A Statement from World Urban Parks
The importance of reconciliation - equity matters

The COVID19 global pandemic has highlighted the social, health and economic inequities in our communities.

We have seen many compassionate responses from around the world to address these inequities through expanded services for the homeless in Los Angeles, opening of parks as part of the health response in the UK, development of equitable park investment strategies in the U.S. We have been so proud of those who manage public parks and open spaces through an equity lens.

Globally the importance of parks, open space and nature to provide that “nature fix” for human survival has been clearly documented – providing opportunities for physical activity and regaining our emotional, psychological and mental balance - all of which are critical to reducing stress and improving our physical and mental health. Research has documented that providing easy access to quality parks and open spaces has the greatest positive impact for the most vulnerable in our cities – young, old, low-income and brown and black communities. Evidence also documents the negative impacts of climate change disproportionately penalize and impact communities of colour and the economically distressed.

World Urban Parks advocates and supports the power of parks, open spaces, and nature as essential resources for health and wellness and is working hard to ensure equitable access to quality parks and open spaces for ALL across the globe.

Public parks, trails, open spaces, and nature have served as places where people can find respite and seek peace and restoration. It is critical that we all address inequities in our society, that includes addressing inequities in access to parks and open spaces. World Urban Parks is committed to equal access for ALL.

World Urban Parks is a forum for the exchange of ideas on common environmental, social and economic challenges where urban parks, open space and recreation are part of the solution. – World Urban Parks, Value Proposition

Be part of the solution to ensure equitable access to quality parks and green space.

Jayne Miller, Chair
On behalf of World Urban Parks