EVERYONE DESERVES THEIR MOMENT IN THE SUN.

#FightforLight
Sunlight is a critical element of our urban infrastructure. We seek it out in the homes we live in and the places where we gather. Sunlight benefits us in myriad ways, from our health, to the economy, to the sustainability of our city.

**Sunlight makes us happier** by encouraging us to exercise and spend time outside.

Our best bets for **reducing our consumption of fossil fuels**—solar technology and carbon-storing vegetation chief among them—are directly reliant on our ability to capture sunlight.

Well-designed, sunlit public spaces **encourage tourism**, **help businesses thrive**, and are major employers in their own right. Moreover, the solar industry will employ thousands of high-wage workers in the coming years.

From metabolic function to the sleep-wake cycle to mood disorders, sunlight **also has far-reaching effects on our bodies and minds**.

And while New York may be best known for its iconic skyline, we also host a rich ecosystem that makes life here possible. Our 302 square miles of land and 520 miles of coastline are home to more than 7,000 plants and animals. And tourists are not the only visitors that pass through our glorious city—more than 350 species of birds migrate annually through our skies. This vast population of New York relies on the sun for its very survival.

**Safeguarding sunlight is a common sense value in a city as dense as New York. Sunlight makes people healthier, parks greener, and cities more resilient. Every New Yorker deserves access to it. Several steps can be taken today to advance Fight for Light:**

1. **Designate and resource a City-level advocate.** Appoint a Director of the Public Realm and resource the position with the staff and budget to monitor, plan, and invest in the city’s public realm.

2. **Conduct a baseline assessment and establish goals.** Undertake an assessment to refine policies and set goals for access to sunlight, formulate a Public Realm Plan, and inform policy recommendations related to economic development, climate, land use, and environmental protection.

3. **Identify places and populations that are vulnerable.** Lead with health and equity in response to the needs of historically underrepresented communities with gaps in park access, low incomes, limited English proficiency, high concentrations of asthma or other health risks, and high youth and elder populations.

4. **Prioritize solutions that protect and enhance sunlight in the public realm.** Draft a set of policy proposals that are feasible and applicable within New York City’s unique planning context.

Use #FightforLight and visit mas.org/FFL to find out more, read our Bright Ideas report, sign on as a supporter, and stay up to date on ways to get involved.