



TABLING SESSION MEETING MINUTES

PROJECT: Tompkins Square Mini Pool, Courts, and Adult Fitness
MEETING DATE: May 16, 2026
PREPARED BY: Alex Kozar

ATTENDEES:

Steve Simon	Chief of Staff for Manhattan, NYC Parks
Terese Flores	Regional Manager, Manhattan, NYC Parks
Rachel Kramer	Design Director, NYC Parks
Alex Kozar	Project Manager / Landscape Architect, NYC Parks
Ted Aretakis	Landscape Architect, MKW
Jennifer Kruse	Council Member Epstein's Office

A tabling session was hosted by Parks and the Councilmembers office on Saturday May 16th from 11am – 1pm. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for those not available for the original Community Input Meeting in January to provide their feedback and also offer translation services for those in need. Parks stated the intent of the current project is to reconstruct the pools, courts, and fitness area. It was reiterated that these types of projects were only typically done every 20 to 30 years and that this was an opportunity to improve vital infrastructure that would enhance accessibility, safety, and reduce flooding and storm impacts on the neighborhood.

General Feedback:

1. The general feedback was in favor of keeping the courts and fitness areas untouched.
2. The style and dimensions of the fitness equipment are unique to Tompkins Square Park and superior to those found in the rest of the city.
3. The idea of adding accessible equipment was welcomed as long as it was not at the expense of any existing equipment.
4. Many participants advocated for using the Tompkins fitness equipment as a template for other new fitness areas.
5. J. Hood Wright and 72nd St. were given as other good examples of fitness equipment.
6. Phasing was requested to reduce the duration of closure for the courts and fitness.
7. The community presented a petition that is circulating in favor of not reconstructing the fitness area.



8. The fitness area is a deeply cherished amenity of the greater community and in addition to the petition they requested to maintain continuous daily access.
9. The fitness area serves as a multi-generational gathering place for community members.
10. Pickleball was discussed, but with a vocal majority against the addition to the handball area. One participant advocated in favor of and provided an informational packet to Parks.
11. Patrons of the pool were supportive of the project and happy to hear about improved accessibility and improved pool amenities planned for the site.
12. Adjacent residents have concerns about ongoing construction at the park.
13. Additional seating around courts and fitness was requested.
14. The disabled spray shower was brought up and requests were made to fix it.
15. Support for accessible entrance along 10th St.
16. Council Member Epstein arrived at the end of the meeting and spoke of his commitment to advocating for the wishes of the people and working with Parks to help achieve that.
17. The tabling session confirmed the same feedback that was heard during the Community Input Meeting.