

2007 Final Recommendations Report



Open Space,
Recreation &
Historic Preservation
Trust Fund

Thomas A. DeGise
County Executive



Hudson County Executive
Thomas A. DeGise

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Message from the Open Space Advisory Board

Dear Friends:

It is our pleasure to present the 2007 Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund Recommendations Report. This year the Hudson County Open Space Advisory Board received 27 applications for funding and hosted presentations by all twenty-seven applicants and conducted site visits.

The board found that while all of the projects were worthy, there was not enough money to go around. In fact, the board received requests for nearly \$26 million in funding in contrast to the \$4.938 million which was available this year. The board employed a rigorous point system to score and rank the proposals. Successful applications were "project ready," exhibited strong local support, and fit within the Open Space Trust Fund formula (minimum of 50% for open space acquisition and 50% for both park improvements and historic preservation).

Enclosed is a copy of the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund 2007 Annual Recommendations Report. The board conducted a public hearing at 7:00 pm on June 6, 2007 in the Lincoln Park Administration Building in Jersey City, NJ. The public hearing gave members of the general public and applicants an opportunity to comment on the "Draft" report. Finally, on June 27, 2007 the board voted to forward the report to the County Executive and Board of Chosen Freeholders for their respective consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Crew
Chair

Joseph Liccardo
Vice Chair



Bayonne Park and Marina



Apple Tree House, Jersey City



North Hudson Park, North Bergen

On June 26, 2003, the Hudson County Executive requested, and the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholders approved a resolution authorizing the placement of a public question (referendum) on the general election ballot for the establishment of a County Open Space, Recreation & Historic Preservation Trust Fund. On November 4, 2003, the ballot question was approved by a two-to-one majority of County voters.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders, by resolution dated December 23, 2003, voted to establish the Hudson County Open Space, Recreation & Historic Trust Fund. The Trust Fund is funded through a property tax dedicated to acquire land for conservation, open space purposes, recreation facility enhancements, and historic preservation.

Entrusted by the County Executive and Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Board, has the duty to review, prioritize and recommend projects for open space, recreation and historic preservation funding that meet the goals and objectives outlined in the Hudson County Open Space & Recreation Plan.



Ellis Island



Fisk Riverview Park, Jersey City



Donnelly Park, West New York



Brady Dock 6, Bayonne



Pier A, Hoboken



Lincoln Park West, Jersey City

Eligible Projects under the County's Trust Fund:

- ◆ Acquisition of land for conservation and recreation purposes
- ◆ Development and redevelopment of land existing or acquired for recreational and/or conservation purposes
- ◆ Preservation of historic properties, including the acquisition of such properties for historic purposes

Who's Eligible?

- ◆ Hudson County
- ◆ The Hudson County Improvement Authority
- ◆ Any of the twelve (12) municipalities in Hudson County
- ◆ Local entities, non-profit corporations and qualified charitable conservancies located with Hudson County that have received tax exemption under section 501(c)3 of the 1954 Internal Revenue Code

Trust Fund Advisory Board

The Trust Fund Advisory Board consists of 9 members appointed by the County Executive with the advice and consent of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, who participate in the approval process by reviewing, prioritizing and recommending projects for funding. Advisory Board members are representatives of county government and conservation, environmental, historic preservation, parks and recreation and business communities.

Trust Fund Allocation

- ◆ The Trust Fund is funded through a property tax assessment determined annually by the Board of Chosen Freeholders, at a rate not to exceed one cent (\$0.01) per \$100.00 of total County equalized valuation.
- ◆ All money collected through the property tax assessment will be deposited into the Trust Fund and shall be apportioned approximately in the following manner:
 - No less than 50% for Land Acquisition Projects
 - No more than 50% for Park Development/Redevelopment, Improvement for Recreation or Conservation, and Historic Preservation Projects





2007 Review Schedule	
Notice of upcoming Mandatory Pre-submission conference sent to interested parties, past applicants, non-profit organizations, and municipalities	December 20, 2006
Mandatory Pre-submission conference for interested parties	January 17, 2007
Deadline for submissions of applications	March 21, 2007
Applicant presentations to the Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Board	April 16 - April 20, 2007
Site visits by the Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Board	April 23 - April 27, 2007
Open Space Trust Fund Application Review Meetings	April 25 - April 27, 2007
Open Space Trust Fund Draft Report Meeting	May 23, 2007
Public Hearing on the Draft Report	June 6, 2007
Open Space Trust Fund Final Report Meeting	June 27, 2007
Submission to the Board of Chosen Freeholders for approval	To be determined
Notification sent to the applicants	To be determined



Hackensack River Waterfront Property Acquisition, Secaucus

The Town of Secaucus has applied for funds to acquire over two acres of waterfront property along the Hackensack River near the Secaucus High School. Both parcels will be connected to the existing walkway and added to the Hackensack River greenway.



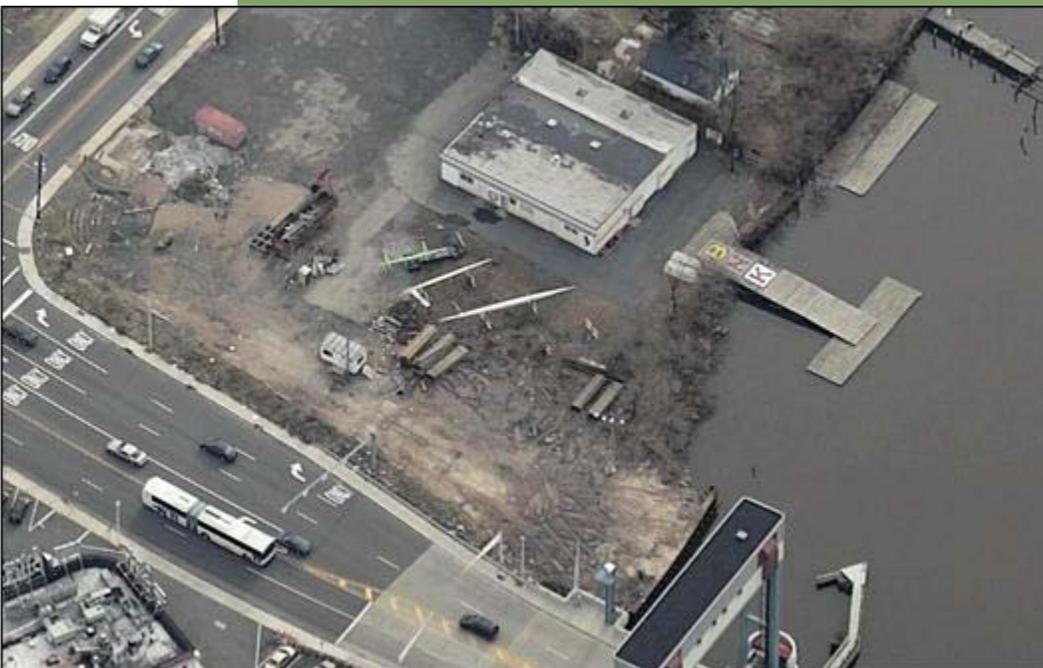
Oak Lane at the Hackensack River, Secaucus

Farm Road at the Hackensack River, Secaucus



Passaic River Waterfront Property Acquisition, Kearny

The Town of Kearny has applied for funds to acquire the waterfront property located at 941 Passaic Avenue at the northern border of Kearny along the Passaic River. With over 75 feet of waterfront access, the property will represent one of the final links to the linear Riverbank Park creating a continuous greenway along the Passaic River from Bergen Avenue to the Kearny municipal boundary along Route 7.



941 Passaic Avenue, Kearny



Berry Lane Park Property Acquisition, Jersey City

The City of Jersey has applied for funds to acquire 5.6 acres of land located at Berry Lane. The site, bounded by Garfield Avenue to the west, Communipaw Avenue to the north, and the light rail tracks to the south, will be developed as a new 13.6-acre active recreational park.



Future Site of Berry Lane Park, Jersey City

Guttenberg Recreation and Cultural Center Acquisition, Guttenberg



The Town of Guttenberg has applied for funds to assist in the acquisition of the corner lot located at 68th Street and Hudson Avenue adjacent to the Anna L. Klein Elementary School. Two additional lots will be joined to construct the town's new recreation and cultural center.

Future Site of Guttenberg Recreation and Cultural Center, Guttenberg



Development of 1600 Park Avenue Park, Hoboken

The City of Hoboken submitted an application for park improvements for the site at 1600 Park Avenue. Located between the Willow Avenue and Park Avenue viaducts, concept plans for the site include both passive and active recreation elements. A pedestrian connection below the Park Avenue viaduct will provide access to the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway at Weehawken Cove.



Concept Drawing of 1600 Park Avenue Park, Hoboken

Hoboken Community Boathouse, Hoboken



Graphic Rendering of Hoboken Community Boathouse, Hoboken

The Hoboken Cove Boathouse organization, in a partnership with the Downtown Boathouse, Inc., submitted an application to install a prefabricated structure to serve as a public boathouse facility. The boathouse will be located at Weehawken Cove accessible from the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway. The structure will be completed with ADA-compliant restroom facilities and storage space for the boating equipment.



Improvements to Lincoln Park Athletic Fields 10 & 11, Jersey City

The Hudson County Division of Parks sponsored an application for funding to make improvements to the Lincoln Park Athletic Fields in Jersey City. The new, multi-use facility will consist of two baseball/softball fields, one regulation football/soccer field, and two practice fields. The improvements will include artificial playing surfaces, backstops, concrete dugouts, bleachers, water source, batting cage, and improved sports lighting.



Design Layout of Lincoln Park Athletic Fields, Jersey City

Harbor View Park, Bayonne



Harbor View Park at the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor, Bayonne

The Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority applied for funding to assist in the Phase II of the development of Harbor View Park at the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor. The site, which is home to the monument, "To the Struggle Against World Terrorism," includes plans for bulkhead improvements along the eastern shoreline to extend the park to the berth line. This area of the shoreline requires deep water bulkhead replacement which is necessary to construct the portion of the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway along the perimeter of Harbor View Park.



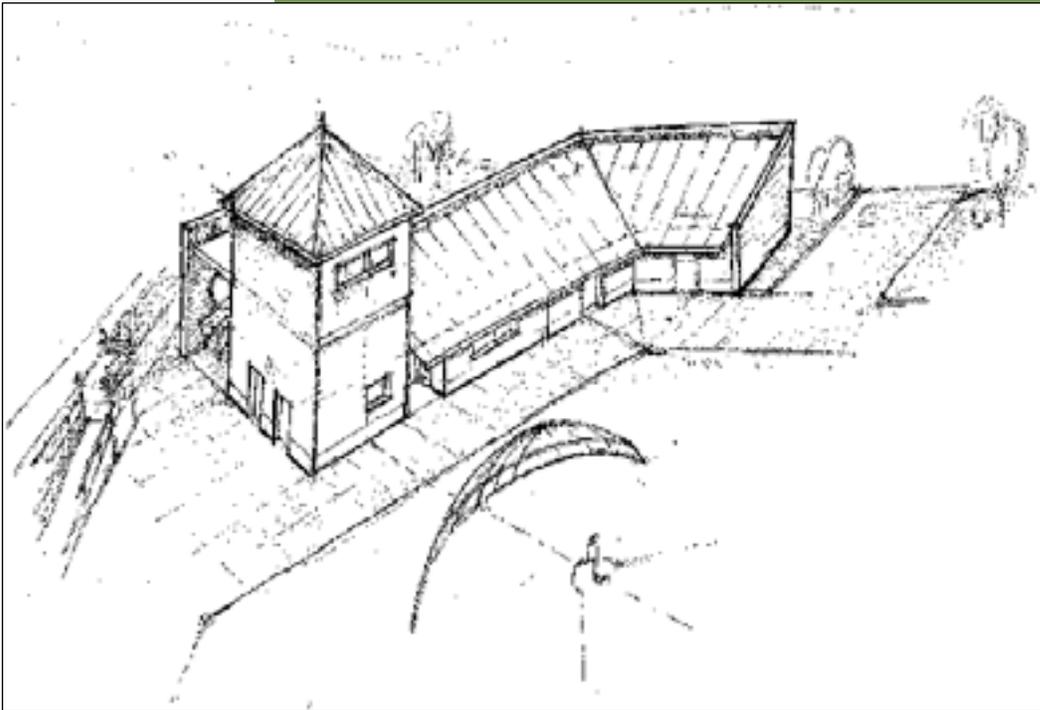
Children's Reading Garden at the Secaucus Public Library, Secaucus

The Friends of the Secaucus Public Library and Business Resource Center sponsored an application for funding to create an outdoor children's reading garden. The site will have secure access through the Story Tower to the rear of the building. The garden will be landscaped and include seating, sculptures, an ADA-compliant telescope, and a 24-foot gazebo with lighting and handicapped accessible ramp.



