Open Space Trust Fund Projects
On June 26, 2003, the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholders approved a resolution authorizing the placement of a public question 9 referendum on the general election ballot to establish the County Open Space, Recreation & Historic Preservation Trust Fund. On November 3, 2003, the ballot question was approved by a two-to-one majority of County voters.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders, by resolution date December 23, 2003, voted to create the Hudson County Open Space, Recreation & Historic Preservation Trust fund. The Trust Fund is funded through a one cent property tax for open space purposes, recreation facility enhancements, and historic preservation.

The Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Board is charged by the Board of Chosen Freeholders 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.

The 2005 Hudson County Open Space & Recreation Plan outlined goals and objectives for the future growth of Hudson County. It detailed open space resources, municipal Recreation Open Space Inventory, natural resources, and opportunities to acquire vacant property.

Over the past eight years, the open space trust fund has funded 116 projects. The Trust has helped fund acquisitions such as Berry Lane Park, Hudson River Waterfront Walkway at Hoboken/Weehawken Cove, 1600 Park Avenue in Hoboken, the pocket park in front of the Hudson County Community College, the land for the Guttenberg Recreation Center, Southwest Park in Hoboken, and River Road acquisition in North Bergen and Guttenberg. We continue to work with applicants to help fund new green spaces like Farm Road and Oak Lane in Secaucus, and assist with park improvements, historical restoration and planning studies.

The following chapter is broken down by municipality. The municipal maps will indicate the Open Space Trust funded projects by type: Park Improvement, Open Space Acquisition, Historical Preservation, or Planning Study. A description and project update of all funded projects are listed under each municipality.
Rutkowski Park

The City of Bayonne constructed a 42-acre passive waterfront park and environmental education walkway adjacent to the Newark Bay. The project is centered around the City of Bayonne’s effort to provide increased passive recreational opportunities, while providing environmental education options within the City’s boundaries.

The park was dedicated in May of 2006 and renamed Rutkowski Park, after former Bayonne Mayor Richard A. Rutkowski who served the City of Bayonne from 1990 to 1994.
Harbor View Park

The development of a 2-acre waterfront park by the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority (BLRA) represents part of the mixed-use redevelopment plan for the 430-acre Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor situated in the Upper New York Bay. The centerpiece of the park is a 100-foot monument called “To Struggle Against the World,” a gift from the City of Moscow, designed by world-renowned artist Zurab Tseretelli. The proposed plans feature a great lawn, amphitheater seating and attractive landscaping, and is designed to complement the panoramic views of New York Harbor.

The first phase of the project was completed in the fall of 2006. The park was dedicated in a ceremony on September 11, 2006. The second phase of the development included plans for bulkhead improvements along the eastern shoreline to extend to the berth line. This phase of the project was completed by the fall of 2008.

Bayonne Community Museum

The City of Bayonne, in conjunction with the Bayonne Community Museum, received funds to preserve, restore, and rehabilitate the former Bayonne Trust Company Building located at 229 Broadway, Bayonne, NJ. The site will be the new home of the Bayonne Community Museum. The museum building, a local landmark designated by the Bayonne City Council, is in the process of having its interior spaces renovated, including electrical, mechanical, and new HVAC. Once complete the new facilities will include gallery space, offices, reception area, and ADA-compliant restrooms. The exterior architectural features were also preserved. For this multi-phased project, funds were awarded for multiple phases including interior and exterior window renovations, the main floor terrazzo, new HVAC, lighting, display cases, stairway renovation, and repair of marble coping. The repairs to HVAC system are still underway, much of the interior work has been completed. This has allowed the space has been utilized for various community events, including concerts and art shows.
Bayonne Parks Study
The Bayonne Neighborhood Parks Planning Study is intended to support a planning and design effort to revitalize four existing City parks that are deteriorating and in need of renovation. The parks included in the study are Dr. Morris Park at Broadway and 47th Street, Francis Fitzpatrick Park at Avenue C and 26th Street, Sister Miriam Theresa Park at Gregg Lane and 23rd Street, and Edward F. Clark Park at Avenue C and 8th Street. The planning study will evaluate existing conditions at the selected parks, identify improvements, and produce a parks improvement plan. The City also aims to include the design work for a civic plaza on Broadway between 17th and 30th Street in the scope of the work. The plan will be used to guide the revitalization of each park and support the City’s efforts to fund improvements through future grant applications to the Hudson County Open Space program, NJDEP Green Acres Program, and the Community Development Block Grant Program. The City is looking to award a 6-month contract by Spring 2013.

