2012 Hudson County Open Space Advisory Board Recommendations Report

Open Space, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Trust Fund

Thomas A. DeGise
County Executive
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Thomas A. DeGise

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CONTRIBUTING STAFF
Michelle E. Richardson, Director
Dept. of Parks & Community Services
Stephen D. Marks, PP, AICP, Division Chief
Division of Planning
Daniela Ciammaruconi, Planning Aide
Department of Planning
David Ginsberg, Planner-in-Training
Division of Planning
Mario Tridente, Building/Zoning Inspector
Division of Planning
Francesca Giarratana
Division of Planning
A MESSAGE FROM THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD

To: Hon. Thomas A DeGise, County Executive  
     Hon. Eliu Rivera, Freeholder Chairman

Since the inception of the Hudson County Open Space, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Trust in 2004, over $42 million has been provided for local government agencies and non-profit organizations to preserve cultural and natural resources, improve recreational facilities, and restore historic sites. The more than 100 projects funded thus far have leveraged more than $100 million in additional funding from other public and private sources. The program has become a success story on improving the quality of life for all residents in Hudson County.

The Open Space Advisory Board is especially pleased that the County Administration Freeholder Board understand the important role of the Open Space Trust Fund and reinstated the program for the 2011 calendar year. This year, the Advisory Board received twenty applications requesting approximately $8.7 million for land acquisitions, park improvements, historic preservation and related projects. The overwhelming response from applicants has continued in our seventh year of the grant program and shows there is still much more work to be done in Hudson County. With only $2 million dollars of funding available this year, the Advisory Board reviewed each application in depth. The Board visited each project site and applied a rigorous review based on criteria established in the Program Statement to formulate the recommendations found in this report.

Although there is never enough funding to go around, we are confident that the projects recommended by the Advisory Board for funding are deserving and will benefit the residents of Hudson County for generations to come. Please review the enclosed Recommendations Report and feel free to contact the Advisory Board should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Joseph Liccardo  
Chair

Henry Sanchez  
Vice Chair
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I. INTRODUCTION

OUR MISSION

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 a 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 Advisory Board has the responsibility 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.

PROGRAM STATEMENT

Eligible Projects Under the County’s Trust Fund

1. Acquisition of land for conservation and recreation purposes.
2. Development and redevelopment of land existing or acquired for recreational, cultural, tourism and/or conservation purposes.
3. Preservation of historic properties, including the acquisition and historic preservation planning activities of such properties for historic preservation, or
4. Construction management and/or construction administration of an Open Space Trust funded recreation or historic preservation project.
5. Payment of debt service on indebtedness issued or incurred by the County of Hudson for any of the purposes stated in (1), (2), (3), or (4).
6. Up to 2% set-aside for the purposes of architectural design, engineering, planning, environmental, or historic preservation studies.

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 within Hudson County that have received tax exemption under section 501(c)3 of the 1954 Internal Revenue Code

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 is deposited into the Trust Fund.
Open Space 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. Advisory Board members are representatives of county government, conservation, environmental, historic preservation, parks and recreation, and business communities.

The primary responsibility of the Open Space Advisory Board is to systematically review applications for funding consideration for the Trust Fund. The Advisory Board assists with prioritization and recommendation of projects for open space, recreation, and historic preservation purposes.

The Advisory Board holds an annual pre-submission conference and meets monthly to review applications submitted for funding consideration. In addition to application review, the Advisory Board conducts on-site visits to potential projects sites and invites applicants to present proposals. A final report ranking and prioritizing projects with recommendations is submitted to the County Executive and Freeholder Board for their respective for consideration.

