



PO Box 610300 E: [friendsofcrocheron@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofcrocheron@gmail.com)  
Bayside, NY 11361 W: [www.crocheronpark.org](http://www.crocheronpark.org)

Honorable Councilmember Vickie Paladino  
20-15 Francis Lewis Blvd  
Whitestone, NY 11357

Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear Honorable Councilmember Vickie Paladino,

Thank you for your ongoing support of our programs and parkland at Crocheron & John Golden Park. Not only have you supported our programs through discretionary funding, which Parks worked with us to steward for items like volunteer equipment and an interpretative board on pollinators, you have advocated for our park's playground with \$6.7 million from yourself and the Speaker Adams. Your dedication to our community is mirrored by your staff, working hard to ensure we receive what our community deserves.

Since our group's inception in the summer of 2020, our community has been concerned about the condition the gazebos. The bricks are falling apart around the perimeter wall and the gazebos themselves have been in various states of disrepair. Currently, the northern gazebo structure is falling apart rapidly and is a safety hazard from above. The wood is rotted through and has fallen/is falling. NYC Parks has done all that they can within their budget and skill. We of the southern gazebo has been repaired; but, like the northern gazebo, the brickwork around the structure is still falling apart, causing a hazard along the cliffside.

It is Friends of Crocheron & John Golden Park's responsibility to build community is to create areas for people to visit, and bring their money to our businesses. While it is not fun to pick up litter from Bayside Milk Farm or VIPizza, it is a nice reminder that people who support our park are shopping local. We hope that our group's ongoing efforts to bring people to the park, and ensure it is a space that reflects how we would prefer them to conduct themselves, continues this positive loop that elevates our local economy, community, and selves.

We appreciate your ongoing support and hard work to ensure our community is safe. We are proud of our work to help connect our members, volunteers, and fellow parkies working together to help preserve the parkland, which has fallen into disrepair due to fiscal constraints. Thank you for everything that you do to help support our group's efforts to improve our community through positive and clean open spaces.

We would like to thank you and your staff for your ongoing commitment to Crocheron & John Golden Park. Please let me know if there is anything else that we can provide for your office, on this matter or any others across the district.

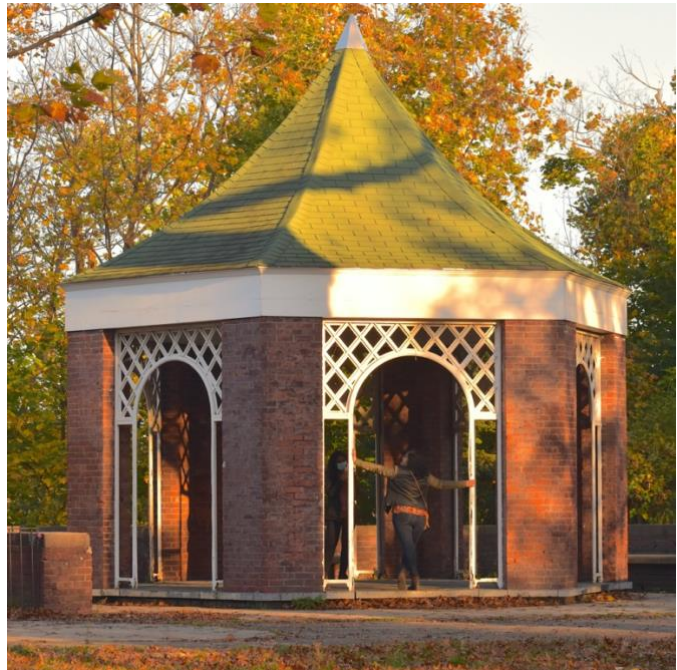
Thank you and best regards,

Jessica Burke  
Founding President  
Friends of Crocheron & John Golden Park

**Photos of Gazebo, through the years**



NYC Municipal Archives, 1930s or 1940s



Jan Arzooman, December 2020



March 2022 (from correspondence with Parks)



February 2023 (from correspondence with Parks)



March 2024



Northern Gazebo, current damage:











Southern Gazebo, current damage:

