Dear Astoria Neighbors,

On behalf of the Friends of Astoria Heights Park, I am writing to invite you to join our effort to create and install a colorful and exuberant mural at the Astoria Heights Park Playground by volunteering a letter of support for this project. The mural would be the first major step in our group’s mission to rally the community around the project of revitalizing our precious local playground. The mural will demonstrate our community’s appreciation and love of this space, which so many of us use on a regular basis, and it will signal our enthusiasm and commitment to making this park one of the most attractive, joyful, and safe public spaces in New York City.

As conceived by neighborhood resident and frequent Astoria Heights Park visitor Lenore Koppelman, the mural’s design incorporates a natural landscape theme of flora and fauna. This is a celebration of the outdoors, a happy reminder of the delights of green spaces intended to appeal directly to our playground’s most enthusiastic inhabitants—this neighborhood’s young children who spend so much time playing here. Friends of Astoria Heights Park is excited about overseeing the creation of this mural and organizing regular volunteer efforts to maintain it.

In addition to making our park a visibly more beautiful and more evidently cared-for place, the processes of mural-making and its maintenance will encourage civic pride and community engagement. It will truly be a community effort from start to finish, which is as important to us as the mural itself. That is why it is vitally important to us to partner with community organizations, local businesses, parents, and schools. As we join forces to serve this playground, steady improvements in its appearance, equipment, cleanliness, and safety will pay dividends to all of us, promoting teamwork, volunteerism, and genuine pride in our neighborhood.

The children of Astoria Heights deserve a beautiful and safe Astoria Heights playground. The only way that will happen is if we pool our energies and talents, stand together and work together. We believe that the implementation of our mural project is an invaluable first step towards achieving that end. We would be honored to have you express your support for the mural in the form of a letter that would be part of our presentation at the end of April to the parks department to win their approval for this undertaking.

If you choose to write a letter of support, please remit it at your earliest convenience and by no later than Monday April 21st to lynnk@friendsofastoriaheightspark.org. Again, we would deeply appreciate your support, now as we petition for this project and in the future when we implement it.

Sincerely,

Lynn Kennedy
Chair, Friends of Astoria Heights Park
Above: Concept art sketch for Astoria Heights Park
Playground mural

Below and Right:
Photographic visualizations of proposed mural, before and after shots