From Left to Right: Stephen Marks, Mario Tridente, Carter Craft, William LaRosa, Kernal Thomas, John Cellini, John Baier, Joseph Liccardo, Thomas McCann, Jacob DeLemos, Daniela Ciammaruconi (Henry Sanchez, not pictured)
## II. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory Pre-submission Conference for Interested Parties</td>
<td>October 26, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for Submission of Applications</td>
<td>January 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations by Applicants to the Open Space Advisory Board</td>
<td>February 7 &amp; 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Visits</td>
<td>February 15 &amp; 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Board Recommendations Report</td>
<td>March 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Executive Recommendations</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Hearing on Funding Recommendations</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anticipated Approval by Board of Chosen Freeholders</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III. Open Space Acquisition Projects
Application No. OS-08—12
Skyway Riverfront Park, Jersey City

Project Description
The City of Jersey City is seeking funds for the acquisition of the 28-acre riverfront industrial parcel, which will be developed as the planned Skyway Riverfront Park. The concept master plan shows how the new multi-use public park will include recreational amenities, as well as a 1,900-foot long riverfront walkway along the Hackensack River.

Summary
Project Name: Skyway Riverfront Park
Applicant: City of Jersey City
Municipality: Jersey City
Total Project Costs: $12,628,000
Amount Requested: $1,000,000
Amount Matched: $8,957,000

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Advisory Board finds the project to be consistent with the Hudson County Open Space, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Plan.
- The Board recommends that the City provide additional planning for transit, highlighting Route 1&9.
- The Board recommends that the City address access concerns to enhance its status as a city park.
- The Board recommends that the City include boat launch with accessibility for kayaks if current conditions permit it.
- The Board recommends that the City submit a “Park Improvement” application to the Board for the park development.
- Depending on the conditions of Green Acres funds, The Board recommends that the City consider provide concessions to attract park visitors.

Site of proposed Skyway Riverfront Park
View of the Hackensack from the proposed site
Site plan of proposed park amenities
### Open Space Projects Ranked

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
<th>Median Score</th>
<th>Application No.</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project Municipality</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Total Project Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>OS-08-12</td>
<td>Skyway Riverfront Park</td>
<td>Jersey City</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>$12,628,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Average Score for Open Space Acquisition

![Bar Chart of Average Score for Open Space Acquisition](image.png)

**Maximum Potential Score = 137**
IV. HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS
Project Description
The Jersey City Library requests funding for their window restoration project at the Jersey City Main Library. The proposed project calls for the replacement of the current aluminum, street-facing windows with new historically appropriate windows, glazed with insulated UV resistant coating, which will protect the library collections. The scope of the work also includes the restoration of the clear story windows in the penthouses that provide ventilation and illumination of fourth floor exhibition rooms, as well as a large stained glass window in the main stairwell.

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Jersey City Main Library structure is not included on the state or national register of historic sites, however, the building is located within Jersey City’s historic districts.
- The project appears to be more of a capital improvement than a true historic preservation project; and
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library Board consider phasing the project based upon availability of funds.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library Board seek state and federal funding for energy efficiency improvements.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library Board consider designating the building as a state or federal historic landmark.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library Board prepare a historic preservation plan to prioritize preservation projects and examine other historic preservation projects for library branches. The historic preservation plan should also include improvements to make the building comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library Board explore the potential of creating a support organization, such as a “Friends of” group.

Summary:
Project Name: Window Restoration at Jersey City Main Library
Applicant: Jersey City Free Public Library
Municipality: Jersey City
Total Project Costs: $1,363,000
Amount Requested: $1,009,000
Amount Matched: $354,000
Based on the historic structures report and subsequent investigations, the consultants hired by the City of Jersey City have deemed the stabilization of rapidly deteriorating existing structures as the top priority. These historic structures include a screen house, two gatehouses, and the reservoir berm with a stone retaining wall and interior revetment.

Having presented formally to the State Historic Preservation Office at the September 2011 meeting, the City anticipated a favorable ruling for the Reservoir #3’s nomination to the State Historic Register.

### Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Reservoir 3 Stabilization of Historic Structures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td>City of Jersey City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>Jersey City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Project Costs</td>
<td>$646,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Requested</td>
<td>$596,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Matched</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Findings and Recommendations:

- The Board highly recommends that the City consider this a high priority and consider contributing to the stabilization of these historic structures. They are in danger of being lost beyond repair.
- The Board recommends that the City provide an ADA compliancy element in the entire project plan.
- The Board recommends that the City continue with and expand programming for the Reservoir in its current state.
Site plan for proposed complete Reservoir R3 improvements
The City of Bayonne is requesting funding for the restoration of the balcony and of the entry-doors at the Bayonne Trust Company building, which is currently as the Bayonne Community Museum. The museum will showcase the history of the community, host exhibits, and act as venue for community events.

**Summary:**
- **Project Name:** Bayonne Community Museum
- **Applicant:** City of Bayonne
- **Municipality:** Bayonne
- **Total Project Costs:** $6,000,000
- **Amount Requested:** $50,000
- **Amount Matched:** $0

**Recommendations**
- The Board recommends that the City increase local share of funding.
- The Board recommends that the City have a Section 601 review of the plans to confirm that the balcony improvements will not jeopardize historic elements.
- The Board recommends that the City provide more facility ADA compliancy.
Application No. HP-16-12
Lincoln Park Fountain Restoration, Jersey City

Project Description
The County is seeking funding for the restoration of the Lincoln Park Fountain, the focal point of historical significance within the County Park. The restoration activities include the rebuilding of the fountain basin and walls, the fabrication and installation of all the decorative elements on the center column, the spouting frogs, new mechanical and electrical systems incorporated, new underground service vault, new surrounding sidewalks and landscaping.

Summary
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Lincoln Park Fountain Restoration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td>County of Hudson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>Jersey City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Project Costs</td>
<td>$3,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Requested</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Matched</td>
<td>$700,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Board recommends that the County provide interpretative signage for historical elements.

- Historic postcard of the fountain
- The fountain at Lincoln Park
- Aerial of the fountain in Lincoln Park
## Historic Preservation Projects Ranked

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
<th>Median Score</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project Municipality</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Total Project Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>50.4</td>
<td>53.0</td>
<td>HP-16-12</td>
<td>Lincoln Park Fountain Restoration</td>
<td>Jersey City</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>$3,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>48.8</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>HP-01-12</td>
<td>Window Restoration at Jersey City Main Library</td>
<td>Jersey City</td>
<td>$1,009,000</td>
<td>$1,363,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>44.8</td>
<td>43.0</td>
<td>HP-10-12</td>
<td>Reservoir 3 Stabilization of Historic Structures</td>
<td>Jersey City</td>
<td>$596,644</td>
<td>$646,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>39.8</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>HP-13-12</td>
<td>Bayonne Community Museum</td>
<td>Bayonne</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$6,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Average Scores for Historic Preservation Applications

- **Lincoln Park Fountain Restoration**: 50.4
- **Window Restoration at Jersey City Main Library**: 48.8
- **Reservoir 3 Stabilization of Historic Structures**: 44.8
- **Bayonne Community Museum**: 39.8

*Maximum Potential Score = 100*
V. PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
Application No. PI-02-12
Ellsworth Park Improvements, Union City

Project Description
The City of Union City is seeking funds for improvements to Ellsworth Park. This project will modify this primarily passive park to be a multi-purpose facility with a picnic area and a bandshell/amphitheater. Other improvements include the development of water features and addition of modernized playground equipment, as well as the provision of landscaping, benches, and lighting.