Site of Children's Reading Garden at the Secaucus Public Library, Secaucus

Improvements to the Field House at Veteran's Field, Kearny



Rendering of Field House at Veteran's Memorial Field, Kearny

The Town of Kearny submitted an application for funds to rehabilitate the Field House at Veteran's Memorial Field. The existing structure, located at the intersection of Bergen Avenue and Belgrove Drive, will be replaced with a new, ADA-accessible facility with concession stand, restrooms, equipment storage, and announcer booth.



Improvements to Reverend Dr. Ercel F. Webb Park, Jersey City

The Communipaw Avenue Block Association sponsored an application for improvements to Ercel Webb Park located on Lafayette Street in Jersey City. Formerly known as Lafayette Park, the site is home to six community garden beds requiring an irrigation system.



Garden Bed at Reverend Dr. Ercel F. Webb Park, Jersey City



15th Street Library Stained Glass Windows, Union City

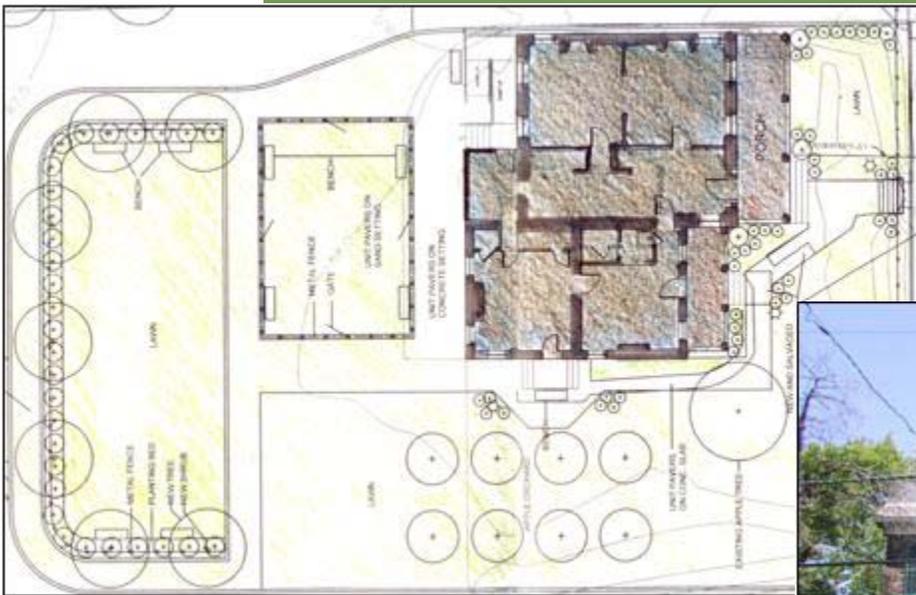
The City of Union City plans to repair and/or replace the historic stained glass panels at the 15th Street Library located at 420 15th St. Also known as the West Hoboken Library, the 1903-built "Carnegie" library was funded through Andrew Carnegie's philanthropy. The building is being rehabilitated and converted to a day care center for public school use.



Stained Glass Window at 15th Street Library, Union City

Apple Tree House , Jersey City

The City of Jersey City will continue with the Phase III Restoration of the Apple Tree House for the exterior landscaping and improvements. When completed, the improvements will provide for public access with ADA compliance to the historic site.



