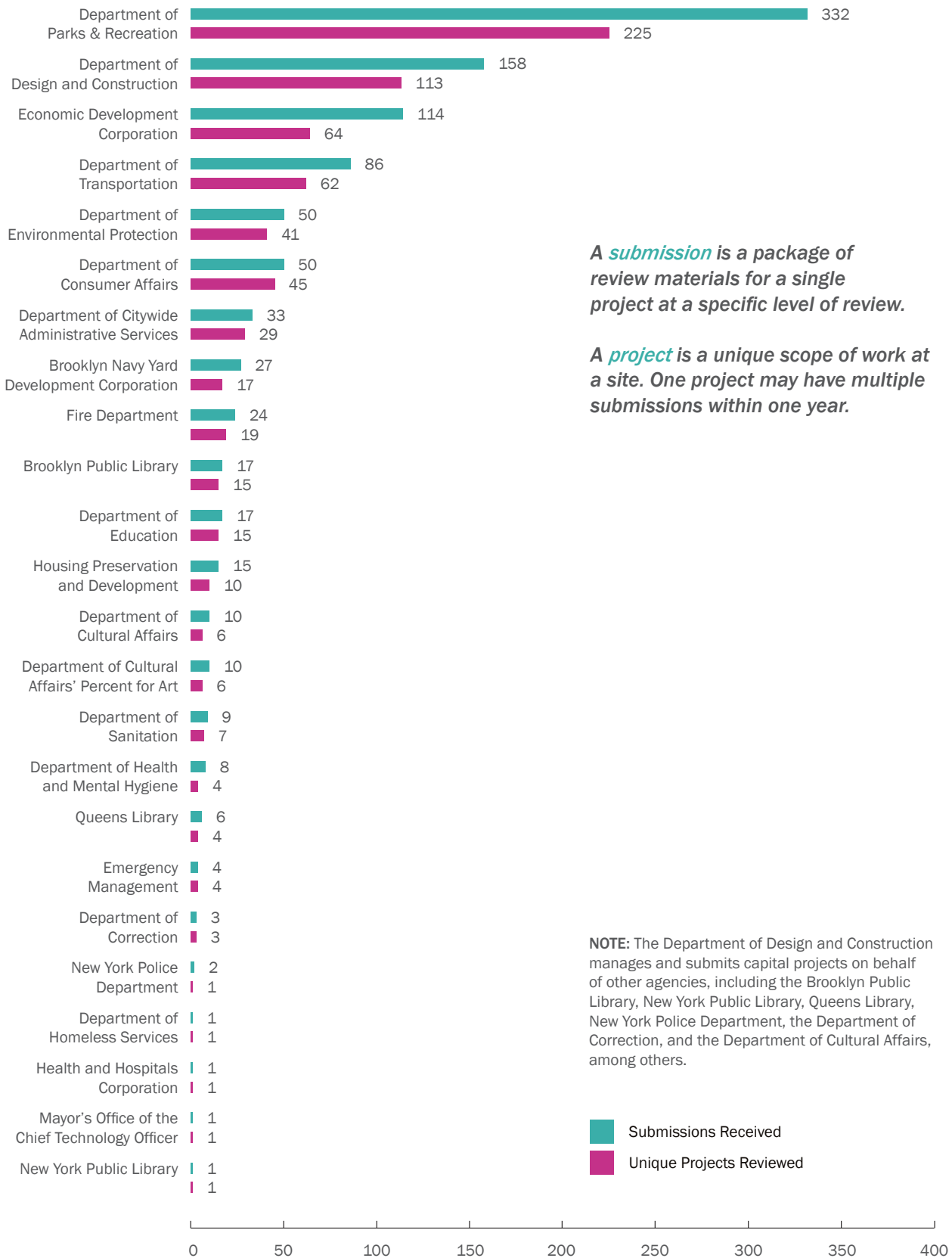
The PDC reviewed 97% of the 442 acted upon submissions in two or fewer cycles.

The term *“review cycle”* means the time between the deadline for the filing of a submission to the Commission and the scheduled date of the next public meeting of the Commission.

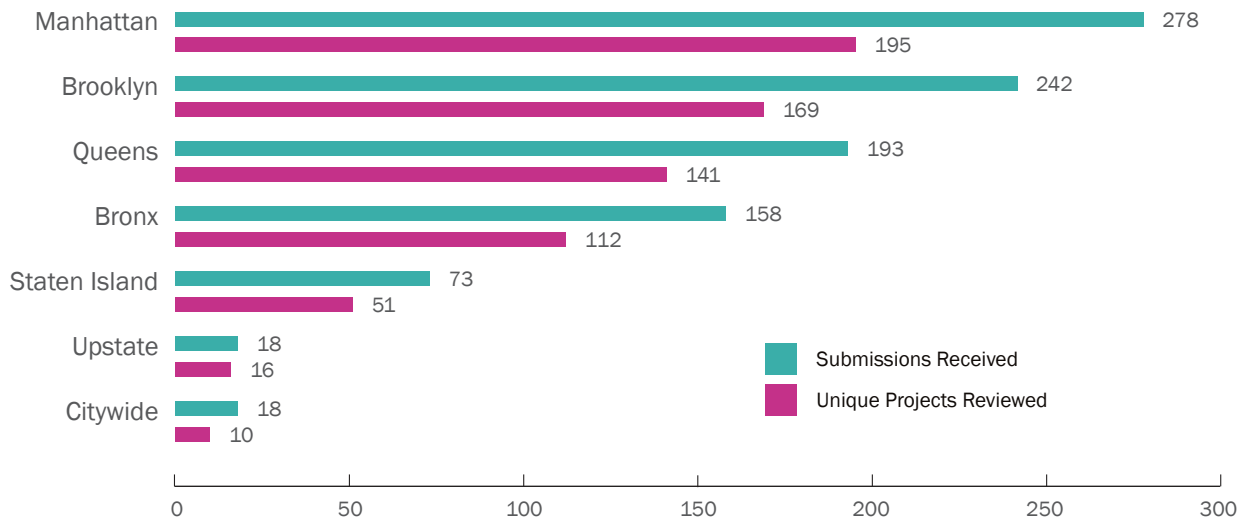
■ One Cycle	84.4% [373]
■ Two Cycles	12.4% [55]
■ Three + Cycles	3.2% [14]



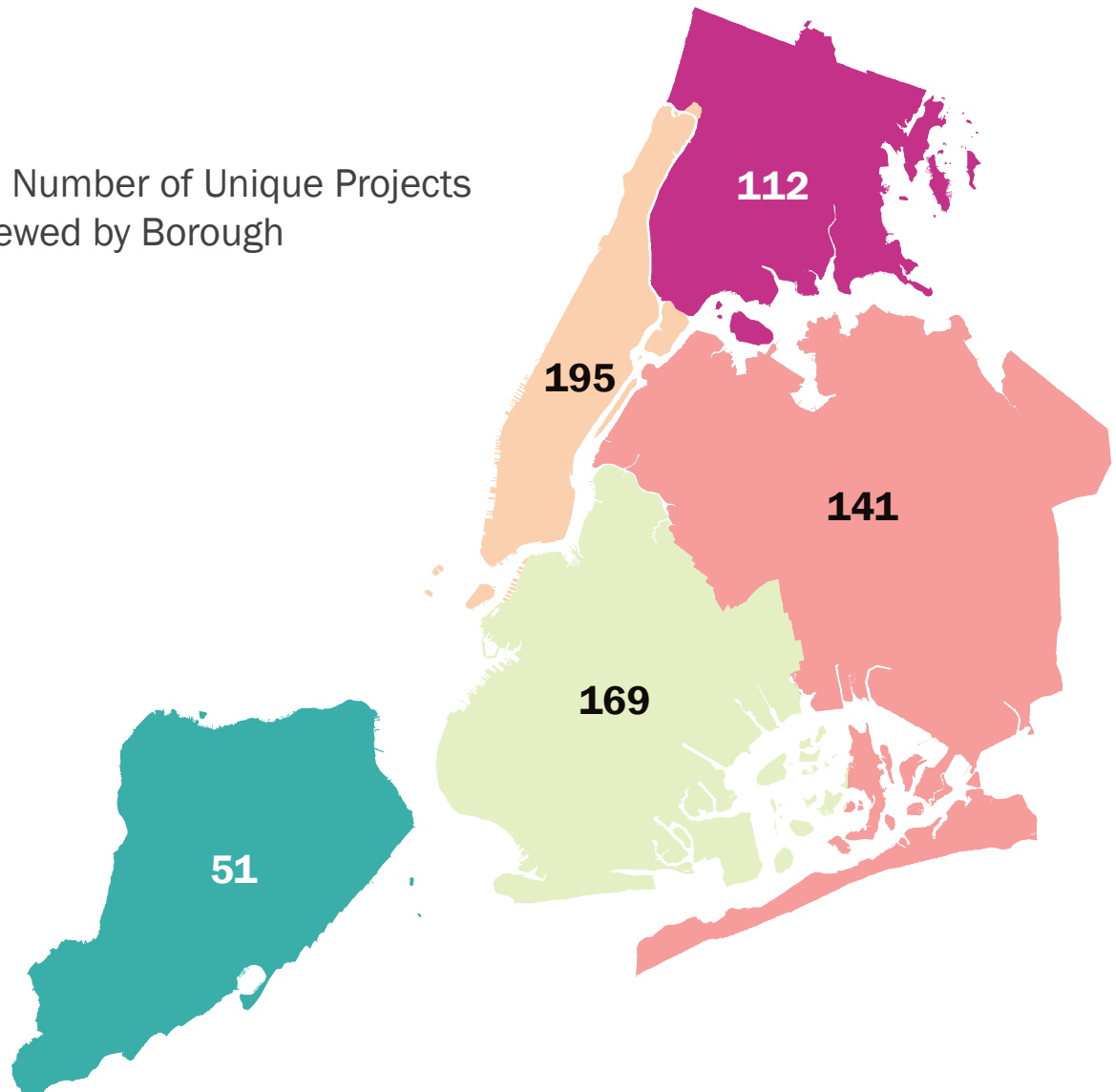
2018 Submissions and Projects by Lead Agency



2018 Submissions and Projects by Borough



Total Number of Unique Projects Reviewed by Borough





Highlighted Projects by Borough

The Bronx

1 Bronx Point

Major Deegan Expressway, 145th Street Bridge, East 150th Street, and the Harlem River
Economic Development Corporation

S9 Architects, Marvel Architects, Abel Bainsson Butz, L+M Development Partners, Type A Projects



Uniquely sited between Mill Pond Park, the Harlem River, and significant vehicular infrastructure, this project, which contains 530,000 square feet of affordable rental apartments, the Universal Hip-Hop Museum, a movie theater, retail space, and community facilities, extends the park and waterfront esplanade southward, creates an upland connection toward public transportation, and orients views toward the park and river.

