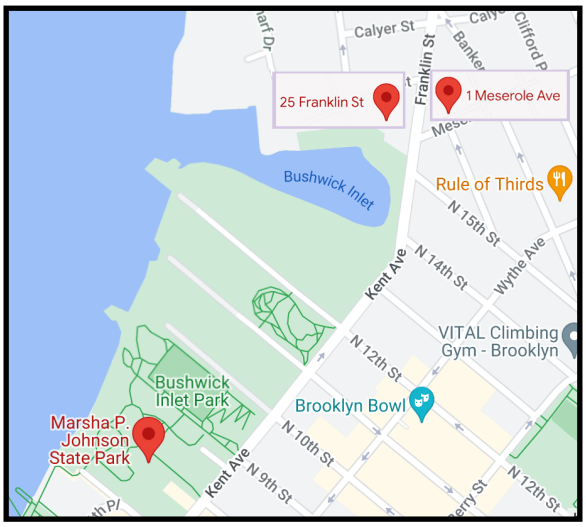
GREENPOINT NOT GREED-POINT

Vote 'NO' To New Nightclub Group Liquor Licenses

Greenpoint, originally home of the Keskachauge, Lenape people, was so named for its verdant forest, meadows, and freshwater creeks. Following years of polluting industry and what was, at the time, the largest oil spill in United States History in Newtown Creek in 1950, we are finally on track to make our community green again. Central to creating a safe, ecologically healthy, and community-oriented neighborhood is the protection of our native and migratory wildlife. As such, we vehemently oppose the development of two new nightlife venues bordering our Bushwick Inlet Waterway.

Bushwick Inlet Park, a 27-acre piece of land along the East River, has been under development since 2005 - nearly 20 years. Construction on the parcel of land known as the Motiva Parcel began on March 2024, and when it is complete, will include "a riparian shoreline, soft water's edge and getdown, human powered boating access and floating research oyster stations."[1]

Bushwick Inlet Park is an opportunity to provide a refuge for local wildlife and migratory bird species that are critical to healthy ecosystems. Birds act as pollinators, pest control, and agents of biodiversity[2], helping other plant and animal species thrive and improving our ecosystems and community. These two new nightlife venues pose a significant threat to the ecological health of the park. The inlet is also connected to the recently constructed Marsha P. Johnson State Park, which cost approximately $2.3 million to build.



Bushwick Inlet Park attracts a variety of birds; according to crowd sourced data from eBird, over 50 species of birds were observed In Bushwick Inlet Park in May alone, including an American kestrel, Red-Tailed Hawk, Great Egret, Double-Crested cormorant and a number of migratory warblers[3]. Historically, other priority species such as the Ruby-throated hummingbird and American Bald Eagle have been observed in the Inlet.

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[1] https://bushwickinletpark.org/movita-section-construction-breaks-ground/

[2] https://www.wcs.org/get-involved/updates/world-migratory-bird-day

[3] https://ebird.org/hotspot/L2987635/bird-list?yr=curM&rank=lrec

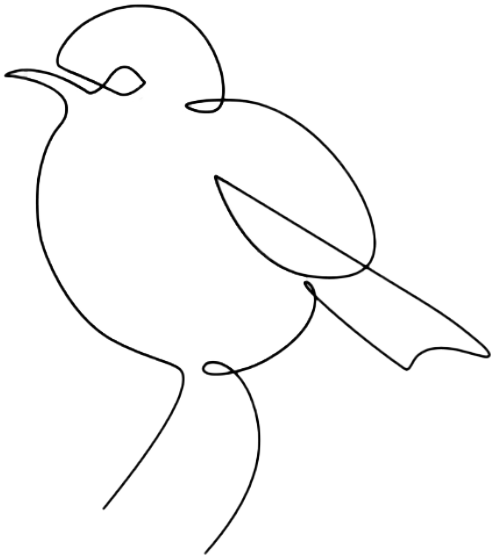
Artificial light and noise pollution can disrupt birds' migratory paths, drawing them off course and sometimes causing fatal building collisions. Noise and light pollution can effect breeding habits leaving chicks less able to survive.[4] Litter associated with nightlife has been found in nests of over 170 bird species[5], which can harm nestlings and adult birds.

NYC is already all for the birds!

Following the landmark passage of citywide bird-friendly design legislation in late 2019 (soon to be renamed the FLACO Act ("Feathered Lives Also Count" Act), NYC Audubon has shifted its advocacy focus towards the creation and passage of legislation that would require a reduction in non-essential artificial night-time lighting during spring and fall migration from the approximate hours of 11pm to 6am - peak hours of nightlife operation for the proposed businesses at 25 Franklin Street and 1 Meserole Avenue.

Introduced in the NY State Senate by State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal (District 47) and the NY State Assembly by State Assemblymember Patricia Fahy (District 109), the Dark Skies Protection Act would add a new article to the environmental conservation law, which provides for the control of light pollution in New York State and establishes limits on the use of non-essential outdoor lighting.

Our local Greenpoint community supports the momentum gaining for the Dark Skies Protection act and we wish to protect the Bushwick Inlet and the wildlife sustained there. The Tao Group Hospitality's global network of bars, restaurants, and clubs, and other medium to large-scale nightlife businesses, are diametrically opposed to these goals. It is our goal for this committee to reconsider granting them permission to set roots here. Please help us keep the greed out of our neighborhood and keep Greenpoint green. Say 'no' to new nightlife and do not approve of the liquor licenses for Franklin BK Hospitality LLC (25 Franklin Street) or Meserole Ave Corp, DBA Deuces Nightlife (1 Meserole Avenue).



McGoldrick Bird Club

[4] https://new.nsf.gov/news/noise-light-pollution-affect-breeding-habits-birds

[5] https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jul/10/safety-concerns-for-chicks-grow-as-birds-build-nests-with-rubbish-study-