Landscape Design at Apple Tree House, Jersey City

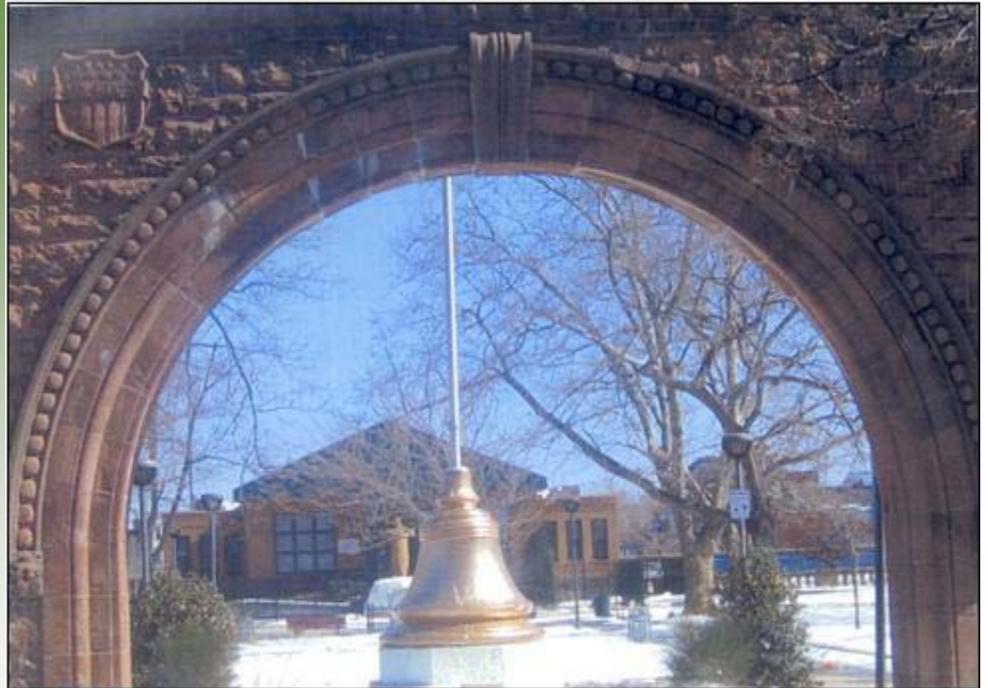


Apple Tree House, Jersey City



Pershing Field Garden Friends Restoration, Jersey City

Pershing Field is located between Summit Avenue and Central Avenue in the Jersey City Heights. The Pershing Field Garden Friends plan to restore the Fourth Regiment Arch, Historic Bell Sculpture and Flagpole, and Mayor Frank Hague and Governor A. Harry Moore bronze plaque.



Pershing Field Fourth Regiment Arch and Bell, Jersey City

Restoration of City Hall Council Chambers, Jersey City

The City of Jersey City proposes to restore the historic City Hall Council Chambers in Jersey City. Located on Grove Street, the Council Chambers require plaster restoration, paint restoration, wood finish restoration, stain glass restoration, and furniture refinishing.



City Hall Council Chambers, Jersey City

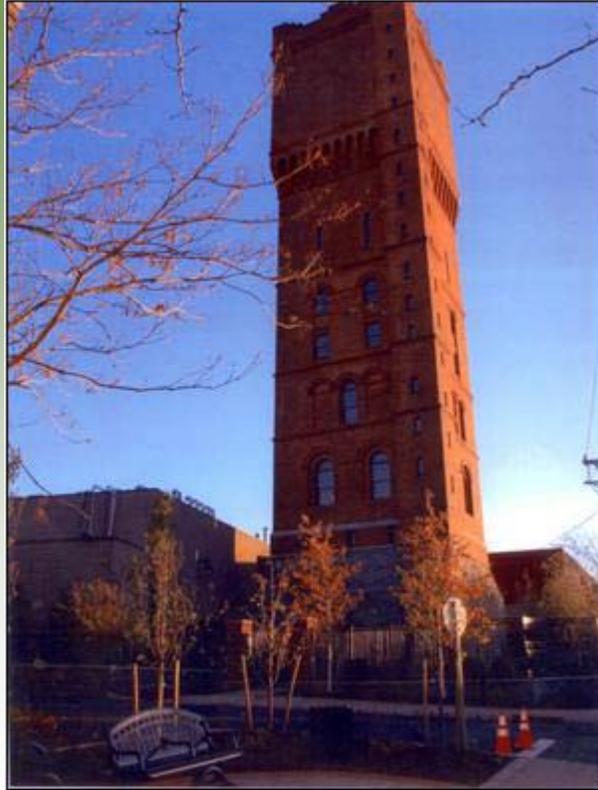


Rendering of City Hall Council Chambers, Jersey City



Weehawken Water Tower, Weehawken

The Weehawken Water Tower located on Park Avenue in Weehawken is listed on both the NJ & Federal Registers of Historic Places. Plans for adaptive reuse are to provide safe, public access by constructing a main egress stairway from the ground level to the 7th floor, gully sprinkled fire suppression system, HVAC systems, restrooms, and ADA-compliant elevator.