2 Para Roberto by Melissa Calderón

Roberto Clemente Plaza, Third Avenue, East 147th Street, East 149th Street, and Willis Avenue
Department of Design & Construction, Department of Transportation, Department of Cultural Affairs
Percent for Art, Melissa Calderón



Dedicated to Puerto Rican humanitarian and Hall of Fame baseball player Roberto Clemente, this sculpture pays homage to Clemente's humble beginnings, outstanding athleticism, and philanthropic spirit. The work features sugar cane stalks meant as a tribute to the Puerto Rican immigrant experience and an oversized chair that allows the public to physically interact with the work.

3 East 168th Street Step Street

East 168th Street between Teller Avenue and Clay Avenue
Department of Design & Construction, Department of Transportation
AECOM, WXY Architecture and Urban Design



As a unique and vital part of the Bronx's infrastructure, this nine-flight step street helps connect the Concourse Village neighborhood to public transportation along Webster Avenue. The reconstruction, completed in 2018, includes new granite steps, landings, facade and coping stones, decorative handrails, lighting, and trees. The portico at the top landing was also rehabilitated, and seating was added.

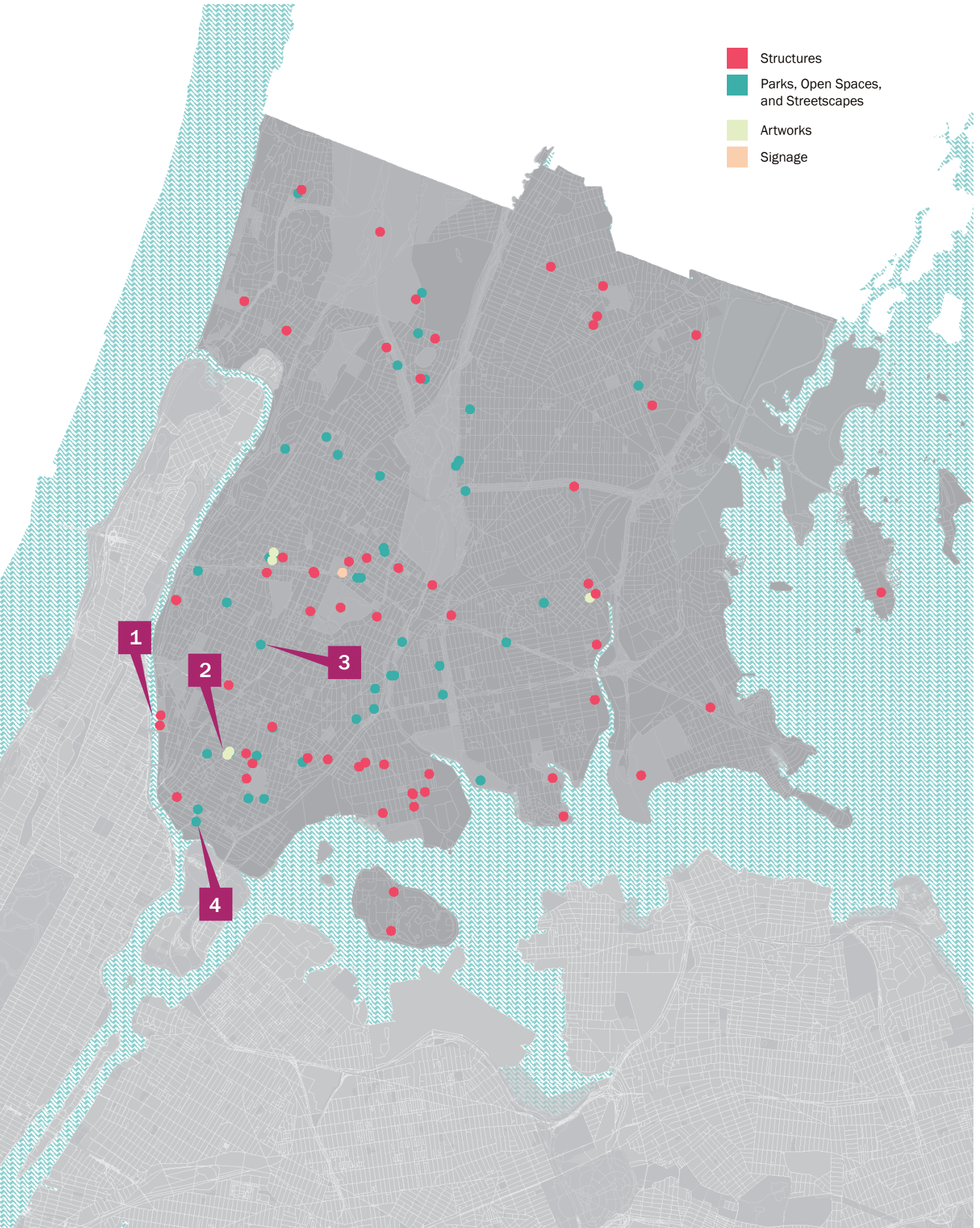
4 Pulaski Park

Bruckner Boulevard and the Willis Avenue Bridge
Department of Parks & Recreation, QRP



Situated between Bruckner Boulevard and the Willis Avenue Bridge and off-ramp, this project transforms an over-paved playground that was bisected by over 80' of handball walls into a diverse recreational site with play equipment, a soccer field, basketball courts, multiple seating areas, and planted areas.

- Structures
- Parks, Open Spaces, and Streetscapes
- Artworks
- Signage



Brooklyn

1 Brooklyn Animal Care Center

832 Shepherd Avenue

Department of Design and Construction, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Smith-Miller Hawkinson



This project replaces an existing, outdated facility with a state-of-the-art stainless steel mesh-clad building that allows for increased light and fresh air and includes housing for dogs, cats, and rabbits. The center also has adoption, training, and veterinary facilities, and administrative offices.

2 Fowler Square

Lafayette Avenue, Fulton Street, and South Elliot Place

Department of Design and Construction, Department of Transportation, Department of Parks & Recreation

Quennell Rothschild and Partners



Completed in 2018, Fowler Square was expanded into the unmapped street at South Elliot Place between Lafayette Avenue and Fulton Street, and the *General Edward Fowler* (1902) statue was relocated eastward to the new center of the plaza. Trees, benches, lighting, bike racks, a water fountain, and pedestrian crossing signals have transformed this site into a vibrant public space.

3 Long Island University Streetscape

Fleet Street, Willoughby Street, and Ashland Place

Department of Transportation

Hellmuth Obata Kassabaum (HOK)



In conjunction with the reconfiguration of the campus athletic fields to achieve NCAA Division I field regulation standards, the sidewalk will be extended to create Fleet Plaza, which will include a custom precast concrete sculptural planter with space for temporary art installations. Additionally, the surrounding sidewalks will be lined with tree pits, raised planters, benches, bicycle racks, and lighting.

4 Parachute Way Plaza

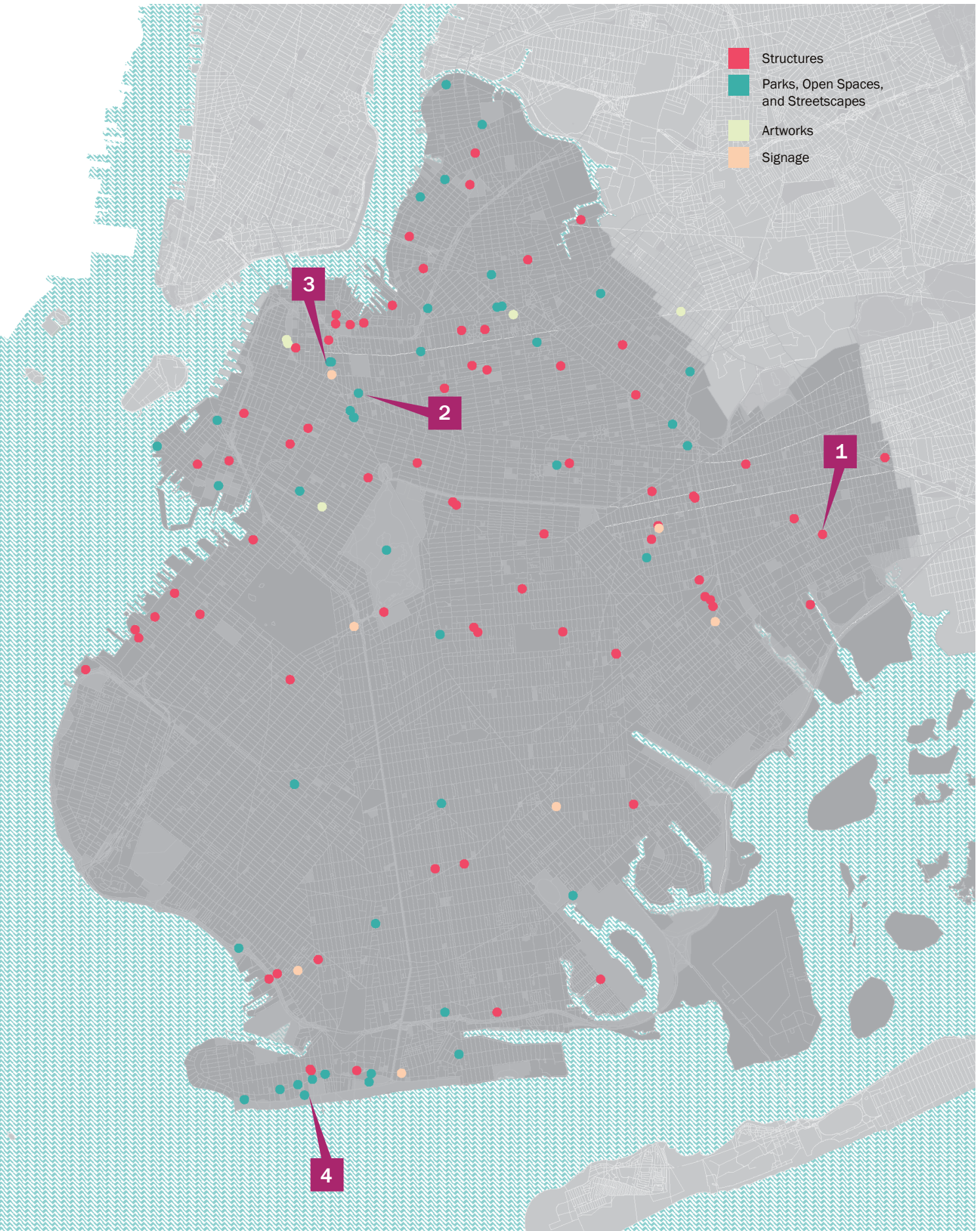
Parachute Way between Surf Avenue and the Riegelmann Boardwalk, Coney Island

Economic Development Corporation, Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Cultural Affairs

Percent for Art, Stantec, Xenobia Bailey, UAP



In conjunction with the reconstruction of streets and sewers to comply with the raising of grades post-Superstorm Sandy, this new plaza will serve as a primary connection between Surf Avenue, MCU Stadium, and the boardwalk. The project includes an artwork by Xenobia Bailey that integrates a prismatic arbor into the landscape through the manipulation of light, color, and patterning.



