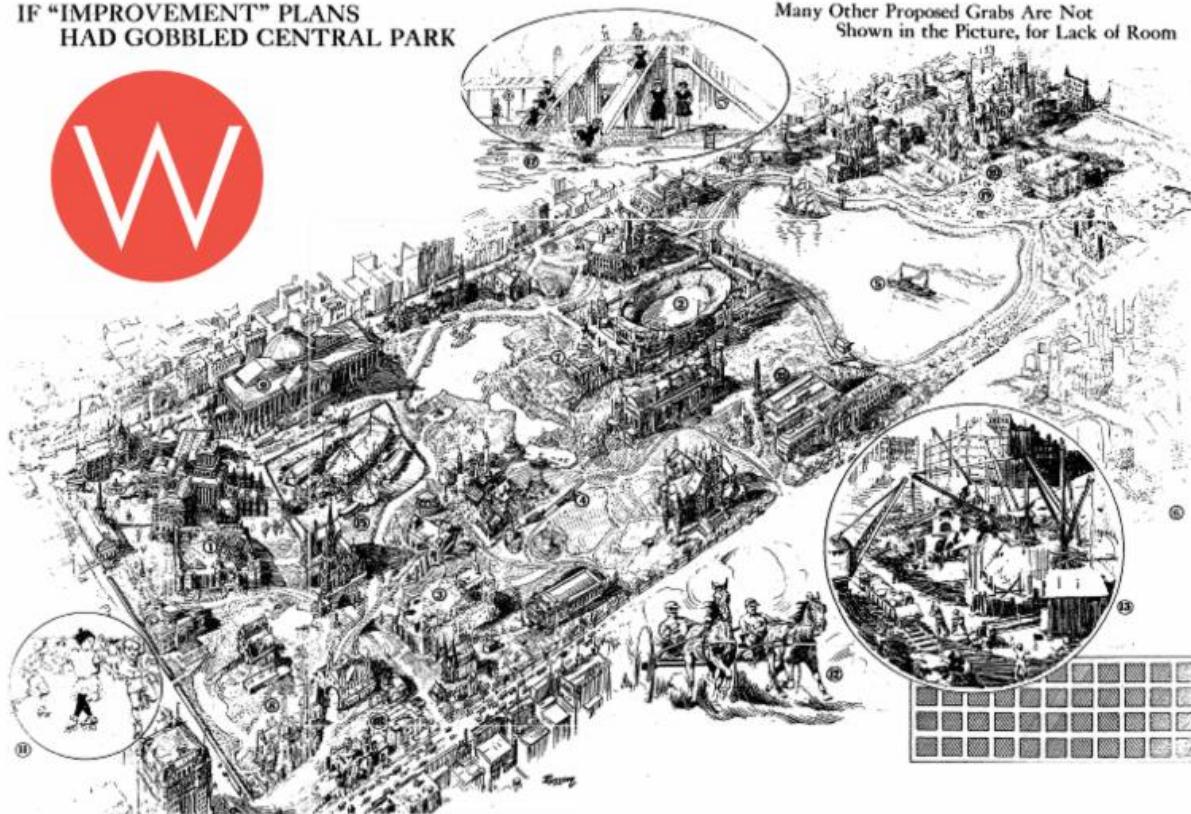


IF "IMPROVEMENT" PLANS
HAD GOBBLED CENTRAL PARK

Many Other Proposed Grabs Are Not
Shown in the Picture, for Lack of Room



Mayor de Blasio's plan would chomp down on
carriages
AND Central Park, too!

January 20, 2016

If the various persons who have sought to invade Central Park in the last sixty years, for projects in themselves often worthy, oftener grotesque, and frequently purely commercial, had had their way, there would now be nothing left of the park... ~ New York Times, caricature of Central Park, 1918 (see full image in the NYT Time Machine [HERE](#)).

***HAY* - No!**

**Mayor de Blasio's rushed, behind-the-scenes deal
heads to City Council *this Friday, January 22, at 10 am***

**Please attend this public hearing at City Hall
to make your voice heard!**

**Also, please join fellow New Yorkers concerned about this deal
on the steps of City Hall tomorrow, **Thursday, January 21, at 1 pm!****

First, Mayor de Blasio wanted to **ban** horse-drawn carriages in Central Park, a naked attempt to free up the carriages' existing West Side stable property for redevelopment as luxury housing. The result would have been electric cars replacing the horses - an absurd idea that has thankfully been put out to pasture.

But, in a political side-step, the Mayor now wants to **confine** the carriage business to Central Park, significantly **reduce** their numbers, and **usurp public land** in "the People's Park," a NYC Scenic Landmark and National Historic Landmark for what would need to be a large new stable on 86th Street - again, to free up the existing West Side stable property for redevelopment as luxury housing.

Betsy Barlow Rogers, founder of the Central Park Conservancy:

"[this plan] absolutely must be opposed" NYT [article](#), January 19, 2016

Liam Neeson, actor and New York City resident:

"...an entire way of life and a historic industry are under threat. We should ask whether this is the New York we want to live in..." NYT [op-ed](#), April 14, 2014

Add your voice to help reign this plan in! **Write to City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito** (mviverito@council.nyc.gov), with copies to every member of the Committee on Transportation (see list below), underscoring what Mayor de Blasio's horse-trading would do:

- Destroy a vibrant New York City institution
- Diminish the character of Central Park
- Use an estimated \$25 million in taxpayer dollars to subsidize the privatization of public parkland
- Take jobs from hundreds of horses and drivers
- Dislocate "the shops" - blacksmiths, woodworkers and other caretakers of Central Park who currently occupy the historic building slated for redevelopment as the new stable
- Force the radical expansion of the existing historic building to create a new stable in the middle of Central Park

Read more from our friends at [New York Parks Advocates](#).



1875 Currier and Ives print of Central Park: "Picturesque serpentine carriage drives...crossed unobtrusively over the traverse roads on bridges which were scarcely noticed by **the brilliant array of carriages drawn by horses** which were a conspicuous feature of the afternoon drive when New Yorkers turned out in force to see and be seen." ~ From the Landmarks Preservation Commission's 1974 designation report on the Central Park Scenic Landmark, designed by landscape architects Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, 1858

City Council's Transportation Committee:

Ydanis A. Rodriguez, Chair (dist. 10)	rodriguez@council.nyc.gov
Daniel R. Garodnick (dist. 04)	garodnick@council.nyc.gov
James Vacca (dist. 13)	vacca@council.nyc.gov
Margaret S. Chin (dist. 01)	chin@council.nyc.gov
Stephen T. Levin (dist. 33)	slevin@council.nyc.gov
Deborah Rose (dist. 49)	drose@council.nyc.gov
James G. Van Bramer (dist. 26)	jvanbramer@council.nyc.gov
David G. Greenfield (dist. 44)	dgreenfield@council.nyc.gov
Costa G. Constantinides (dist. 22)	costa@council.nyc.gov
Carlos Menchaca (dist. 38)	info38@council.nyc.gov
I. Daneek Miller (dist. 27)	district27@council.nyc.gov
Antonio Reynoso (dist. 34)	areynoso@council.nyc.gov
Donovan Richards (dist. 31)	drichards@council.nyc.gov

Please also cc. landmarkwest@landmarkwest.org

LANDMARK WEST!
45 West 67th Street
(212) 496-8110
landmarkwest@landmarkwest.org