Summary
Project Name: Ellsworth Park Improvements
Applicant: City of Union City
Municipality: Union City
Total Project Costs: $3,542,169
Amount Requested: $500,000
Amount Matched: $3,042,169

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Advisory Board finds that Ellsworth Park is on the City of Union City’s Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI) and is therefore eligible for funding from the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund.
- The Advisory Board finds that the proposed park improvements are consistent with the Hudson County Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Plan.
- The Advisory Board finds that it is costly to maintain a working fountain, however the visual, aesthetic, psychological, and emotional benefits of including a fountain generally outweigh the financial costs.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the City of Union City consider including “Wifi” service for park users to utilize and enjoy.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the City of Union City consider designating at least one handicapped parking space near each corner or park entrance for the benefit of park users.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the City of Union City consider installing anti-skid surfaces for the water features.
Project Description
The Town of Kearny is seeking funding for the construction of a passive garden recreation facility adjacent to the Main Library. The development and improvement activities include site preparation, infrastructure installation, park furnishing, and landscaping.

Summary
Project Name: Kearny Library Garden
Applicant: Town of Kearny
Municipality: Kearny
Total Project Costs: $189,847
Amount Requested: $100,000
Amount Matched: $39,847

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Advisory Board finds that the Kearny Main Library is not listed on the State or National Register of Historic Sites and not found on the Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI) for the Town of Kearny.
- The Advisory Board finds that Kearny’s Main Library is a Carnegie Endowment Library and recommends that the Town of Kearny consider adding the building to the State and National Register of Historic Sites.
- The Advisory Board finds that the proposed Reading Garden is generally consistent with the Hudson County Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Plan and therefore eligible for funding.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library consider adding WiFi capability for Reading Garden users to benefit and enjoy.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library consider turning out the roof downspouts to the vegetative garden area and making the landscaped areas into a “rain garden”.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library consider repairing or rehabilitating the existing retaining wall along its southerly property line.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Library consider adding appropriate outdoor lighting for nighttime programming.
Project Description

The Town of Kearny requests funding for its proposed elements of the playground development at Brighton Ave. These development/restoration activities include the playground equipment for various ages, seating, rubberized safety surfaces, security system, fencing, landscaping, trash receptacles, and related infrastructure.

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name:</th>
<th>Brighton Avenue Playground</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant:</td>
<td>Town of Kearny</td>
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<tr>
<td>Municipality:</td>
<td>Kearny</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Project Costs:</td>
<td>$367,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Requested:</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Matched:</td>
<td>$73,202</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Findings and Recommendations:

- The Advisory Board finds that the Brighton Ave. playground does not appear to be on Kearny’s Recreation Open Space Inventory (ROSI) and is therefore not recognized as a park or playground; and
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Town of Kearny amend its Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI) to include the Brighton Avenue Playground as a designated park and playground; and
- The Advisory Board finds that recommends that the Town of Kearny consider “traffic calming” features to the park, such as fencing or wheel stoppers to avoid potential conflicts between park users and automobiles/motorists.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Town of Kearny consider installing “green infrastructure” to reduce stormwater run-off and related non-point source pollution from the parking surface.
- The Advisory Board finds that the park functions as a “neighborhood” park attracting people from the immediate vicinity and that the proposed parking lot appears excessive in relation to the park space.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Town of Kearny consider installing signs with park rules and limits on parking so the site does not become a permanent parking lot for neighborhood vehicles.
Application No. PI-05-12
All Season Surface Improvement at Veterans Field, Kearny

**Project Description**  The Town of Kearny is seeking funding for the installation of an artificial field turf at Veteran's Park and other field improvements. This field surface will provide recreation space for all seasons, serving as softball/baseball fields, a football field, and soccer fields.

**Summary**
- **Project Name:** All Season Surface Improvement at Veterans Field
- **Applicant:** Town of Kearny
- **Municipality:** Kearny
- **Total Project Costs:** $2,048,610
- **Amount Requested:** $100,000
- **Amount Matched:** $1,294,630

**Findings and Recommendations:**
- The Advisory Board finds that Veterans Field is listed on the Town of Kearny’s Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI) and that the proposed improvements are consistent with the Hudson County Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Plan.
Application No. PI-06-12
Restoration of Liberty Plaza, Harrison

Project Description
The Town of Harrison seeks funds for improvements to the Harrison Library Plaza. The proposed Plaza project activities include the restoration of the library and plaza stairs, replacement of hand and guard rails, walkway reinforcements, masonry restoration, column replacement, shrub replacement, and landscaping.