Manhattan

1 Hudson Street Streetscape Improvements

Hudson Street between Canal Street and West Houston Street
Department of Transportation, Economic Development Corporation
AKRF, W Architecture & Landscape Architecture



To enhance the pedestrian experience along Hudson Street and increase the connection between Tribeca and the West Village, the street and sidewalk along this busy vehicular corridor were reconstructed to create a dedicated bike lane protected by parking zones and pedestrian safety islands. Planting beds with integrated benches and tree pits with structural soil and permeable pavers transform the corridor into a welcoming space.

2 Rockefeller University Campus Expansion

Between East 64th Street and East 68th Street over the FDR Drive and along the East River
Department of Transportation
MNLA, Rafael Vinoly Architects, Rockefeller University



Completed in 2018, this two-acre campus addition, supported by Y-shaped pylons, extends a two-story horizontal research building over the FDR Drive and includes repairs to critical drainage infrastructure at the FDR Drive. The intensive green roof of the structure serves as a continuation of the campus. The esplanade was also renovated with benches, trees, and pedestrian lighting.

3 Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

515 Malcolm X Boulevard between West 135th Street and West 136th Street
Department of Design and Construction, New York Public Library, Department of Transportation
Marble Fairbanks, SCAPE



Functioning as one of the leading research libraries in the field of African American and African Diasporic studies, the renovated Schomburg Center, completed in 2018, includes a public plaza and interfaces with the surrounding community by displaying portions of its collection and events through its curated use of glazing, LED displays, and interactive informational panels.

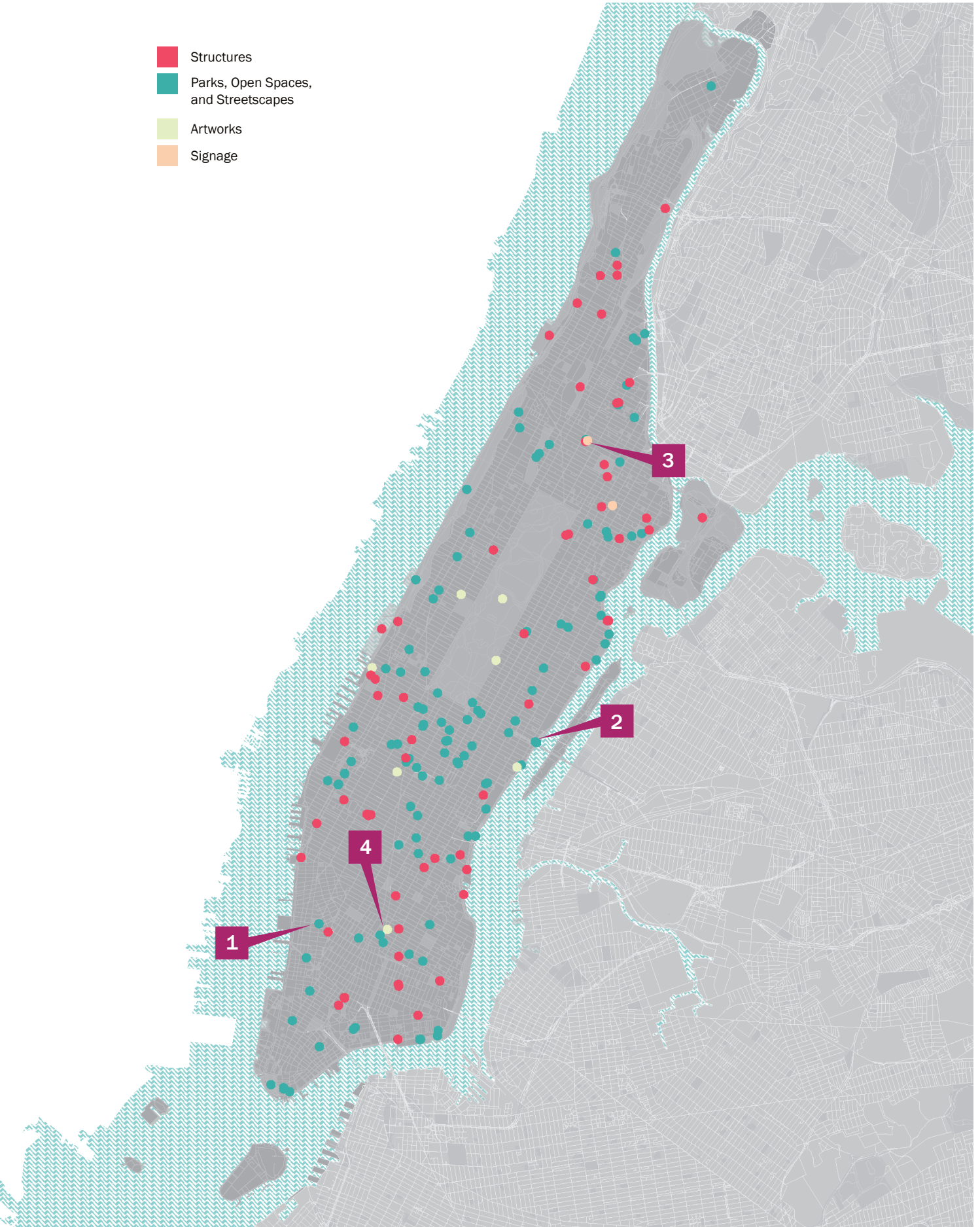
4 Writings at Helin Temple by Xu Bing

Forsyth Plaza, Canal Street, Forsyth Street, and the Manhattan Bridge approach ramp
Department of Transportation, Department of Design and Construction, Department of Cultural Affairs
Percent for Art, Quennell Rothschild and Partners, Xu Bing Studio



Sited within a reconstructed elevated plaza, *Writings at Helin Temple* consists of two semicircular rows of stone seats cut from blocks that were excavated from the plaza's original wall. Carved with block calligraphy that looks like Chinese characters, the work follows the words of Tang Dynasty poet Li She and serves as a site for reflection and respite.

- Structures
- Parks, Open Spaces, and Streetscapes
- Artworks
- Signage



Queens

1 116th Police Precinct Station House

North Conduit Avenue and 244th Street, Rosedale
Department of Design and Construction
Dattner Architects



The 116th Precinct was established to address community concerns about police response times and is located adjacent to the Rosedale Long Island Railroad station near a residential neighborhood. A glazed community room space looks onto a landscaped plaza that leads to the train station and includes seating, bicycle racks, and a bottle filler.

2 Beach 98th Street Playground

Shore Front Parkway between Beach 98th Street and Beach 101st Street, Rockaway Beach
Department of Parks & Recreation, DPR In-House



Located on a narrow site between Shore Front Parkway and the Rockaway Boardwalk, this playground adds seating plazas at the boardwalk entrances and incorporates planted areas with native species and wood pile edging to help prevent erosion. Metal shade structures shelter seating areas near the play areas and spray showers, while preserving views toward the ocean.

3 Kew Gardens Hills Library

72-33 Vleigh Place, Kew Gardens
Department of Design and Construction, Queens Public Library
WORK Architecture Company



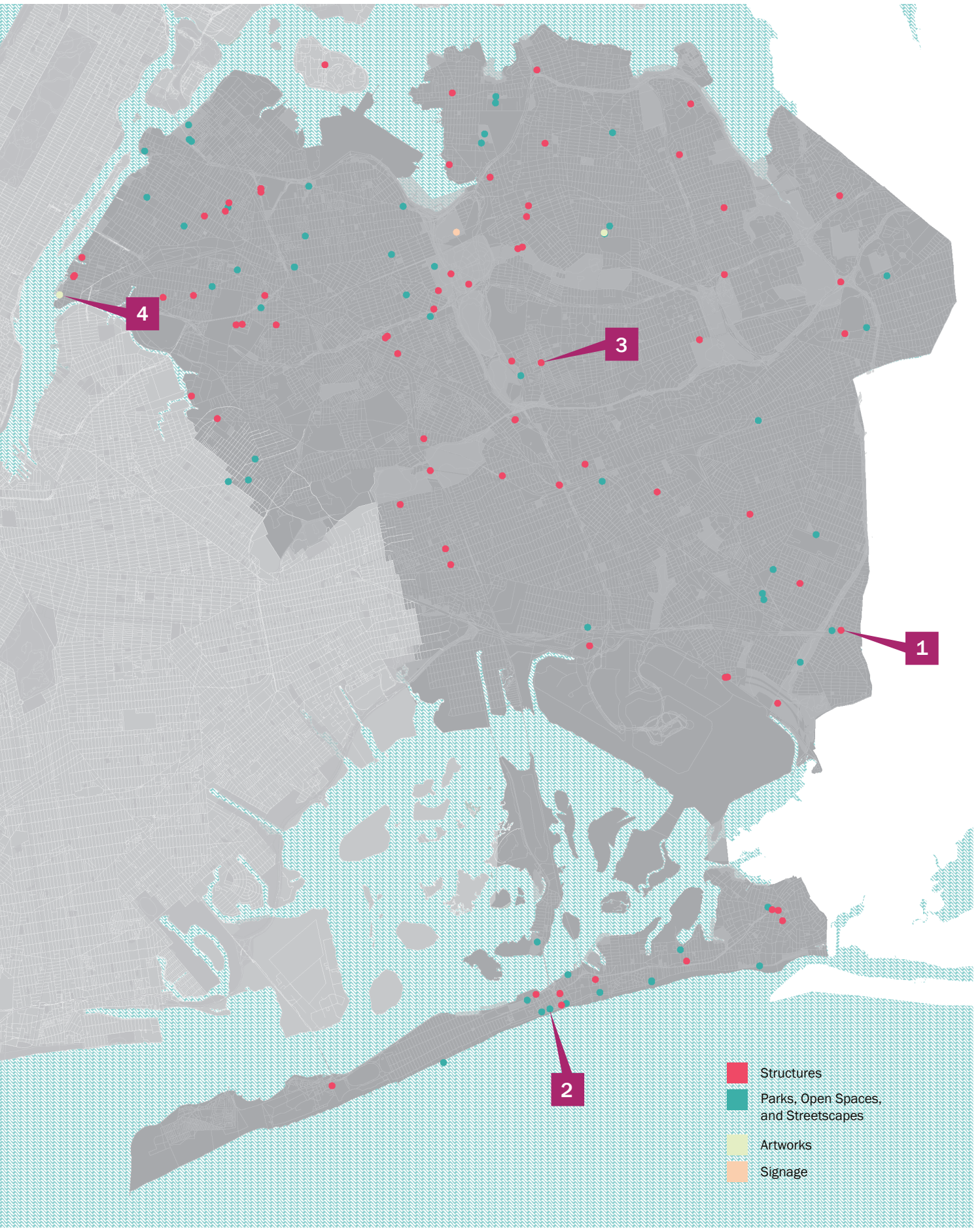
The renovation and expansion of this neighborhood library enhances the civic presence of the original 1966 building by adding an undulating concrete facade that wraps along the street and lifts to reveal interior activity, establishing a strong visual connection with the community. A green roof caps the building and extends the library's garden to the building's fifth facade.

