

Project Proposal

11th Street Community Garden

Description

Repair and stabilize the section of brick walkway surrounding the donation box area, approximately from the 20-foot mark to the 30-foot mark, by resetting the existing bricks on a new leveled base while preserving the appearance and character of the current pathway.

Sketch



Benefits

This project will:

- Stabilize loose and uneven bricks before they develop into more significant tripping hazards.
- Reduce recurring maintenance from individually resetting bricks as they shift.
- Improve the stability and consistency of the walkway around the donation box area.
- Reuse existing bricks and preserve the appearance and character of the existing pathway.
- Extend the previously tested walkway repair method to another deteriorating section.

Challenges

Weather

Severe weather or conditions unsuitable for excavation, leveling, or application of polymeric sand may require the work to be postponed or completed during the contingency period.

Uneven Existing Conditions

The underlying soil may require additional leveling. Minor field adjustments may be made to achieve a safe and stable finished surface.

Work Area Safety

The pathway will be temporarily impassable while bricks are removed and reset. The work area will be clearly blocked off and remain closed until the surface is restored and safe for normal use.

Public Access

There is no practical alternative route around this section of the walkway. Work must therefore be scheduled outside required public-access hours and completed before the next scheduled opening.

Material Delivery

Materials will be delivered shortly before the work day and staged to minimize interference with normal garden operations.

Project Completion

The project scope is limited so the walkway can be fully restored within the approved work period.

Additional Maintenance

Normal maintenance may include:

- Occasional sweeping.
- Replenishing joint sand if settlement occurs.
- Routine inspection for shifting or damaged bricks.

Funding & Materials

Existing Materials

- Existing brick walkway
- Existing levels, hand tools, and pressure washer
- Leftover leveling sand from the previous walkway repair

Materials to Purchase

Item	Quantity	Estimated Cost
Plastic paver panels	6 panels	\$78
Pea Gravel	2 bags	\$14
Locking/polymeric sand	1 bag	\$25

Budgeted total cost: up to \$125



Best Seller

20.04 in. x 36 in. Black Brock Paver Base Panel

by PAVERBASE >

★★★★★ (915)

Long Island City Store

✓ 23 in stock Aisle 60, Bay 014

- Eliminates the hassle of building traditional walkways
- Lightweight panel replaces bag base and most of the sand
- Great for pavers, patios and other areas with foot traffic

BULK PRICE ELIGIBLE **\$11.97**

Buy 20 or more \$10.77

Pickup at
Long Island City

Pickup Today
23 in stock
FREE

Check Nearby Stores

— 1 +

View F



SAKRETE 0.5 cu. ft. Step 2 Paver Leveling Sand

★★★★★ (4.5 / 1529)

Model# 40100316

\$5.97

Tools & Safety

Tools

- Pressure washer
- Shovels
- Trowels
- Hand cultivators
- Broom
- Level
- Tamper
- Buckets
- Gloves
- Angle Grinder

Safety Considerations

- Volunteers should wear gloves and closed-toe shoes.
- Proper lifting techniques should be used when moving bricks.
- Eye protection is recommended during pressure washing or cutting bricks.
- The work area will remain closed until safe for use.

Space & History

The project is located entirely within the existing brick walkway surrounding the donation box area, approximately between the 20-foot and 30-foot marks. It does not expand the footprint of the walkway or permanently modify the donation box or any other garden structure.

Temporary relocation of nearby movable items, such as benches or planters, may be required during construction.

The project preserves the existing character of the garden by reusing the current brick pathway rather than replacing it with a different material or design.

Timeline

Proposed Work Period

The project should be scheduled for either:

- Friday and Saturday, or
- Saturday with an early-Sunday contingency period.

All work must be completed, cleaned up, and the pathway **reopened before 12:00 PM Sunday**, when required public hours begin.

If weather, staffing, or unexpected site conditions make completion within this period unlikely, the project should be postponed to another weekend.

Volunteer Staffing

No more than four volunteers are needed at one time. If additional volunteers are available, shifts should be staggered across the work period to maintain consistent staffing rather than concentrating volunteers at the beginning of the day.