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Restoration of Liberty Plaza</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td>Town of Harrison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>Harrison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Project Costs</td>
<td>$242,390</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Requested</td>
<td>$242,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Matched</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Advisory Board finds that the Harrison Library has received a “Certificate of Eligibility” (COE) from the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office and is therefore eligible for funding for historic preservation project.
- The Advisory Board finds that the great lawn in front of the library and post office is not listed on the Town of Harrison’s Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI).
- The Advisory Board finds that the great lawn/green space in front of the library and post office is “off-limits” to visitors and library users.
- The Advisory Board finds that the Town of Harrison’s proposed site improvements at the Library site do not appear to preserve a historic feature or enhance a park or open space.
- The Advisory Board recommends that the Town of Harrison consider preparing a historic preservation plan for the library and consider putting the great lawn/green on the Town’s Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI) or prepare and execute a public access/conservation easement to preserve the great lawn/green space in perpetuity and let visitors enjoy the green space.

Historic postcard of the Bowling Green in the front of Harrison Library

Current conditions at the Plaza
Project Description
The City of Weehawken is seeking funding for the construction of a walkway pier on the Hudson River at the site of former Pier B with several "pods" for passive and active recreation. The pier will increase public access to the waterfront, promote eco-tourism, provide linkages to the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, and comply with ADA standards.

Summary
Project Name: Pier B Restoration
Applicant: Township of Weehawken
Municipality: Weehawken
Total Project Costs: $3,058,372
Amount Requested: $500,000
Amount Matched: $2,558,372

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Board recommends that the City increase more public engagement in the project planning.
- The Board recommends that the City define ingress and egress lines.
- The Board recommends that the City provide ADA accessibility and a designated handicapped parking space.
- The Board recommends that the City follow the Hudson River waterfront guidelines.

Site plans for proposed pier
Project Description
The City of Jersey City is requesting funds for improvements at seven (7) city parks. These activities will include resurfacing of playground areas, replacement of outdated equipment, and general maintenance items. The cost items listed for funding will complete Phase 1 of the City’s planned improvements. The seven targeted parks are Pershing Field (Ward C), Pavonia Marion Park (Ward C), Janet Moore Park (Ward C), Vernater Watson Park (Ward A), Angel Ramos Park (Ward E), Arlington Park (Ward F), and Riverview Fisk Park (Ward D).

Summary
Project Name: Citywide Multi-park Rehabilitation Phase I
Applicant: City of Jersey City
Municipality: Jersey City
Total Project Costs: $1,900,000
Amount Requested: $1,000,000
Amount Matched: $900,000

Findings and Recommendations:
- For future applications, the Board recommends that the City does not consolidate multiple projects into one application OR if there is one application, highlight an overarching theme that would provide cost efficiency for all the projects.
Project Description
The City of Hoboken is seeking funding for improvements to the open space facilities at Stevens’ Field and surrounding area. The Stevens’ Field activities will be the installation of the artificial turf and a batting cage. The children’s area will be improved by an updated playground with new play equipment and spray area. Also, the project will be include a refurbished dog run and the addition of a bus shelter.

Summary
Project Name: Improvements to Steven’s Field adjoining Playground and Dogrun
Applicant: City of Hoboken
Municipality: Hoboken
Total Project Costs: $731,000
Amount Requested: $500,000
Amount Matched: $231,000

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Board recommends that the City provide ADA compliant elements for the new spray ground.

Site plans for proposed improvements
Bayonne Riverwalk Greenway Bay

**Project Description**
The City of Bayonne requests funding for the construction of a riverfront walkway through Bayonne’s Veteran’s Park to connect to the walkway at Stephen B. Gregg Hudson County Park. The project will maximize public access to the waterfront with full ADA compliancy and provide new recreational opportunities.