4 Hunter's Point South Park and *Luminescence* by Nobuho Nagasawa

The Peninsula, 54th Avenue, Center Boulevard, 55th Avenue, and the East River, Long Island City
Economic Development Corporation, Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Transportation
Department of Cultural Affairs Percent for Art
Weiss Manfredi, ARUP, Thomas Balsley Associates, Nobuho Nagasawa



This waterfront park on a formerly abandoned post-industrial site hosts expansive views of the Manhattan skyline. It includes landscaped recreation and leisure spaces, a bikeway and a waterfront promenade. At the landscaped peninsula, *Luminescence* is a symbolic tribute to the lunar influence of the East River's tidal rhythms, and it reveals the phase of each moon in glowing phosphorus points as dusk approaches.



Staten Island

1 Arrochar Playground

Adjacent to P.S. 139, Sand Avenue between Major Avenue and Macfarland Avenue
Department of Parks and Recreation
dlandstudio



Renovated as part of the Community Parks Initiative, this playground encourages active play and includes a synthetic turf field, a track, basketball courts, spray showers, a climbing wall, and updated play equipment. The Department of Environmental Protection also installed green infrastructure, including a rain garden and subsurface water storage to reduce runoff by 30,000 gallons per rain event.

2 Charleston Branch Library

Tyrellan Avenue and Bricktown Way
Economic Development Corporation, New York Public Library
ikon.5 Architects



Located within Charleston's Bricktown Commons shopping center, this ironspot brick-clad library features reading rooms with views across a landscaped site perimeter to Fairview Park. A light-filled community room is visible from an inviting entry plaza that is landscaped with flowering trees and benches, and bicycle racks have been added to promote healthy modes of transportation. The project includes a Percent for Art installation by Mark Reigelman.

3 Mariners Harbor Playground

Harbor Road between Richmond Terrace and Leyden Avenue
Department of Parks & Recreation, DPR In-house



Funded as part of the Community Parks Initiative, this renovation includes the relocation of the entrance to make the playground accessible to all users. Accessible seating areas, play equipment, swings, adult fitness equipment, and a junior basketball court are oriented to protect mature trees on site, and shade-tolerant flowering perennials are planted throughout.

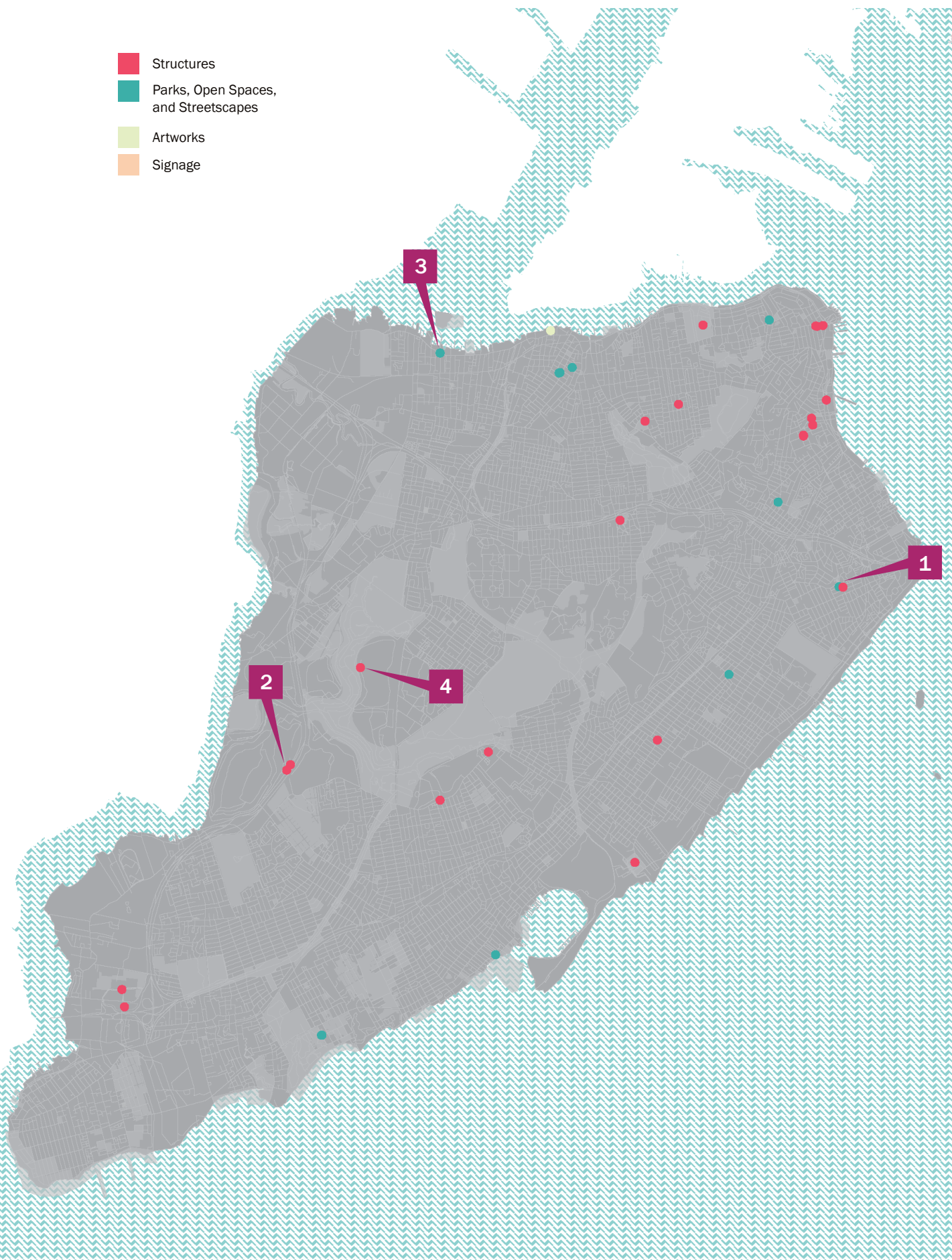
4 Freshkills South Park Comfort Station and Athletic Fields

Freshkills Park, Arthur Kill Road, Woodrow Road, Arden Avenue, and the West Shore Expressway
Department of Parks & Recreation
Sage and Coombe Architects



The construction of South Park is funded as part of the Anchor Parks Initiative and features two multipurpose athletic fields surrounded by woodland and wetland restoration areas and walking paths. Between the fields is a tree-filled entry plaza with an orange glazed brick-clad prototypical comfort station with a custom cloud-patterned perforated clerestory screen.

- Structures
- Parks, Open Spaces, and Streetscapes
- Artworks
- Signage





Special Projects and Interagency Initiatives

The City's Art Collection at a Glance



The Public Design Commission has general and curatorial supervision over works of art belonging to the City and its approval is required for any permanent installation of artwork on City-owned property as well as any relocation, conservation, or removal of City-owned artworks.

New York City's vast public art collection dates back to the early 1800s and is installed throughout the city's five boroughs in outdoor spaces such as parks and plazas, as well as on or inside public buildings such as libraries, court buildings, and fire departments.

Artworks have been acquired by the City in a number of different ways, including donations from private individuals and groups, official commemorations, federal work relief programs, and the City's Percent for Art program.

Since 1982, New York City's Percent for Art law has required that one percent of the budget for eligible City-funded construction projects be spent on public art. Managed by the City's Department of Cultural Affairs, the Percent for Art program has commissioned hundreds of site-specific projects in a variety of media, including painting, new technologies, lighting, mosaic, glass, textiles, sculpture, and works that are integrated into infrastructure and architecture.

In 2017, the PDC began conducting comprehensive research for a citywide art collection policy aimed at creating a more equitable and diverse art collection, providing support for artists, and encouraging realistic maintenance plans. Working collaboratively with partner City agencies, the PDC updated its guidelines and submission requirements for new artwork commissions, including memorials and monuments (see pages 34 and 35).

Public Art Database

In 2018, in response to the report from the Mayoral Advisory Commission on City Art, Monuments, and Markers, the PDC began the first phase of a public art inventory. With the help of the Department of Cultural Affairs, the PDC was able to hire two archivists, Wendy Jimenez and Denise Chavez, for one year to create an inventory of the City's collection of outdoor public art, monuments and commemorative markers. The charts on pages 32 and 33 highlight some of the data collected during the first phase of this project.