Weehawken Water Tower, Weehawken

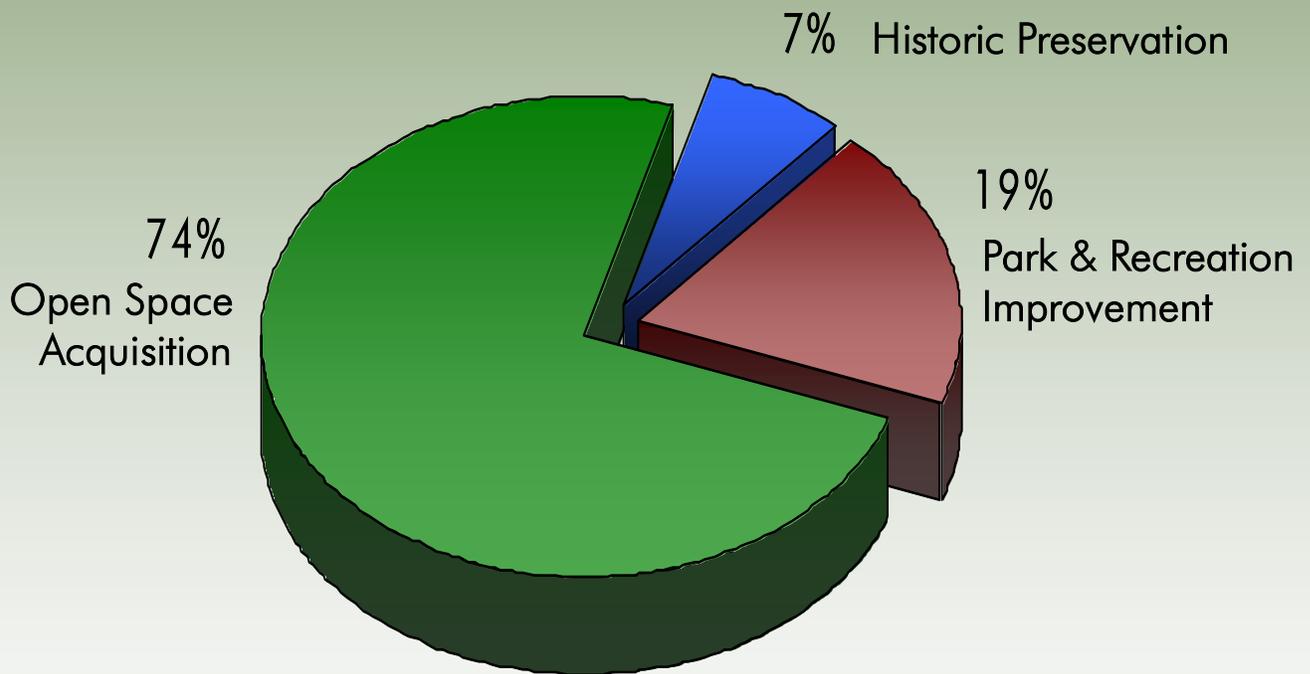


2007 Recommended Funding Distribution

This year, a total of \$4.938 million was available from the 2007 Open Space, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Trust. Additional acquisition funding in the amount of \$6.285 million was reprogrammed from the previous two years. The following acquisition projects could not be completed as planned:

- OS-09-05, acquisition of the "Petrillo" site in Secaucus
- OS-13-05, acquisition of land for the proposed North Street Youth Soccer Field in Bayonne
- OS-05-06, acquisition of the PJP landfill in Jersey City

In total, \$6.95 million was recommended for open space acquisition projects representing an addition of over 8 acres of new, open space lands. Funding in the amount of \$1.797 million was recommended to provide new facilities and enhance existing parks and recreational resources. Lastly, \$672,000 was recommended to further preserve historic resources in Hudson County.