**Summary**
- **Project Name:** Bayonne Riverwalk Greenway
- **Applicant:** City of Bayonne
- **Municipality:** Bayonne
- **Total Project Costs:** $976,900
- **Amount Requested:** $500,000
- **Amount Matched:** $0

**Recommendation**
- The Board recommends that the City increase local share.
- The Board recommends that the City consider formulating waterfront access plan.
- The Board recommends that the City provide more ADA signage.

[Images of proposed start and end of walkway connection, rendering of walkway design, and site plans for proposed walkway]
Project Description
The City of West New York is seeking funding for the rehabilitation of the Swim Club and for the construction of a sprayground at Miller Park. The major rehabilitation item for the pool area is the improvement of the pool drainage, including the piping. The sprayground will serve as an additional water facility for residents, alleviating the overcrowding at the Swim Club.

Summary

Project Name: Improvements to West New York Swim Club
Applicant: Town of West New York
Municipality: West New York
Total Project Costs: $1,784,582
Amount Requested: $446,146
Amount Matched: $0

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Board recommends that the City consider the inclusion of handicapped chair lift.
- The Board recommends that the City provide accessibility for van loading/unloading for groups.
- The Board recommends that the City suggest for future applications, the City submit separate applications for separate sites.

Site plans for proposed improvements
Current conditions at the pool
Current conditions of the piping system
Application No. PI-17-12
James J Braddock Multi-Use Active and Passive Recreational Facilities

Project Description
The County is seeking funds for a 15.6-acre park improvement project for James J. Braddock Park in North Bergen, which will provide an equal balance of passive and active recreational facilities. The four (4) components are: a multi-use field (an overlay of soccer and football fields on existing baseball/softball fields), the creation of a new restroom facility, a reforestation area with a sustainable irrigation system, and the creation of landscaped Veteran’s Memorial Gardens. The entire project will be graded, provide ADA compliant pathways and facility entrances, and incorporate LEED elements when possible.

Summary
Project Name: Braddock Multi-Use Active and Passive Recreational Facilities
Applicant: County of Hudson
Municipality: North Bergen
Total Project Costs: $7,542,905
Amount Requested: $250,000
Amount Matched: $2,750,000

Findings and Recommendations:
• The Board recommends that the County construct ADA compliant sidewalk with shade trees to create a vegetated buffer.
• The Board recommends that the County design the County seal on the fields/courts.
• The Board recommends that the County include signage at the Memorial Garden for environmental and ADA compliant elements.

Aerial of current conditions at Braddock Park

Proposed site plans
Application No. PI-18-12
9th Street Park Renovation

Project Description
The Town of Secaucus is seeking funding for the renovation of the 9th Street Park, which is about a half-acre pocket park. The improvements include the resurfacing of the existing basketball court, landscaping, the installation of a rubberized play surface to enhance ADA access for one of the play structures, the creation of a water feature, replacement of the existing basketball hoops and swing set, and the installation of new fencing around the park.

Summary
Project Name: 9th Street Park Renovation
Applicant: Town of Secaucus
Municipality: Secaucus
Total Project Costs: $166,409
Amount Requested: $149,409
Amount Matched: $17,000

Findings and Recommendations:
- The Board recommends that the City position the swing set away from the basketball court OR put up fencing.

Aerial map (to the left); Rendering of proposed improvements (below)

Aerial of current conditions at Braddock Park

Current conditions (two to the right)
Application No. Pl-19-12
North Bergen/Guttenberg Waterfront Park

Project Description
This joint application from Guttenberg and North Bergen is for a 1.5 acre multi-use park development, situated on a piece of Hudson River waterfront property. The park will be Guttenberg’s first formal park and North Bergen’s only waterfront park. The new park will include contain an amphitheater, a playground, a picnic area, covered seating area, benches, a walking path, open grassy areas, and an extension of the Hudson River Walkway.