4



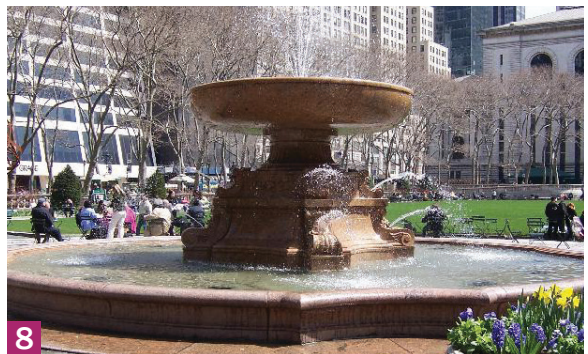
6



5



7



8

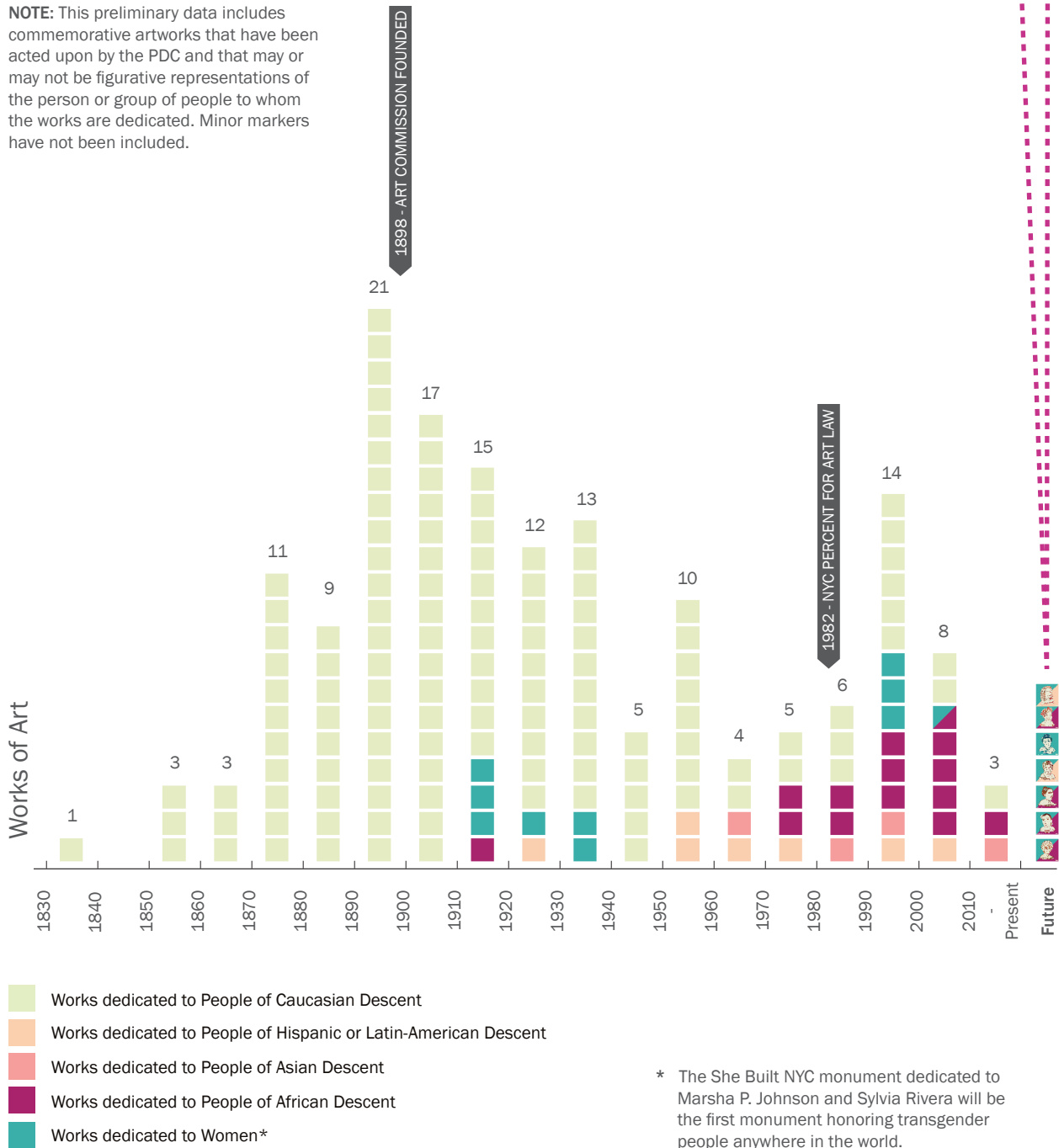
1. *Swing Low* by Alison Saar, Harriet Tubman Plaza
St. Nicholas Avenue, Manhattan, 2008
2. *Harlem Hybrid* by Richard Hunt, Roosevelt Square Park
125th Street and Morningside Avenue, Manhattan, 1976
3. *Rocket Thrower* by Donald DeLue, Flushing Meadows
Corona Park, Queens, 1964
4. *Writings at Helin Temple* by Xu Bing, Forsyth Plaza
Canal Street, Manhattan, 2018
5. *Sugar in my Bowl* by Chakaia Booker, Weeksville Heritage
Center, Buffalo Avenue, Brooklyn, 2012
6. *Plaza Perch* by Austin Thomas, Humboldt Plaza
Humboldt Street, Brooklyn, 2016
7. *Joan of Arc* by Anna Von Hyatt Huntington,
93rd Street and Riverside Drive, Manhattan, 1915
8. *Josephine Shaw Lowell Memorial Fountain* by
Charles A. Platt, Bryant Park, Manhattan, 1912

Outdoor City-Owned Monuments and Memorials Dedicated to People by Demographic



Future She Built NYC Monuments to Women*

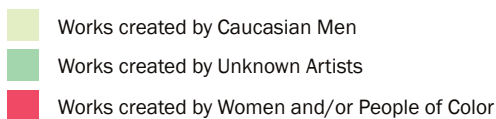
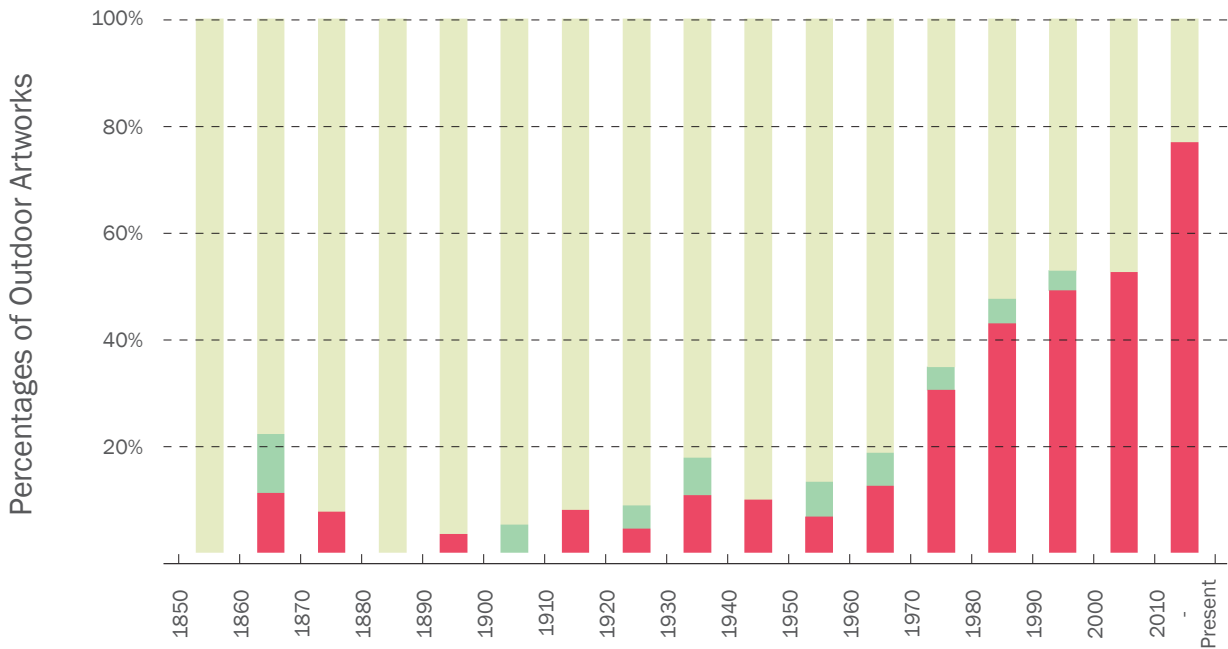
NOTE: This preliminary data includes commemorative artworks that have been acted upon by the PDC and that may or may not be figurative representations of the person or group of people to whom the works are dedicated. Minor markers have not been included.



* The She Built NYC monument dedicated to Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera will be the first monument honoring transgender people anywhere in the world.

Artist Demographics in the City's Outdoor Public Art Collection

This preliminary data shows the percentages of outdoor artworks in the City's public art collection that were created by Caucasian men versus by women and people of color. This data will be further studied and updated in 2019.



NOTE: The racial and gender identities of artists have been sometimes difficult to confirm as this information may have been hidden or repressed due to racism and sexism prevalent within our society. These graphs represent research completed to date and may be updated in the future should additional information be discovered.



1. *The Source* by Ester Partegas, Plaza de las Americas West 175th Street, Manhattan, 2016

General Guidelines on Monuments and Memorials

The Public Design Commission supports the installation of monuments or memorials to commemorate people, places, and events significant to New York City's history. The PDC discourages monuments/memorials for people, places, and events that have been recognized as significant for a period of less than 20 years, unless they are of exceptional importance. Monuments to living persons will not be considered. A professional historian with expertise on the subject must provide a written statement establishing the significance of each subject and thoroughly vet any proposed text and images.

Proposals for monuments and memorials will also be evaluated on the following:

For an historical event, the monument/memorial should be located at or near the scene of the event or in a place as closely or logically related to the event as possible.

For a person, the monument/memorial should be located at or near the scene of an event with which the person is identified or in a place closely identified with that person.

For a monument/memorial to multiple persons, a single location should be selected at or near the scene of an important event with which they are jointly identified or in a place with which they are jointly identified.

For a monument to a place, the site should:

- be associated with important historic events or activities, or with the lives of important persons;
- include buildings, structures, or monuments, whether existing or vanished, of special or distinctive design, construction or character, or have otherwise made an important contribution to the City's cultural, social, economic, or political history;
- sustain or nurture community traditions and identity; and/or
- include notable archaeological sites or landscape features.

Monuments/memorials should be oriented to ensure legibility and minimize any contribution to pedestrian congestion.



1. *Simon Bolivar Monument* by Sally James Farnham, Central Park, Manhattan, 1921
2. *Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial* by William Tarr, Martin Luther King, Jr. High School, Manhattan, 1992

Submission Requirements for Artworks (including Monuments and Memorials)

Percent for Art Commissions

The City commissions artworks for City-owned property through the Department of Cultural Affairs' Percent for Art Program. The sponsoring City agency and the Percent for Art Program are jointly responsible for the selection of the artist and the development of the work of art. A member of the Public Design Commission serves as an advisor to the Percent for Art panel. Once the proposal is approved by both the client agency and the Percent for Art Program, it should be submitted to the Commission for review. A representative of the Percent for Art Program must be present when an artist makes his/her presentation.

Monuments and Memorials

The Public Design Commission supports the installation of monuments and memorials to commemorate people, places, and events significant to New York City's history. The PDC discourages memorials for people, places, and events that have been recognized as significant for a period of less than 20 years, unless they are of exceptional importance. Memorials to living persons will not be considered. A professional historian with expertise in the subject of the monument/memorial must establish the significance of the subject and thoroughly vet any proposed text and images.

The PDC strongly recommends that anyone planning a monument to a woman or women reference the list of public nominations for She Built NYC, the City's initiative to commission public monuments honoring the women.

Non-Percent for Art Commissions and Gifts

Gifts of existing artworks are rarely accepted, so an artwork should not be fabricated as a gift to the City prior to approval by the PDC. If an outside (non-City) group or a City agency proposes to commission an artwork for City property outside of the Percent for Art Program, the artist selection process must be led by an art professional with experience organizing public art commissions and the process must mimic the City's Percent for Art program.