Fishing Pier
The fishing pier is proposed to be located at the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway adjacent to the Bayonne Golf Club. The Pier will reach out to water depths which are ideal for fishing and bird watching. The construction of the Pier will be in full compliance of Coastal Zone Management Rules and will not lie within the habitat of endangered or threatened species. The design of the pier will include a railing, lighting, a fish cleaning station, and benches. Water depths will be seven feet at mean tide. This project is major priority for the City of Bayonne.

North Street Park
The City intends to install ADA compliant playground equipment to provide improved public recreational facilities. Initially planned for Al Slootsky Park, the project was reprogrammed to North Street Park Playground, also located on the west side of Bayonne, due to issues surrounding the reconstruction of the Bayonne Bridge.

Russell Golding Park
The Russell Golding Park Expansion Project is a City of Bayonne initiative to increase park, recreation, and open space opportunities on upper Avenue E in the northeastern quadrant of the City where open space is in short supply. The project entails the acquisition of two vacant service station parcels that adjoin Russell Golding Park using both Hudson County Open Space and NJDEP Green Acres funds to expand the park. The City plans to create new active and passive recreational amenities as part of the project including basketball courts, expanded spray park amenities and a passive seating area with walkway. The project has the added benefits of promoting the remediation of brownfield sites and expanding recreational opportunities in a low and moderate income census tract.
**Veteran’s Park Recreational Enhancements**
The City of Bayonne and BLRA proposes to improve the athletic fields at Veteran’s Stadium instead of the community park with soccer fields. They plan to utilize the grant funds to convert the grass to synthetic turf at the entire complex, renovate the existing baseball field, replace the sport field light using energy efficient green technology, and install a walking path around the perimeter of the stadium. The plan also calls for additional site improvements such as fencing, pathways, batting cages, bullpen areas, increased spectator viewing areas, and pedestrian and ADA compliant access from the parking lot to the entire site. The project also received Green Acres funds in 2012.

**Bayonne Riverwalk Greenway**
The City of Bayonne was awarded funding for the construction of a riverfront walkway through Bayonne’s Don Ahern Veteran’s Memorial Park to connect to the walkway at Stephen B. Gregg Hudson County Park. The project will maximize public access to the Hackensack waterfront with full ADA compliance and provide new recreational opportunities.
**Guttenberg & North Bergen Waterfront Park**

The Town of Guttenberg was awarded a grant to acquire a 1.873 acre parcel along the Hudson River in order to preserve and maintain the area as open space. The parcel was successfully acquired in 2005. The Town aims to increase the availability of passive recreation resources, watershed and wetlands protection, and scenic preservation through this open space acquisition and conservation. In 2008 the Town was awarded an open space trust fund grant for the construction of the waterfront park. However, the original design has shifted and includes the adjacent parcel acquired by the Township of North Bergen. The current park plan incorporates both municipal land parcels and is a joint project.

**Guttenberg Recreation & Cultural Center**

In 2007 the Town was awarded a grant to acquire a 50’ x 100’ lot to maintain as recreation space. The property was acquired and the demolition phase of the project was completed. A conservation easement was created in 2008 and the site is now permanently preserved as open space.

