



Dear Association of Parks,

It has been an exciting year for World Urban Parks! World Urban Parks is set in a new direction with significantly increased opportunities for our members. Thank you for your continued support to World Urban Parks and it is my pleasure to have your organisation, and all your staff and board members, as members in this growing organisation. Your organisation membership to World Urban Parks is in good standing as of August 28, 2019 until August 31, 2020.

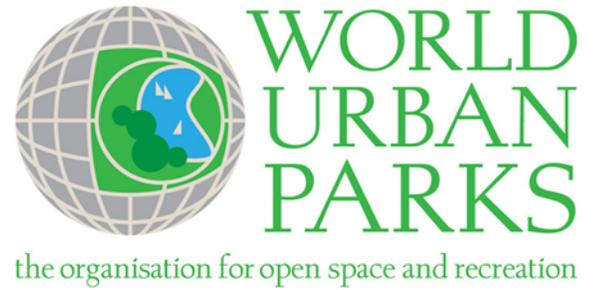
*World Urban Parks* champions urban park outcomes for city livability, place-making, conservation and access, and provides strong membership services by connecting, leveraging and supporting diverse memberships across the international urban parks, open space and recreation community and allied sectors.

***“World Parks Leaders Grow Here”*** and where we make the world a better place and we are individuals ready to help each other.

Recently we released our Strategic Directions Statement that outlines how we will achieve our Vision and importantly how we contribute to the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

We have also reaffirmed our commitment to our Vision through our Value Statement, which outlines the value of being active member of World Urban Parks. The benefits of membership have grown significantly over the last 2 years and will grow further through new programs such as Peer reviews, Expert Advice, Exchange programs, speaker’s corner, and expanded Awards and professional certification and training opportunities. We have also release our new membership management system which allows you, your organisation, and all of your individual complimentary memberships to create and connect through their personal membership account. Check it out at [worldurbanparks.org](http://worldurbanparks.org) to sign into your account!

The importance of ***making a difference*** is a central theme of leadership and World Urban Parks. Thus, why understanding the world and the changes that are occurring, provides a foundation for action and ***making a difference***. The news regarding the pending closure of the UK’s highly successful Heritage Lottery Fund, remaindered me of this challenge, where we assume that this will not happen to my parks, open space or greenspace. However, in this same country we are seeing the emergence of new ideas and concepts such as the National Park City, which is shaping the way we think about the future and how we provide parks. It is this leadership, where individuals step up to contribute to ***making a difference***. It is the reason why I have been so committed to helping all cities to make a difference by just participating and showing support.



It is this leadership that enable us to be an effective voice to advocate for the value of parks, recreation and open space.

Thank you for supporting our World Urban Parks organisation through membership – I hope you are inspired to create a more liveable and sustainable world with us!

Best Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. McCarthy', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Neil McCarthy, CEO