

# Metropolitan Grants Program



*Bronx, N.Y. — South Bronx Greenway  
Year Two — 2010*

## **Sustainable South Bronx**

### **Community Support Grant: \$5,000 Award**

Sustainable South Bronx (SSBx) is a community organization dedicated to environmental justice through innovative, economically sustainable projects that are informed by community needs. SSBx plays a leadership role in the implementation of the South Bronx Greenway (SBG).

## **Sustainable South Bronx / South Bronx Greenway Project**

### **Project Support Grant: \$10,000 Award**

Construction on the South Bronx Greenway began in late spring 2010. When completed, the SBG will consist of 11 miles of safe, outdoor recreation space. Graduates of SSBx's Bronx Environmental Stewardship Training (BEST) Academy now serve as Greenway Stewards to ensure the survival of newly planted trees, identify new planting opportunities, connect with citizens at the street level, and provide enhanced maintenance in two newly opened waterfront parks along the SBG. In 2010, SSBx continued to act as the community liaison for the development of the Greenway and also coordinated efforts to improve public access and awareness of the neighborhood's new parks and the SBG to foster community stewardship and ownership of the ensuing greenway project.

South Bronx communities desperately need areas of green open space, waterfront access and general landscaping/street tree planting to create a healthier environment for the local residents of a low-income, largely industrial neighborhood.

New funding will support SSBx in hosting programs that will ensure community engagement, maintenance and usage of the greenway, including:

- A block party in September 2010 to create awareness and garner local attention for the SBG;
- A bike ride on the on-street connectors to the SBG to other trail initiatives;
- Conducting a series of Community Tree Stewardship Classes targeted to local youth;
- Sponsorship of a farmers' market along the greenway to increase awareness of healthy living;
- Greenway Stewards program.