



The High Line created the ¡Arriba! Party in response to neighbors' feedback. Photo by: Rowa Lee, The High Line

HIGH LINE NETWORK CASE STUDY

Putting Budget Power in Community Hands

Organization: Friends of the High Line

Park: [High Line](#)

Location: New York, NY

Infrastructure type: Railway

Theme: Community Engagement

Project phase: Open / Ongoing

The High Line is backing up a commitment to equity with their checkbook: Their Neighbors Council has decision-making power over a portion of the High Line's budget. Fifteen Council members, people who live and work in the Manhattan neighborhoods the 1.5-mile greenway traverses, receive a stipend for their participation on the Council, which meets monthly. Through the Council, the High Line is able to develop and strengthen connections with community members and to elicit Council member input and ideas to better serve neighbors, small businesses, and other West Side stakeholders. One way the High Line leverages the ideas and input of the Council is through the "Neighbor to Neighbor Fund," an annual visioning process

that helps elevate issues impacting the local community. Once an issue has been identified, the High Line then directs financial resources to addressing it. By engaging Council members as co-designers, the High Line wants to empower them to hold it accountable to its promise to link “individuals and communities to the social, environmental, cultural, and economic resources on and off the High Line.”

Related Resources:

[CFT Case Study: Putting Budget Power in Community Hands](#)

WHO WE ARE

Presented by the High Line, the High Line Network is a group of infrastructure reuse projects—and the people who help them come to life. As cities become denser and land for traditional parks becomes more scarce, residents are finding creative ways to bring greenspace to their neighborhoods. Projects in the High Line Network transform underutilized infrastructure into new urban landscapes. Redefining what a park can be, these hybrid spaces are also public squares, open-air museums, botanical gardens, social service organizations, walkways, transit corridors, and more. For more information about the High Line Network, please visit network.thehighline.org