■ Open Space Acquisition - \$6,950,000

■ Historic Preservation - \$672,000

■ Park & Recreation Improvement - \$1,797,000



OPEN SPACE ACQUISITIONS		Maximum Points: 109	
Applicant	Project Name	Score	Percentage Score
Town of Secaucus	Hackensack River Waterfront Acquisition at Farm Road & Oak Lane	57.86	53.08%
Town of Kearny	Passaic River Waterfront Acquisition of 941 Passaic Ave	57.68	52.92%
City of Jersey City	Berry Lane Park Property Acquisition	49.00	44.95%
Town of Guttenberg	Guttenberg Recreation & Cultural Center Land Acquisition	42.43	38.93%
PARK IMPROVEMENT		Maximum Points: 112	
Applicant	Project Name	Score	Percentage Score
City of Hoboken	1600 Park Avenue Development	81.29	72.58%
Downtown Boathouse, Inc.	Hoboken Cove Boathouse	75.64	67.54%
County of Hudson	Improvements to the Lincoln Park Athletic Fields 10 & 11	63.47	56.67%
Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority	Harbor View Park, Phase II	58.47	52.20%
Friends of the Secaucus Public Library	Secaucus Public Library and Business Resource Center, Children's Reading Garden	56.93	50.83%
City of Jersey City	Renovation of Bayside Park	55.44	49.50%
Town of Guttenberg	Guttenberg Recreation and Cultural Center, Construction of Facility	55.00	49.11%
Jersey City Public Schools	Caven Point Recreation Complex Improvements	52.14	46.56%
Town of Kearny	Development / Construction of Field House for Veteran's Field	49.85	44.51%
Communipaw Avenue Block Association	Communipaw Avenue Block Association Proposal, Improvements to Ercel Webb Park	48.54	43.34%
Hudson County Improvement Authority	Hudson County Plaza, Academy Street Park	46.43	41.45%
Newport Waterfront Association, Inc.	Friends of Hamilton Park Garden Proposal, Foot of Newport Parkway	45.29	40.43%
City of Union City	Doric Park Improvements	42.96	38.36%
Town of Kearny	Development/Construction of Brighton Avenue Playground	41.28	36.85%
Hudson County Community College	Culinary Arts Plaza	35.86	32.02%
City of Jersey City	Cliff Park at 46-76 Mountain Road	26.86	23.98%



HISTORIC PRESERVATION		Maximum Points: 77	
Applicant	Project Name	Score	Percentage Score
Save Ellis Island, Inc.	Interior Restoration of Ellis Island Laundry / Hospital Outbuilding	66.56	86.44%
City of Jersey City	Apple Tree House, Phase III Restoration	62.29	80.89%
City of Jersey City	Restoration of City Hall Council Chambers, Jersey City	47.73	61.99%
Township of Weehawken	Weehawken Water Tower and Park Project	46.00	59.74%
Jersey City Parks Coalition / Pershing Field Garden Friends	Pershing Field Garden Friends Restoration Project	34.71	45.08%
City of Union City	15th Street Library Stained Glass Windows	33.57	43.60%



OPEN SPACE ACQUISITIONS							
Applicant	Project Name	Address & Block/Lot	Total Project Costs	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Amount Recommended % of Total Cost	Amount Recommended % of Requested
Town of Secaucus	Waterfront Property Acquisition, Farm Road & Oak Lane	Farm Road					
		Block 203 Lots 41, 42					
		Oak Lane	\$3,100,000.00	\$3,100,000.00	\$3,100,000.00	100.00%	100.00%
Town of Kearny	Acquisition of 941 Passaic Avenue	Block 194 Lots 14, 15, 15.01, 16, 16.01, 17, 17.01, 18, 18.01					
		941 Passaic Avenue	\$121,000.00	\$111,000.00	\$111,000.00	100.00%	100.00%
City of Jersey City	Berry Lane Park Property Acquisition	Garfield Avenue & Berry Lane					
		Block 1948 Lots 33, 21.D, 24.A, 34, 35, 36.A, 4.B, 25.C, 41.A, 42.A					
		Block 2040 Lots D.2, D.3, S	\$8,000,000.00	\$3,200,000.00	\$3,200,000.00	100.00%	100.00%
Town of Guttenberg	Guttenberg Recreation & Cultural Center Land Acquisition	Block 2036 Lot S					
		300-310 68th Street Block 20, Lot 7	\$600,000.00	\$540,000.00	\$540,000.00	100.00%	100.00%
TOTAL:			\$11,821,000.00	\$6,951,000.00	\$6,951,000.00	100.00%	100.00%



PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS						
Applicant	Project Name	Total Project Costs	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Amount Recommended % of Total Cost	Amount Recommended % of Requested
City of Hoboken	1600 Park Avenue Development	\$3,000,000.00	\$600,000.00	\$300,000.00	10.00%	50.00%
Downtown Boathouse, Inc.	Hoboken Cove Boathouse	\$363,349.00	\$357,349.00	\$100,000.00	27.52%	27.98%
County of Hudson	Improvements to the Lincoln Park Athletic Fields 10 & 11	\$3,615,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$986,000.00	27.28%	49.30%
Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority	Harbor View Park, Phase II	\$1,571,856.00	\$600,000.00	\$230,000.00	14.63%	38.33%
Friends of the Secaucus Public Library	Secaucus Public Library and Business Resource Center, Children's Reading Garden	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00	50.00%	50.00%
Town of Kearny	Development/Construction of Field House for Veteran's Field	\$367,000.00	\$320,000.00	\$100,000.00	27.25%	31.25%
Communiapaw Avenue Block Association	Communiapaw Avenue Block Association Proposal, Improvements to Ercel Webb Park	\$343,660.00	\$343,660.00	\$31,000.00	9.02%	9.02%
TOTAL:		\$9,360,865.00	\$4,321,009.00	\$1,797,000.00	19.20%	41.59%



HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS							
Applicant	Project Name	Total Project Costs	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Amount Recommended % of Total Cost	Amount Recommended % of Requested	
City of Jersey City	Apple Tree House, Phase III Restoration	\$2,900,000.00	\$350,000.00	\$100,000.00	3.45%	28.57%	
City of Jersey City	Restoration of City Hall Council Chambers, Jersey City	\$1,600,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$300,000.00	18.75%	60.00%	
Township of Weehawken	Weehawken Water Tower and Park Project	\$750,000.00	\$600,000.00	\$212,000.00	28.27%	35.33%	
Jersey City Parks Coalition / Pershing Field Garden Friends	Pershing Field Garden Friends Restoration Project	\$65,000.00	\$32,500.00	\$25,000.00	38.46%	76.92%	
City of Union City	15th Street Library Stained Glass Windows	\$2,188,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$35,000.00	1.6%	29.17%	
TOTAL:		\$14,464,567.00	\$3,452,500.00	\$672,000.00	4.65%	19.46%	



2007 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY			
Municipality	Applicant	Project Name	Recommended Funding
Bayonne	Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority	Harbor View Park, Phase II	\$230,000
Guttenberg	Town of Guttenberg	Guttenberg Recreation & Cultural Center Property Acquisition	\$540,000
Hoboken	City of Hoboken	1600 Park Avenue Park Development	\$300,000
Hoboken	Downtown Boathouse, Inc.	Hoboken Cove Boathouse	\$100,000
Jersey City	City of Jersey City	Apple Tree House Restoration, Phase III	\$100,000
Jersey City	City of Jersey City	City Hall Council Chambers Restoration	\$300,000
Jersey City	Jersey City Redevelopment Agency	Berry Lane Park Property Acquisition	\$3,200,000
Jersey City	Communipaw Avenue Block Association	Rev. Dr. Ercel Webb Park, Park Improvements	\$31,000
Jersey City	Jersey City Parks Coalition/ Pershing Field Garden Friends	Pershing Field Garden Friends Restoration Project	\$25,000
Jersey City	County of Hudson	Lincoln Park Athletic Fields #10 & #11	\$986,000
Kearny	Town of Kearny	Development/Construction of Field House for Veteran's Field	\$100,000
Kearny	Town of Kearny	Acquisition of 941 Passaic Avenue	\$111,000
Secaucus	Friends of Secaucus Library	Public Library Reading Garden	\$50,000
Secaucus	Town of Secaucus	Waterfront Property Acquisition, Farm Road & Oak Lane	\$3,100,000
Union City	City of Union City	15th Street Library Stained Glass Windows	\$35,000
Weehawken	Township of Weehawken	Weehawken Water Tower & Park Project	\$212,000
TOTAL RECOMMENDED FUNDING AMOUNT			\$9,420,000



From Left to Right (John Baier, Jonathan Luk, Massiel Ferrara, Chair Sarah Crew, Cassandra Wilday, Director Mariano Vega, Jr., Vice Chair Joseph Liccardo, Stephen D. Marks, Jacob DeLemos III, Bobbie Morgan, Henry Sanchez, Thomas McCann)