In 2009 and 2010, the Town of Guttenberg received additional grant awards to construct the recreation and cultural center with an outdoor park on the roof of the planned center and space for plays, concerts, cultural events, and recreational opportunities. Upon completion, the site will provide ADA accessibility and remain open for residents of Guttenberg and Hudson County. In the interim, a paved portion of the site serves as a temporary play yard for the Anna L. Klein Elementary school.
Harrison Open Space Trust Fund Projects

Harrison Courts
The Town of Harrison utilized this funding to assist in rehabilitating the turf soccer field at Harrison Courts, located at Frank E. Rodgers Boulevard. The funds covered the removal of the existing synthetic turf field, the installation of a new, artificial turf surface as well as a chain link fence and a ball stopping system.

The project has been completed and is a great recreational asset to the Harrison community.

Passaic River Waterfront Walkway
The Town of Harrison used this grant for the construction of a section of the Passaic River Waterfront Walkway from Cleveland Avenue to Harrison Avenue north of the Bridge Street Bridge. The ADA-compliant waterfront promenade will provide 24/7 public access and connect to existing walkway.

This section of walkway was completed and has made the Passaic River waterfront more accessible to the public.
HARRISON LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD

The Town of Harrison made improvements at the Little League Field located on Harrison Avenue. The multipurpose, recreational field includes full rehabilitation of the field surface, improved solar-powered lighting, replacement of field equipment, and new chain-link fencing. All improvements will conform to ADA guidelines for accessibility.

The project has been completed and has greatly enhanced the quality of

HARRISON SHADE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

When the “Harrison Courts” project was completed without the use of the full award amount, the remaining funds were reprogrammed toward the creation of a “Harrison Shade Tree Planting Program” (Resolution 312-6-2012).

In the fall of 2012, Harrison’s Department of Public Works planted fifty shade trees throughout the Town of Harrison. The Shade Tree program serves to compliment Hudson County’s existing shade tree initiative.
Hoboken/Weehawken Cove Hudson Riverfront Walkway

A portion of the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway was constructed at the Weehawken Cove. This section was a critical step in linking the Weehawken and Hoboken waterfronts and furthering the completion of a seamless pedestrian esplanade and bikeway along Hudson County's northern waterfront. The project includes a boat launch for canoes and kayaks and connects the adjacent public park owned by the City of Hoboken and funded by the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund.

The project has been completed and there was an official ribbon cutting ceremony in May of 2012.

Photo: Left to Right: Councilman Robert J. Sosa, Councilwoman Rosemary J. Lavagnino, Mayor Richard Turner, Hudson County Executive Thomas DeGise, Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer, Freeholder Anthony Romano, Hoboken Councilwoman Beth Mason, Hudson County Planning Board 2012 Chair Renee Bettinger
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1600 Park
The City of Hoboken acquired approximately 2.1 acres of land located at 1600 Park Avenue and was awarded Hudson County Open Space Trust funds for the park design which includes both passive and active recreation elements. In 2011, with input from the public, the City of Hoboken decided to redesign a more cohesive linkage between 1600 Park Avenue and Hoboken Cove Park. The 1600 Park Avenue portion will have a multi-use synthetic turf field and plaza area. The park development is now under way and completion is expected in Fall 2013.

Southwest Park Acquisition
Acquisition of open space in Southwest Hoboken has long been a priority of the City and the public. The first phase for the Southwest Park, envisioned in Hoboken’s Master Plan and Open Space Plan, would include an almost one-acre portion of Block 12 on Jackson Street. The property is scheduled for purchase in August 2013 and park development is slated to begin in 2014. The first phase of the plan will include adding traffic lights, pedestrian signals, and crosswalks to ensure that residents can safely walk to the park.

Weehawken/Hoboken Cove Park & Boathouse
The City of Hoboken is developing a public park along the waterfront at Hoboken Cove to provide open space as well as passive, and active recreational opportunities. The Hoboken Cove Park will connect the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway and provide unrestricted access to the Hudson River waterfront. A safe pedestrian connection will also be made between the cove and 1600 Park Avenue.

