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## EXCLUSIVE: Forest City Ratner unveils design of 8-acre park at Brooklyn's Pacific Park mega-development



BY KATHERINE  
CLARKE



Pacific Park, the namesake park of real estate giant Forest City Ratner's enormous Prospect Heights mega-development, might finally cross from drawing board to reality. After seemingly endless delays, the company and its partner Greenland have finally unveiled a masterplan and renderings of the 8-acre park at the heart of their new residential and commercial megaproject, which is slated to comprise 16 towers featuring condos and 2,250 units of affordable housing over 22 acres.

"The park will make this pocket of the borough more livable for residents of many different Brooklyn neighborhoods," said MaryAnne Gilmartin, the president and CEO of Forest City, which plans to present the plans at a local community meeting on Wednesday. "There will no longer be a dearth of green space in the heart of Brooklyn. Instead, there will be sprawling lawns, shaded benches and valued neighborhood amenities across eight acres of public open space that will reknit these communities together."



The long, meandering park, which will follow the footprint of the new towers, is designed by landscape architect Thomas Balsley, best known for spaces such as Gantry Plaza State Park in Long Island City and Hunter's Point South Waterfront Park. It's slated to feature a public plaza, separate toddler and children play areas, sloping lawns, a bocce ball court, a basketball court, a dog run, a public promenade, glowing lanterns and a water garden with floating foliage.

The first phase of the park, which will comprise a swath of land between new residential projects on Carlton and Vanderbilt Aves. and Dean St. and Atlantic Ave., is slated to open next summer to coincide with the opening of two towers abutting the park — they are 550 Vanderbilt, a 278 - unit condo development, and 535 Carlton, a 298-unit affordable housing complex.

But the park is much more than just a backyard for the residents of new luxury towers, Balsley said.

“Everyone agreed that we wanted this to look just like a normal accessible park that you would see elsewhere in the city,” he told the News. “We wanted this to be a great space that could be shared by the whole neighborhood as well as the residents of these buildings.”



The park will be open to the public 365 days a year.

The full build out is slated to happen over the next 10 years, to be completed by 2025.