This fair and open process must include public input, a diverse list of artists, and an artist selection panel comprising at least three independent art professionals and, if possible, a member of the Percent for Art staff. Any proposal for an artwork installation must first be approved by the City agency that owns the property where the artwork will be sited. The proposal must be submitted to the PDC for review by that City agency or by the relevant capital construction managing agency.

Artwork Maintenance

All new artwork proposals must include a written viable plan for maintenance, detailing how maintenance will be provided for the entire lifespan of the artwork and confirm funding, if necessary. The plan should include details regarding the protocol, staff, and methods for maintenance and conservation. Outside groups must establish a maintenance endowment and identify an independent entity to administer the endowment.

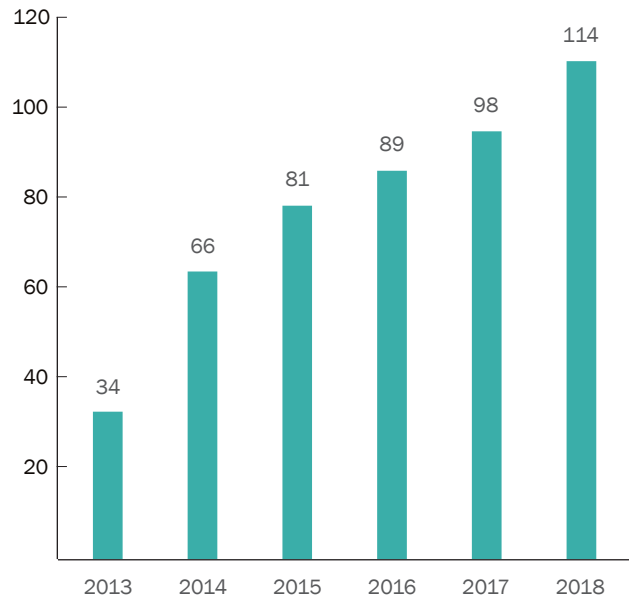
The Archive

The Public Design Commission maintains an archive of projects reviewed by the Commission since 1902, documenting more than 7,000 sites throughout New York City and providing a unique view into the history of the City's public works. Containing original documents, drawings, and architectural plans, the Archive informs the Commission's review of current projects and provides a valuable resource to other City agencies as well as to researchers from around the world.

*In 2018, the archive facilitated **114 research requests**, including **53 requests** from City agencies.*

In addition, the Archive holds special collections that were acquired by Commission members and staff. These photographs, postcards, letters, books, and artifacts provide additional insight into the history of the public spaces and buildings of New York City.

*In 2018, the archive hosted **9 tours** for **83 visitors**, including **3 tours** with the **New York Adventure Club**, an **Archives Week Tour** in collaboration with the **Archivist's Round Table of Metropolitan New York**, and a **tour for the Brooklyn Museum's Summer Internship Program**.*



Research Requests by Year

1. Archive tour with the New York Preservation Archive Project on March 23, 2016
2. Drawing for the viaduct carrying Park Avenue from 40th Street to Grand Central Terminal, designed by Warren & Wetmore, approved April 9, 1912



1



2

City Hall Tour Program



Since it was founded as the Art Commission by the 1898 City Charter, the Public Design Commission has been located within City Hall and has exercised curatorial advisory supervision over all works of art belonging to the City of New York. With its unique position and mandate, the Commission closely manages City Hall's collection of artworks, antiques, and decorative objects. The Commission also organizes regular tours to highlight the building's architectural history, function, and unique historic collection.

In 2018, the PDC's volunteer docents led 196 tours for 4,270 visitors, including 22 public school groups. Through the PDC tour program, a diverse range of international tourists and New Yorkers from all boroughs were able to visit City Hall.

Tour groups included the Dallas Architecture Forum, Untapped Cities, New York Adventure Club, Italian Cultural Foundation, Seoul South Korea City Employees, Columbia School for International and Public Affairs, Pace University, FIT, Pratt, Manhattan College, New School for Social Research, School of the New York Times, Columbia University Pre-College Program, JobsFirst NY, NYC Veterans Alliance, OATH, MOCSNYC Emergency Management Graduate Fellowship, DCAS Social Justice Fellows, DCAS Urban Fellows, DCAS interns, SBS Neighborhood 360 Fellows, SBS interns, OMB interns, Law Department interns, Commission on Human Rights Sadie Nash Leadership Program, Mayor's Office Summer High School Leadership Program, Mayor's Office interns, and Mayor's Office Coro Fellows.

Open House New York

Open House New York is an annual event that celebrates the best examples of design and planning throughout the five boroughs and promotes the importance of architecture and urban design in sustaining New York as a vibrant place to live, work, and learn.

*On Saturday, October 13th, the Public Design Commission once again opened City Hall to the public as part of the Open House New York Weekend. Over the course of four hours, approximately **1,200 visitors** came through the doors of City Hall!*



Epicenter: The Black Experience through the Eyes of City Hall



On February 21, 2018, the PDC presented *Epicenter: The Black Experience through the Eyes of City Hall*. Developed by Black Gotham Experience, this event was an interactive exploration of the African Diaspora's impact on lower Manhattan from the 1600s through the early 1800s.

More than 250 guests participated in Epicenter. They learned about the lives of enslaved and freed Black people under Dutch and British rule, the early days of the Republic, the rebellions of 1712 and 1741, and the hidden stories of revolutionary New York.

Started by Kamau Ware in 2008, Black Gotham Experience has been giving walking tours of lower Manhattan since 2010, combining history and visual storytelling to celebrate the impact of the African Diaspora on New York City.



Designing New York: Quality Affordable Housing

In response to Mayor de Blasio’s initiative to build and protect affordable housing developments on City-owned land, the Public Design Commission published *Designing New York: Quality Affordable Housing*. Promoting sensitive and holistic affordable housing design, this publication provides guiding principles and detailed case studies organized around design considerations ranging from site planning to material selection. It also includes an appendix of additional affordable housing examples.

The publication was the culmination of a collaborative initiative with the Fine Arts Federation of New York and the American Institute of Architects New York Chapter, and with input from the Department of City Planning, the Economic Development Corporation, and the Department of Housing Preservation and Development.

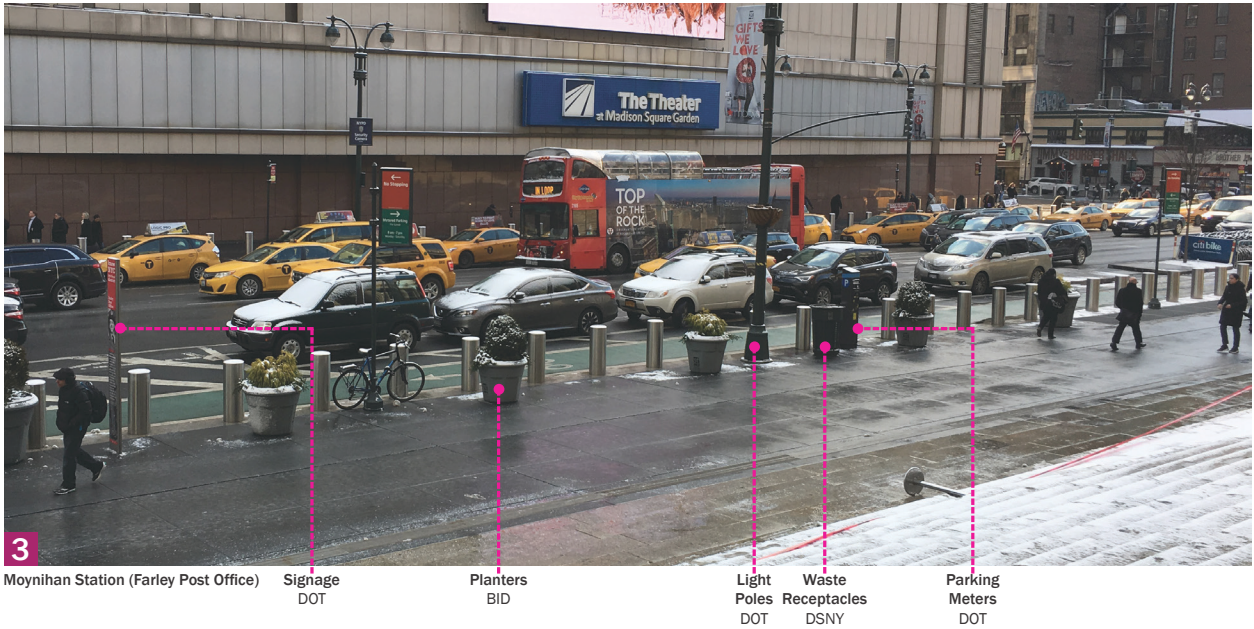
In 2018, the PDC obtained additional funding from the American Institute of Architects to continue the project with further research on housing precedents, which culminated in a searchable database of affordable housing sites. This database expands upon the working inventory of best practices and precedent research showcased in the publication and expand the NYC-based focus of the project to affordable housing case studies from across the United States and abroad. To access the database and for more information, visit nyc.gov/designcommission/affordablehousing.



1. Executive Director Justin Garrett Moore presenting during the opening of the “Social Housing” exhibit at AIA New York Center for Architecture
2. “Quality Affordable Housing in NYC” presentation at AIA New York Center for Architecture



Designing New York: Safer Streets for People



Following the success of *Designing New York: Quality Affordable Housing*, the PDC initiated a collaborative project with the Fine Arts Federation of New York and the Design Trust for Public Space to publish *Designing New York: Safer Streets for People*. This publication will establish guidelines for the quality design of public open spaces such as streetscapes, parks, and plazas, with a particular focus on security infrastructure and new technology.

Designing New York: Safer Streets for People will be a reference tool for city and state agencies, design professionals, schools, and community organizations nationwide.

In parallel with the launch of the publication, a public exhibition will highlight best practices for streetscape design from around the world. This will provide an opportunity to reach a broad audience and pose possible solutions for creating a public realm that both offers safety and prioritizes a welcoming, people-friendly experience.

In 2018, PDC staff began initial research into existing designs and guidelines both in New York City and nationwide. The project will continue in 2019, when the team will work to secure funding for research fellows and a graphic designer.



3. Excerpt from Public Design Commission presentation on streetscapes and security infrastructure
4. Case study research showing temporary security infrastructure at Lincoln Center, Manhattan
5. Executive Director Justin Garrett Moore moderating “Reshaping Streetscapes” at the Fine Arts Federation of New York Annual Meeting

Annual Awards for Excellence in Design

In May 2018, Deputy Mayor Alicia Glen and PDC President Signe Nielsen announced the winners of the Annual Awards for Excellence in Design at an event in City Hall. Since 1983, these awards have recognized public projects that exemplify how innovative and thoughtful public design can improve the public realm. The winning projects represent the wide range of City proposals reviewed by the Commission each year—from streetscape reconstructions to libraries to large mixed-use affordable housing developments.



The 2018 Award-Winning Projects

Rehabilitation of the New York State Pavilion Observation Towers and Tent of Tomorrow

Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens

A project of the Department of Parks & Recreation
Silman

Jan Hird Pokorny Associates
L'Observatoire International

The Studio Museum in Harlem

144 West 125th Street, Manhattan

A project of the Department of Cultural Affairs
and The Studio Museum in Harlem

Adjaye Associates
Cooper Robertson

Convergence by Shawn Smith

Westchester Square Branch Library,
9 Westchester Square, Bronx

A project of the Department of Cultural Affairs'
Percent for Art Program, the New York Public Library,
and the Department of Design and Construction
Shawn Smith
Snøhetta

Rehabilitation of the Brownsville Recreation Center

1555 Linden Boulevard, Brooklyn

A project of the Department of Parks & Recreation
1100 Architect
MNLA

Verizon Executive Education Center and Graduate Hotel

Cornell University/Cornell Tech Campus,
Roosevelt Island, Manhattan

A project of the Economic Development Corporation
Snøhetta
Field Operations

Reconstruction of the Reflecting Pool

Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens

A project of the Department of Parks & Recreation
Quennell Rothschild & Partners

Aship, Aground, Anew by Saul Becker

Snug Harbor Cultural Center Music Hall,
1000 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island

A project of the Department of Cultural Affairs'
Percent for Art Program and the Department of
Design and Construction
Saul Becker
Studio Joseph

Renovation of the Hamilton Fish Park Branch Library

415 East Houston Street, Manhattan

A project of the Department of Design and
Construction and the New York Public Library
Rice + Lipka Architects
Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects & Planners

Design of Prototypical Kiosks for Citywide Plazas

A project of the Department of Transportation
Billings Jackson Design

Restoration of the Concert Grove Pavilion

Concert Grove adjacent to East Lake Drive,
Prospect Park, Brooklyn

A project of the Department of Parks & Recreation
and the Prospect Park Alliance
Prospect Park Alliance In-House Design

Reconstruction of Garrison Playground

East 146th Street, Walton Avenue, and
the Grand Concourse, Bronx

A project of the Department of Parks & Recreation
Department of Parks & Recreation In-House Design



“The projects highlight the very best of our shared values and represent real investments in building a better city for all New Yorkers. Through excellence in design, our city’s agencies, architects, landscape architects, artists, and designers are working to enhance neighborhoods, improve our environment, health, and opportunities, and celebrate our creativity, history, and culture.”

Justin Garrett Moore
Public Design Commission Executive Director

Other Interagency Collaborations and Professional Development

In 2018, PDC staff continued to work collaboratively with other City agencies to improve the design review process, inform good design practices, and provide continuing educational development for staff and commissioners.



PDC staff began a coordinated effort to develop a strategy for integrating design review into the **Design/Build** process, working collaboratively with multiple City agencies, including the Department of Design and Construction and the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice.

Continuing our collaboration, PDC staff worked with the Department of City Planning and the NYC Economic Development Corporation to develop urban design principles and best practices for the **Sunnyside Yard Master Plan** development team.



Staff organized informational presentations by the **Downtown Alliance** and the **Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation** and attended presentations on **Nighttime Design** by Leni Schwendinger and the **Under the Elevated** initiative by the Department of Transportation and the Design Trust for Public Space.

Staff participated in a peer review of the Department of Homeless Service's **Conscious Shelter Design Guidelines**, and on the Advisory Committee for the forthcoming **Connected Communities Guidebook** by the New York City Housing Authority and the Department of City Planning.

Staff created a pamphlet for the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly that illustrated some ways in which PDC works to further the **UN's global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. PDC also continued to help the Department of Transportation update its Third Edition of the Street Design Manual.

The PDC became a partner to the **New York City Commission on Gender Equity**, working to build a citywide infrastructure to advance gender equity. Along with the Gender Equity Commission's Executive Director Jacqueline Ebanks, PDC staff presented to a meeting of the AIA's Women in Architecture Committee on how policy and design can achieve equity in the work place and in the public realm.

In addition, PDC Deputy Executive Director Keri Butler participated as a juror for the **BetterBin design competition** to create a practical and efficient litter basket for New York City. The competition was hosted by the Department of Sanitation, the Van Alen Institute, the Industrial Designers Society of America and the American Institute of Architects New York.

1. and 2. PDC staff participating in the NYCHA Connected Communities interagency urban design charrette hosted by the Department of City Planning, December 2018
3. NYC DOT and Design Trust's presentations to PDC of Under the Elevated "EI-Space" initiative to PDC took place both in office and on site
4. BetterBin design competition jurors and participants were invited to DSNY facilities for an interactive demonstration, December 2018



Commissioner Biographies

Signe Nielsen

Signe Nielsen is the Landscape Architect member and President of the Public Design Commission. As founding principal of her firm for 25 years, she has designed and supervised the construction of more than \$240 million worth of projects, including waterfront parks, large campuses, urban design and transportation improvements, and corporate facilities in the United States and abroad. Her design work has received more than two dozen national design awards, has been published extensively in professional journals and books on landscape architecture and has been exhibited in New York, Washington, DC, and Chicago. A Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Signe holds degrees in Urban Planning from Smith College, in Landscape Architecture from City College of New York, and in Construction Management from Pratt Institute.

Philip E. Aarons

Philip E. Aarons is a lay member and Vice President of the Public Design Commission and a partner at Millennium Partners, a developer of large-scale, mixed-use properties in major cities throughout the country. Prior to co-founding Millennium Partners in 1990, he was President of the real estate subsidiary of the General Atlantic Corporation, a pioneer in the construction of low-income housing. From early 1978 until 1983, Phil worked in the Koch Administration, first as an Assistant to the Mayor, and then, in mid-1979, as President of the Public Development Corporation overseeing projects including the South Street Seaport and Carnegie Hall restoration. An avid art collector, Phil is active on the boards of a number of cultural and civic organizations, including Friends of the High Line, where he is Founding Board Chair, Creative Time, MoMA PS1, Printed Matter, The Museum of Modern Art's Library Council, and Ballet Tech. Phil graduated from Columbia College where he majored in Art History and the Columbia University School of Law where he was an Editor of the Law Review.

Laurie Hawkinson

Laurie Hawkinson is the architect member of the Public Design Commission. She is a partner at Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects (SMH+); Professor of Architecture at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; and serves on Columbia University's Professional Schools' Diversity Council. Previously, she taught at Georgia Institute of Technology's School of Architecture, Southern California Institute of Architecture, Yale University's School of Architecture, the Institute for Advanced Architectural Studies in Venice, Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, Parsons School of Design's School of Environmental Design, and the University of Miami's School of Architecture. She has served on the Space Planning Committee of Columbia's Manhattanville Campus and on the Dean Search Committee of Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. She holds a Bachelor of Architecture from The Cooper Union, a Bachelor of Fine Arts from UC-Berkeley, a Master of Art in Department of Art Practice from UC-Berkeley, and was a recipient of the Whitney Museum's independent study fellowship.

Manuel Miranda

Manuel Miranda is a lay member of the Public Design Commission and a graphic designer. His studio, MMP, works across an expansive media spectrum to make places and ideas visible, legible, and navigable to people. In addition to professional practice, Manuel is an adjunct faculty member in the graduate graphic design program at the Yale School of Art and Vice President of the AIGA New York board of directors. In 2015, he led a team that created the winning proposal for Van Alen Institute's "National Parks Now", a competition to imagine new audience engagement strategies at urban parks for the National Park Service. Previously, Manuel was a design director at 2x4, Inc., and a senior designer at Brand Integration Group at Ogilvy. He earned a BFA from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA, and an MFA in Graphic Design from the Yale School of Art.

Richard W. Moore

Richard W. Moore serves on the Public Design Commission as the representative of the Brooklyn Museum, where he is a Trustee and a member of the Executive Committee of the Board and chairs its Building and Grounds Committee. A trusts and estates lawyer, Dick is of counsel in the Individual Clients department of the law firm of Day Pitney LLP. He currently serves as a member of the board of the Brooklyn Community Foundation and has also served on the boards of the HOPE Program, the Brooklyn Historical Society, and the Packer Collegiate Institute. Dick graduated from Harvard College and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Susan Morgenthau

Susan Morgenthau serves on the Public Design Commission as the representative of the New York Public Library, where she has been a Trustee since 2010. She has been a co-Chair of the Library Council since 2004, and is a member of the NYPL's Program and Policy Committee, Audit Committee, Development Committee, Finance Committee, and the Privacy and Policy Working Group. Susan's volunteer activity outside of the Library includes serving on the board of the Lehman College Foundation, The Riverdale Nature Preservancy, as well as a founding board member and past president of the Friends of Van Cortlandt Park. She currently serves on the Friends of Horticulture Committee at Wave Hill, a public garden in the Bronx, and is President of the Riverdale Sanitation Corporation, a private sanitary sewer serving over 300 properties in the North West Bronx. Susan is a former Head Teacher at the Brearley School, and served in the admissions office both at Brearley and at the Fieldston Lower School. She is an alumna of Vassar College, where she received a BA in Philosophy, and completed her graduate work at the Bank Street College of Education.

Ethel Sheffer

Ethel Sheffer serves on the Public Design Commission as the Mayor's Representative. She is an urban planner, civic and community leader, and educator. Ethel heads Insight Associates, a small consulting group providing research services and advice in community planning and development, land use, and collaborations among government, nonprofits, and the private sector. In the 1990s, she headed the Columbus Circle Tri-Board Task Force of Community Boards 4, 5, and 7 and the Riverside South Task Force. Ethel also served as President of the New York Metro Chapter of the American Planning Association from 2002 to 2008. She is a Board Member of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council and a member of the Municipal Art Society's Planning Committee, and she teaches in Columbia University's Graduate Planning Program.

Dr. Merryl H. Tisch

Dr. Merryl H. Tisch serves on the Public Design Commission as the representative of the Metropolitan Museum of Art where she is a trustee. She is one of the nation's leading voices on education, having served at the helm of New York State's governing body for education from 2009 to 2016. As Chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents, Dr. Tisch was responsible for setting the State's education policy and overseeing both public and private education throughout New York. She currently holds a number of philanthropic and civic positions, including serving as co-chairperson of the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, a leading social services agency. Dr. Tisch also sits on the executive committees of The Washington Institute for Near East Policy and the Citizens Budget Commission. Additionally, she serves on the board of The International Rescue Committee, The Trust for Cultural Resources of the City of New York, and the Graduate School of Education's Board of Overseers at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Tisch earned a B.A. from Barnard College, an M.A. in Education from New York University, and received an Ed.D from Teacher's College, Columbia University.

