

GREEN-WOOD

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL AWARDS \$4 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND DESIGN OF THE GREEN-WOOD GREEN-WAY

At long last, the Sunset Park community will reclaim a mile-and-a-half of neglected stretch of precious public space for people, bikes, art, and access



BROOKLYN, N.Y. [July 27, 2026] — The Green-Wood Cemetery today announced \$4 million in funding from the New York City Council for community outreach and design of the Green-Wood Green-Way.

Today, the mile and half stretch along Fort Hamilton Parkway from McDonald Avenue to 37th Street and along 37th and 36th Streets to Fourth Avenue is made up of limited and largely damaged sidewalks. Despite being an essential connecting corridor, it has no designated space for pedestrians or bicycle access. Instead, it is populated with illegally parked trucks and RVs,

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heavy machinery, and mountains of dumped trash, all along a solid iron gate that provides no access to Green-Wood's 478 acres of history, memory, peace, and greenery. These critical funds will be used to gather community feedback and design the corridor, allowing this forgotten real estate to be returned to the community. It will include a broad pedestrian boulevard, protected bike lanes, new plantings, lighting, seating, and public art. The Green-Way will be paired with a new Sunset Park entrance to Green-Wood, a welcoming gateway connecting Sunset Park and visitors arriving via the nearby Ninth Avenue D train station to the massive green space. The new entrance will be positioned to highlight and bring awareness to Green-Wood's Freedom Lots, the largest undisturbed, nineteenth-century burial site of Black Americans in New York City.

Green-Wood expressed deep gratitude to New York City Council Speaker Julie Menin, Majority Leader and Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Shaun Abreu, Council Members Alexa Avilés and Shahana Hanif, Brooklyn Delegation Co-Chair Councilmembers Chi Ossé and Rita Joseph, and the full New York City Council for securing this critical and transformational funding. Green-Wood looks forward to working expeditiously with City Council and the Mamdani Administration to ensure the children of Sunset Park do not have to wait a lifetime for pedestrian- and bike-friendly streets.

"For too many lifetimes the Sunset Park community has been bordered by a mile-and-a-half of no man's land and a critical transportation connector has laid fallow," said **Meera Joshi, President of The Green-Wood Cemetery**. "The wait is over, the Green-Wood Green-Way and new entrance will turn this neglected public space into a neighborhood destination and provide easy access to Green-Wood's 478 acres. We can't wait to get to work with Council, the Mamdani Administration and our community partners to build it for all New Yorkers.

"No neighborhood should have to wait years for basic improvements that make streets safer and communities stronger," said **Speaker Julie Menin**. "This \$4 million investment will transform a long-neglected corridor in Sunset Park by improving safety, preventing illegal dumping, and creating a direct connection to Green-Wood's green space. The Council is proud to make this long-overdue investment in the future of Sunset Park."

"As the Council's former Sanitation Chair, I know what illegal dumping does to a neighborhood. As Transportation Chair, I know what a missing bike lane does to a delivery worker's safety. This funding addresses both, turning a corridor plagued by dumping and unsafe traffic conditions into a physically protected connection between Sunset Park and Green-Wood. I'll make sure the final design lives up to what this community has been asking for," said **Majority Leader Shaun Abreu, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair**.

"This investment reflects what Sunset Park residents have been asking for, an end to illegal dumping and unsafe streets, and the strengthening of a connection between our neighborhood

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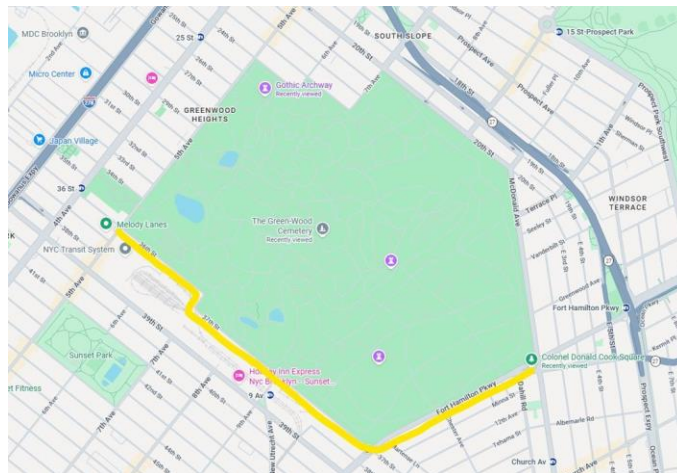
and this incredible green space. I'm grateful to my colleagues for standing with this community," said **Council Member Alexa Avilés**.

"Safe, accessible streets aren't optional, they're essential. The Green-Way will let delivery workers, commuters, and families who rely on this corridor every day move safely, while turning a neglected stretch of street into real green space. I'm proud to help bring that investment to Sunset Park," said **Council Member Shahana Hanif**.

"Brooklyn deserves investment in public spaces that reflects our shared history and how much our communities value green spaces and safer streets. The Green-Wood Green-Way and new access to Green-Wood and its historic Freedom Lots is exactly that kind of investment. I am proud to have secured this funding through the Brooklyn Delegation," said **Brooklyn Delegation Co-Chair Chi Ossé**.

On Friday, July 17th, Green-Wood welcomed Majority Leader Abreu, Council Member Avilés, Transportation Alternatives, and community advocates for a walk along the proposed Green-Way route to examine current conditions and discuss the next steps for the project.

The vision for the Green-Wood Green-Way has been informed by conversations with neighborhood organizations and advocates, including UPROSE, the Center for Family Life, the Chinese-American Planning Council, Transportation Alternatives, Bike South Brooklyn, and Brooklyn Community Board 7. Green-Wood will continue to engage with neighborhood organizations and advocates to further develop the vision for the Green-Way.



Proposed Route of the Green-Wood Green-Way

About Green-Wood

Established in 1838, The Green-Wood Cemetery, a National Historic Landmark, is recognized as one of the world's most beautiful cemeteries. As the permanent residence of over 580,000

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individuals, Green-Wood's magnificent grounds, grand architecture, and world-class statuary have made it a destination for half a million visitors annually, including national and international tourists, New Yorkers, and Brooklynites. At the same time, Green-Wood is also an outdoor museum, an arboretum, and a repository of history. Throughout the year, it offers innovative programs in arts and culture, nature and the environment, education, workforce development, restoration, and research, as well as bold initiatives in climate resiliency and sustainability. For more information, please visit green-wood.com.



July 17th tour of the Green-Wood Green-Way