Polymeric Sand Contingency

If pressure washing prevents the bricks from drying in time for polymeric sand to be applied during the main work period, the walkway may be reopened temporarily once it is otherwise safe and stable. Polymeric sand will then be applied Sunday evening after public hours, and the area will be closed for approximately 24 hours or as required by the product instructions.

Proposed Work Day

Saturday, August 22

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Contingency Period

Sunday, August 23

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Work Sequence

1. Deliver materials.
2. Mark and secure the work area.
3. Remove and clean existing bricks.
4. Excavate and level the subgrade.
5. Compact soil.
6. Install and level pea gravel and leveling sand.
7. Install drainage paver panels.
8. Reinstall existing bricks.
9. Inspect and correct any loose, rocking, uneven, or unsupported areas.
10. Apply locking/polymeric sand once the bricks are sufficiently dry.
11. Clean the work area and reopen the pathway when safe for use.

Steward

Project Steward: Ross

The steward will coordinate volunteers, materials, and execution of the approved plan.

The steward may make minor field adjustments necessary to complete the approved scope safely. Any substantial change in scope, appearance, budget, or project area should be brought back to the membership for approval.

Alternatives

Alternative 1: Defer the Project Until November

Wait until the garden's public season has ended before rebuilding the section. This would eliminate the scheduling difficulty created by closing the garden's primary walkway, but the existing loose bricks would remain until then.

Alternative 2: Repair Individual Bricks as Needed

Loose or uneven bricks could be removed and reset individually without rebuilding the entire section. This would require less work and fewer materials in the short term, but would not address settlement or instability across the underlying base and may require repeated repairs.

Alternative 3: No Action

Leave the walkway in its current condition and continue monitoring it. There is not currently a significant tripping hazard requiring immediate reconstruction, but existing loose bricks may continue to shift or become more uneven over time.

Alternative 4: Traditional Compacted Aggregate Base

Rebuild the section using a deeper traditional aggregate base rather than paver panels. This would require more excavation, material, labor, and time than the proposed repair.

Details

Project Area

The project area is limited to the brick walkway surrounding the donation box area, extending approximately from the 20-foot mark to the 30-foot mark. Expansion beyond this area requires separate approval.

Several bricks within this section have become loose or uneven. While the area does not currently present a significant tripping hazard, rebuilding the base will stabilize the walkway and reduce the need to repeatedly reset individual bricks as they shift.

Construction

Existing bricks will be carefully removed, cleaned, and reused whenever practical. Bricks damaged beyond reuse may be replaced with matching bricks from existing garden inventory.

The existing base will be excavated and leveled as necessary. Existing leveling sand may be reused where appropriate for fine grading, with pea gravel used to establish the supporting base. The finished base must provide full and continuous support beneath the paver panels, with no voids that could allow the panels and bricks above them to settle.

Drainage paver panels will then be installed, and the bricks reset. If bricks are pressure washed, they must be allowed to dry sufficiently before locking/polymeric sand is applied. If they are not dry before Sunday public hours, the sand may be applied Sunday evening after the garden closes, with the affected area kept closed for the required curing period.

Brick Pattern and Pathway Continuity

Along the main pathway, existing bricks will be laid in a running bond pattern oriented to reinforce the continuous front-to-back direction of the path. Where there are not enough existing bricks to fully fill the pathway, compatible pavers may be used to form an outside border.

The main brick path should form a cohesive running line from the front of the garden to the back, without perpendicular courses or cross-bands that visually interrupt that flow.

A herringbone pattern may be used in pathway offshoots or branches, such as the turn toward the raised deck in the center of the garden, but should not interrupt the running-bond treatment of the main pathway.

Access and Completion

Because this section is part of the primary route through the garden, there is no practical alternative path around the work area while construction is underway. The pathway must therefore be fully restored and reopened before the next required public-access period.

The finished walkway should be stable, reasonably level, free of loose or rocking bricks, and consistent with the appearance of the existing garden pathway.

Nearby movable items may be temporarily relocated as necessary and returned after completion. The donation box and surrounding fixtures will not be permanently altered.

The project will be considered complete when:

- The approved section of walkway has been fully reset.
- Loose and rocking bricks within the project area have been stabilized.
- The walkway is safe and stable for normal pedestrian use.
- Materials, tools, and construction debris have been removed.
- The pathway has been reopened before the next required public-access period.