



Connecting People and Parks and Conserving the Emerald Necklace

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NEWS RELEASE of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy  
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## **Emerald Necklace Conservancy Names New President**

Boston - June 16, 2016 –The Board of Directors of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy announced today the hiring of Karen Mauney-Brodek as President of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy.

"Karen has a wonderful track record of park experience in New York and San Francisco and a tremendous passion for the role that parks play in the life of any city. She has the ability to work well with our public partners and other stakeholders who care deeply about and use the parks," stated Conservancy Board Chair Ben Taylor.

Mauney-Brodek is the Community Opportunity Fund Program Manager and Project Manager for the City of San Francisco Parks Department where she leads outreach, communications, planning, design and construction of numerous public park renovation projects and initiatives, including internal and external stakeholder management. As project leader for the Glen Canyon Park Improvement Plan, she developed, implemented and managed an improvement plan for over \$20 million in capital investment. Additionally, she played key roles in the development and implementation of two general obligation bond measures, which were overwhelmingly supported by the voters of San Francisco providing over \$300 million in funding for park renovations since 2008 to the city's parks.

Prior to joining San Francisco Parks in 2006, Mauney-Brodek was Chief of the Design Build Program in the Design & Construction Division of the New York Department of Parks & Recreation, the largest municipal parks department in the United States, managing a \$15–20 million annual program which selected, designed, and built or rebuilt all or portions of 100 parks and playgrounds annually.

The search committee was led by Jeff Cook, Conservancy Board Vice Chair. Cook, in summing up the selection process, stated, "We had a wonderful search process with involvement from our board, park overseers, staff, Liff Committee and public partners. We worked with Andrew Wheeler of Diversified Search and had an applicant pool of over 150 qualified candidates recruited locally, regionally and nationally. Karen rose to the top because of her leadership, passion and style as well as her extensive experience and networks in the parks world across the country."



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Mauney-Brodek succeeds long-time president Julie Crockford and will be the third president since the organization's inception in 1998. She holds a bachelor's degree from Columbia University and dual master's degrees in Architecture, and City and Regional Planning/Urban Design from the University of California, Berkeley.

The Conservancy's Susan Knight has been serving as interim president and will re-assume her position as director of development upon Mauney-Brodek's arrival in mid-August.

"I am honored to be part of the next chapter of the story of the Emerald Necklace and the Emerald Necklace Conservancy. We are in a unique position to steward this marvelous park system and work with all of our partners to provide an amazing park experience," stated Mauney-Brodek.

"Karen will be a terrific leader for the Emerald Necklace Conservancy as we build on our work to restore and maintain Olmsted's great gift to our city and region," offered Taylor.

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### **About the Emerald Necklace**

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy is a private nonprofit 501 3(c) organization that brings people together to renew, enliven and advocate for the Emerald Necklace parks designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Our programs and projects reflect this mission and include: Parks restoration and maintenance; stewardship and volunteer activities, educational programs and tours; as well as special events in the parks. The Conservancy builds strong partnerships with the public sector park owners, neighborhoods and individuals, and businesses and organizations in order to keep the Olmsted-designed Emerald Necklace parks healthy and vibrant for today and tomorrow. To learn more, please visit [www.emeraldnecklace.org](http://www.emeraldnecklace.org) or call 617-522-2700.