Additionally, in coordination with Downtown Boathouse, Inc., the park design will include the construction of the Hoboken Cove Community Boathouse. As planned, the pre-fabricated building will have ADA-compliant restroom facilities, plumbing for restrooms, and equipment for cleaning and maintenance.
**CASTLE POINT AT SINATRA PARK**

The City of Hoboken was awarded funds to repair the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway located at Castle Point along Frank Sinatra Drive, which collapsed and is in need of repair. The City plans to rebuild the walkway and repair all structural components related to its collapse. The project is set for completion by August 2013.

**PARK IMPROVEMENTS TO CITY OF HOBOKEN’S STEVENS FIELD, PLAYGROUND & DOG RUN**

The City of Hoboken was awarded funding for improvements to the open space facilities at Stevens’ Field and surrounding area. The project includes the installation of artificial turf and a batting cage. The children’s area will be improved with an updated playground with new play equipment and spray area. The project will also include a refurbished dog run and the addition of a bus shelter.
Hackensack Riverfront Park (Skyway Park)
The City of Jersey City envisions creating a waterfront park along the Hackensack River. It will convert a 28-acre site to active recreational open space and create over an acre of tidal wetlands. The City received a grant in 2009 for the acquisition of a portion of the planned park consisting of approximately 1.376 acres. Another grant in 2010 aided the City in acquiring the full area of approximately 28 acres located at Broadway and Sip Avenue for the waterfront park. The City is planning a multi-use recreational facility with three new soccer fields, parking, pedestrian walkways, and grassy meadows.

The site has been completely remediated. The park will provide access to the Hackensack River and the riverfront walkway aided by an $800,000 Green Acres grant.
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**Berry Lane Park**
The City of Jersey City, with assistance from the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund, acquired two sites, sized at 5.21 acres and 3.41 acres. The sites are located at Garfield Avenue and Woodward Street and are collectively known as the Berry Lane Park Property Acquisition. This land acquisition is part of a multi-phase project spearheaded by the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency to transform 17.5 acres of former rail yards, junk yards, auto repair shops, industrial facilities, and warehouses into a recreational amenity in a low-to-moderate-income neighborhood. The expansion of the park boundaries ensures that residents will have access to all forms of active and passive recreation. When complete, the project will result in a 9% increase in the amount of useable open space in Jersey City. On August 23, 2012, officials broke ground on the park and a portion of it will be opened in 2013.

**HCCC Culinary Arts Plaza**
Hudson County Community College, with assistance from the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund, was awarded grant funds to acquire a 0.3 acre parcel of open space in the Journal Square neighborhood in Jersey City. In 2008, the HCCC was awarded another grant to develop the public plaza at the 0.3 acre parcel. A ribbon cutting ceremony officially opened the plaza on October 8, 2008. The passive recreational plaza includes new landscaping and lighting, is ADA accessible, and is maintained by Hudson County Community College.
**Brennan County Courthouse**

The County of Hudson was awarded funds to restore historic features at the Brennan County Court House. In 2006, the awarded grant aided Phase II of the lighting restoration, which included the replication of missing historic light fixtures in one courtroom on the second floor and all four courtrooms on the fourth floor. In addition, balcony torches on the fourth floor, wall sconces in the public corridors and exterior light fixtures were replicated.

In 2008, the County of Hudson was awarded a grant for Phase III of the lighting restoration for the Courthouse, which was completed by September of 2011. A portion of the grant was directed to the monumental stairs and restoration of the plaza. The reconstruction of the front entrance steps entails lifting the existing marble treads and the relocating them to an adjacent area while the structural supports underneath are completely reconstructed. The tread then needs to be reset on the new reconstructed sub-structure. The plaza reconstruction is also included within the reconstruction of the front entrance steps due to deterioration observed during the winter of 2010.

**Camp Liberty Pool**

The Educational Arts Team, Inc. was funded to repair the in-ground pool and supplementary facilities at the Camp Liberty Site. The pool serves primarily Jersey City youth, but families throughout the county also send their children to the camp each summer. The site improvements included the repair and resurfacing of the pool interior, the leveling and resurfacing of the exterior, and the addition of a new fence.