Summary
Project Name: North Bergen/Guttenberg Waterfront Park
Applicant: Township of North Bergen/ Town of Guttenberg
Municipality: North Bergen/ Guttenberg
Total Project Costs: $3,240,085
Amount Requested: $1,240,000
Amount Matched: $1,600,085

Findings and Recommendations: None.
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<td>$242,390.00</td>
<td>$242,390.00</td>
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</table>
Average Scores for Park Improvement Applications

Maximum Potential Score = 107

- Ellsworth Park: 47.2
- Kearny Library Garden: 41.0
- Brighton Ave Playground: 30.8
- Surface Improvements at Veteran's Field: 55.6
- Restoration of Library Plaza: 15.4
- Citywide Multi-Park Rehab: 52.5
- Elements at Steven's Field & Playground: 52.5
- Bayonne Riverwalk Greenway: 45.6
- WNY Swim Club & Centennial Field: 36.7
- James J. Braddock Recreational Facilities: 57.3
- 9th Street Park: 26.8
- North Bergen/Guttenberg: 60.4
VI. PLANNING, ENGINEERING, AND HISTORIC STUDIES
Application No. PS-15-12
Planning Study for the Renovation of Paulus Hook Park

Project Description
The Historic Paulus Hook Association (HPHA) is requesting funding for a Planning, Engineering, Historic, and Environmental Study for Paulus Hook Park (also known as the Four Corner Park). The park is currently underutilized and is made up of disconnected parcels of land. The planning concept that the organization envisions will enhance the intersection as a unifying point through design and traffic-calming measures.

Summary
Project Name: Planning Study for the Renovation of Paulus Hook Park
Applicant: Historic Paulus Hook Association
Municipality: Jersey City
Total Project Costs: $200,000
Amount Requested: $100,000
Amount Matched: $100,000

Recommendation
- Consider a strategic plan/approach if archeological sites are found

Historic postcard of the Park

Current conditions at the site

Aerial map of the site
Application No. PS-20-10
MLK Mini Museum and Garden

**Project Description** Metro-Spec, Inc., the community development arm of Metropolitan AME Zion Church, is seeking funding for a strategic planning study to enhance the potential creation of their Martin Luther King Mini-Museum. They propose to acquire the vacant lots around the church to plant a garden and provide a paved parking lot for visitors. The group is also looking to explore energy alternatives for the Church and the feasibility of providing central air conditioning.

| Summary |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Project Name:   | MLK Mini Museum and Garden |
| Applicant:      | Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church/ Metro-Spec |
| Municipality:   | Jersey City |
| Total Project Costs: | $250,000 |
| Amount Requested:  | $50,000 |
| Amount Matched: | $0 |

**Recommendation**
- Conduct (or hire a consultant to) a strategy planning study to evaluate existing uses and make recommendations for the use of the land. This will allow the organization to be in better position to apply for funding from the Trust or other sources.
- Engage the Board of Trustees, residents, and stakeholders in this process
- Do not include religious-associated statues or other design elements
- Recruit volunteers for clean up
- Apply for a conservation/public access easement

Current conditions at the site

Newspaper article documenting MLK’s visit to the church

Neighborhood map
### Planning, Engineering, & Historic Preservation Studies Ranked

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
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#### Average Scores for Planning Study Applications

- Renovation of Paulus Hook Park: Average Score = 34.8
- MLK Mini Museum and Garden: Average Score = 18.0

Max Potential Score = 47
VII. APPLICATION SCORE, RANK, & FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS
A. Open Space Acquisition Score, Rank, and Funding Recommendations

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## B. Historic Preservation Score, Rank, and Funding Recommendations

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### C. Park & Recreation Improvement Score, Rank, and Funding Recommendations

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## D. Planning, Environmental, Engineering, and Historic Preservation Studies

### Score, Rank and Funding Recommendations

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