Shin-pei Tsay

Shin-pei is a lay member and Secretary of the Public Design Commission and the Executive Director of the Gehl Institute, a non-profit organization that works to improve the public realm. Previously she was the Deputy Executive Director of TransitCenter, a foundation committed to improving urban mobility. She founded and directed the cities and transportation research program and the Leadership in Transportation Solvency project at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, served as Deputy Director of Transportation Alternatives, Chief Operating Officer of Project for Public Spaces, was a founding member of the NYC office for ZGF Architects, and worked with Fortune 500 companies to develop Internet strategies. In 2010, she co-founded and directed Planning Corps, an organization that matches urban planners with community-based projects, whose work was selected for the U.S. Pavilion at the 2012 Venice Biennale for Architecture. Shin-pei currently serves on the Board of Directors for Transportation Alternatives and In Our Backyard, and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Government with distinction from Cornell University, and a Master of Science in Cities, Space, and Society from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Mary A. Valverde

Mary A. Valverde is the sculptor member of the Public Design Commission. She is an interdisciplinary artist who uses ephemeral materials to reflect upon sacred spaces and rituals and politics of production, exploitation, social roles, culture, and tradition. Mary teaches at Hunter and was the 2011 MFA Lecturer at the ICA Philadelphia. She is the recipient of the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Design's Full Dean's Diversity Fellowship and in 2010 received the Artist Fellowship, Inc., Individual Artist Award and the Mayer Foundation Grant. Mary's work has been exhibited at El Museo del Barrio, Queens Museum, Jersey City Museum, Momenta Gallery, Abrons Art Center, and Cuchifritos Gallery, among others. She received her MFA from the University of Pennsylvania and her BFA from the School of Visual Arts.

Hank Willis Thomas

Hank Willis Thomas is the painter member of the Public Design Commission. Hank's work is in numerous public collections including MoMA, the Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the High Museum of Art, and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. Hank has exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the United States and abroad, including Goodman Gallery in Johannesburg, Galerie Michel Rein in Paris, the Studio Museum in Harlem, and the Cleveland Art Museum. He is represented by Jack Shainman Gallery in New York City. Hank has acted as a visiting professor in the MFA programs at Virginia Commonwealth University, Maryland Institute College of Art, and ICP/Bard and lectured at Yale University, Harvard University, the Birmingham Museum of Art, and the Musée du Quai Branly in Paris. Hank earned a BFA from New York University and an MA and MFA from the California College of the Arts.

Staff Biographies

Justin Garrett Moore

Justin is an urban designer and the Executive Director of the Public Design Commission. He has extensive experience in urban design and city planning—from large-scale urban systems, policies, and projects to grassroots and community-focused planning, design, and arts initiatives. At the Public Design Commission his work is focused on prioritizing the quality and excellence of the public realm, and fostering accessibility, diversity, and inclusion in the City’s public landscapes, buildings, spaces, and art. He is a member of the American Planning Association’s AICP Commission, the Urban Design Forum, BlackSpace, and is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

Grace Han

Grace is an urban planner with over a decade of experience managing capital and planning projects, focusing on programming, place making, and civic vitality. Her projects have included cultural institutions, university campuses, and waterfront open space and development. As the Director of Capital Projects, she oversees the design review process, working closely with agency liaisons. Grace received her Masters’ in Urban Planning from Columbia University, where she has also taught, and has an undergraduate degree from Washington University in St. Louis.

Keri Butler

Keri is the Deputy Executive Director of the Public Design Commission. She holds a Masters’ in Arts Administration from the Art Institute of Chicago and has nearly 20 years of experience in her field in both New York City and Chicago. At the Public Design Commission, Keri works closely with New York City agencies on the development and design of capital projects with a particular focus on citywide prototypes, adaptive reuse of historic structures, public art commissions, and art conservation projects. She has collaborated with City and State agencies along with private partners to conserve the City’s art collection, including the City Hall portraits, large-scale sculptures, and WPA murals. Keri also oversees the Commission’s special initiatives and events, including City Hall tours, panels, exhibits, and the Annual Awards for Excellence in Design.

Rebecca Macklis

Rebecca is an urban designer and the Senior Urban Design Manager at the Public Design Commission. Her work is concentrated on design policy and regulatory design review of architecture and urban design projects, with a focus on affordable housing and mixed-use developments. She manages the *Designing New York: Quality Affordable Housing* initiative and also works on the Commission’s special projects such as the Annual Awards for Excellence in Design. Rebecca holds a Masters of Architecture in Urban Design from the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London, a BA in Architecture and Anthropology, with a minor in American Culture Studies, from Washington University in St. Louis, and has been a guest lecturer and critic at Syracuse University and Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

Jenna E. Miller

Jenna is the Urban Design and Policy Manager at the Public Design Commission. She is a LEED Accredited Professional in Building Design and Construction and co-founder of RUEd' ARCH LLC, and she has managed a breadth of public and private projects with design/build and architectural firms in both New York and Boston. Jenna holds a Master's Degree in Architecture from Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and a B.A. in Architecture and Environmental Studies from Wellesley College and was an active member of committees that monitored architectural and campus planning at both institutions. At PDC, Jenna manages interagency urban design and policy initiatives, particularly those with a focus on streetscape and security. Jenna manages the agency's geocoding, Annual Report, and the *Designing New York: Safer Streets for People* initiative, and she reviews designs, working to promote and develop strategies for improved excellence and quality of design in the City.

Carolina Llano

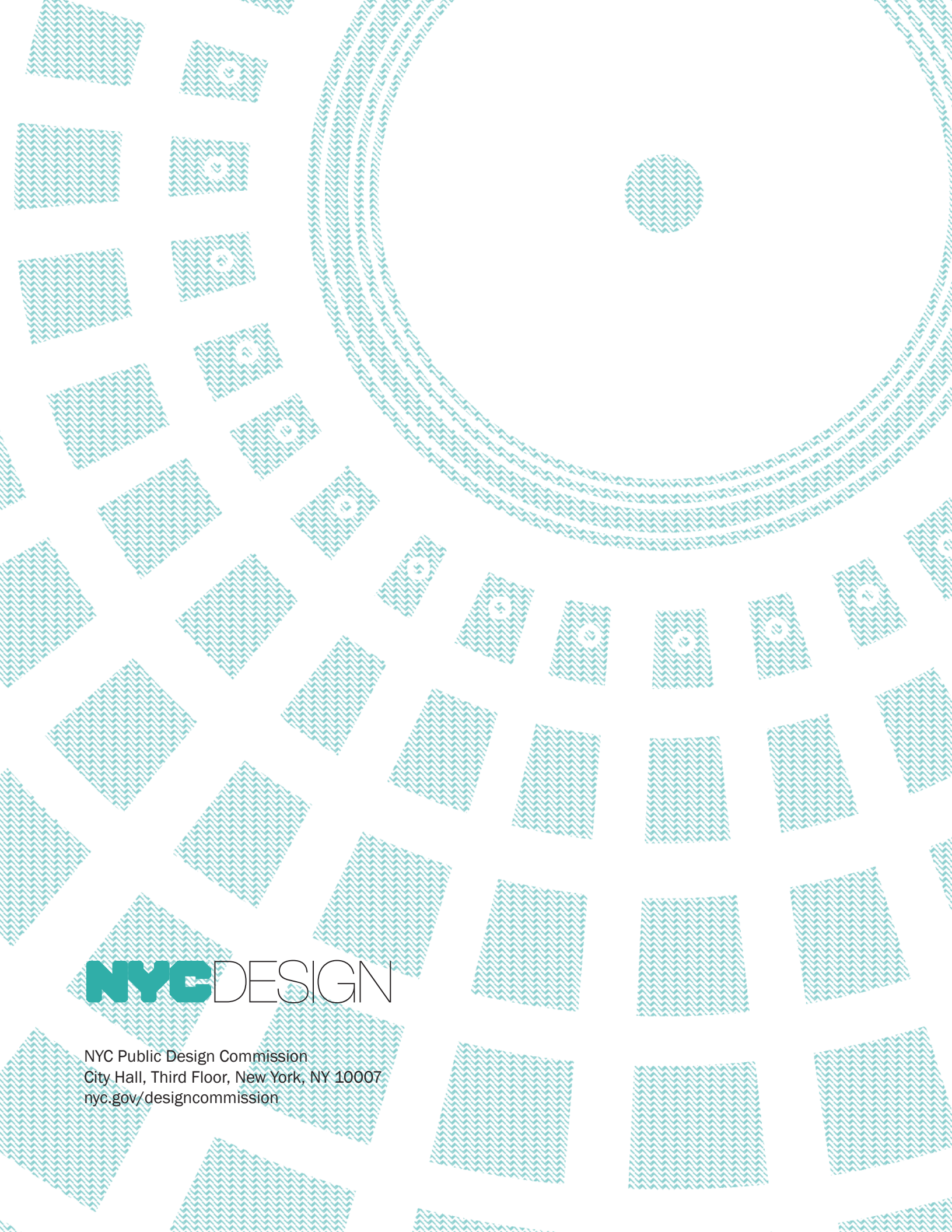
Carolina is a Project Manager at the Public Design Commission. At the Design Commission, Carolina reviews projects and proposals submitted by city agencies and assists with initiatives related to public art. She has prior experience on the project management of institutional, residential, and museum projects with architectural firms in New York City, and continues to pursue her interest in the intersection of art, architecture, and landscape. She holds a Master's Degree in Architecture from Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, as well as a B.A. in Architecture from the University of Florida.

Julianna Monjeau

Julianna is the Archivist and Senior Records Manager of the Public Design Commission. She holds a Master's Degree in Archives & Public History from New York University. At the Public Design Commission, she manages the accession and preservation of all public records reviewed by the Commission and provides research services. She also manages the digitization of Design Commission records and posts selections of digitized records on our Tumblr and Flickr accounts. She is a member of the Society of American Archivists, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, and the Archivist's Roundtable of the Metropolitan New York.

Mary Beth Betts

Mary Beth Betts is the Tour Manager at the Public Design Commission. She plans tours of New York City Hall, manages a team of four docents, and researches the diverse history of City Hall and its collections. She is an architectural historian and has worked at the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, The New-York Historical Society and taught architectural history at The Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture, The Cooper Union. She organized exhibitions on McKim, Mead & White, and New York City Hall and has published essays on Cass Gilbert, New York City Hall and the New York City waterfront. Mary Beth holds a Ph.D. in Art History from the Graduate Center, CUNY and a B.A. in Art History from the University of Virginia and is active in the Society of Architectural Historians and the Vernacular Architecture Forum.



NYC DESIGN

NYC Public Design Commission
City Hall, Third Floor, New York, NY 10007
nyc.gov/designcommission