In 2006, Educational Arts Team, Inc. was also awarded funds to improve ADA compliance with installation of an automatic handicap entrance to the camp and handicap walkway, along with a pool chair lift for the in-ground pool. The majority of work for both grant-funded projects was completed during the summer of 2008. Renovation to the walkway facilitated handicapped campers and family members. A handicap accessible front entrance was added, including a panic bar. In addition, a pool chair was purchased to allow greater swimming access.

**Ellis Island Ferry Terminal**

The Ferry Terminal Building is one of the contributing structures of the Ellis Island listing on the National Register of Historic Places and New Jersey Register of Historic Places. The restoration of the Ferry Terminal Building was the first step in opening the New Jersey portion (south side) to the public for the first time in over 50 years. As of April 2, 2007, the public can visit the Ferry Terminal and view the exhibit *Future in the Balance: Immigration, Public Health and the Ellis Island Hospitals*, which describes the history of the medical facility at Ellis Island through immigrants, doctors, nurses and support staff. The Ferry Building also has multi-use space for additional programming such as educational classes.
ELLIS ISLAND – LAUNDRY/HOSPITAL BUILDING
The Ellis Island Laundry/Hospital Outbuilding is the first building from the Ellis Island Hospital Complex to be restored and complete the gateway that enables visitors to physically access the south side of Ellis Island. Phase II of III, completed in 2009, was limited to interior improvements to the first floor of the building and includes installation, upgrading of mechanical and electrical infrastructure, life safety systems, and the preparation of the interior spaces to accommodate interpretive and office occupancy. Walls, floorings, and ceiling were restored and a new elevator and fire stair was constructed. In addition, new fire protection sprinklers, fire detection, and telephone/data systems were installed.

REV. DR. ERCEL WEBB PARK
The Communipaw Avenue Block Association was awarded funds for park improvements at Rev. Dr. Ercele Webb Park on Lafayette Street in Jersey City, NJ. An automatic drip irrigation system was installed in September 2008. The irrigation system provides the six community garden beds with efficient water delivery and encourages passive recreation activities for the community.

LINCOLN PARK ATHLETIC FIELD
A new multi-use sports facility was constructed at Lincoln Park Athletic Fields 10 and 11. The facility includes artificial surface, backstops, concrete dugouts, bleachers, water source, batting cage, warm up area, and sports lighting. The new facility also has two baseball/softball fields, one regulation football/soccer field, and two practice fields. The entire facility is ADA-compliant, with access to all dugouts, bleachers, fields, and the perimeter of the facility.
CAVEN POINT RECREATIONAL COMPLEX
The Jersey City Public Schools system was awarded a grant to renovate the multi-purpose field at the Caven Point Recreational Complex. Completed in the fall of 2008, the grant funded 80,000 square feet of new, artificial turf for the baseball and football fields.

LIBERTY STATE PARK PICNIC PAVILION
The Friends of Liberty State Park was awarded funds in partnership with the State of New Jersey for the development of a group picnic pavilion at Freedom Field located at the corner of Pesin Drive and Freedom Way. Opened to the public in September of 2012, the picnic pavilion offers the public ADA-accessible facilities including restrooms, signage, and sheltered picnic tables. The space provides unstructured recreational opportunities with minimal impact on local flora and fauna. Vegetation, shade trees, and additional landscaping provide a buffer from the public roads and industrial facilities. In addition, an interpretive sign describes park history and natural resources conservation.

APPLE TREE HOUSE
The City of Jersey City was awarded funds to preserve, restore, and rehabilitate the Apple Tree House, also known as the Van Wagenen House. Upon completion the house will serve as a museum and public resource, where the history of Jersey City will be interpreted through permanent and traveling exhibitions. Phase III for the project is funded by the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund for archaeology, new plantings, and driveways. Site improvements will include historically appropriate plantings and trees in addition to improved parking and pathways to provide accessible accommodations for the Museum. The site design includes decorative or stamped concrete in a pattern reflective of the history of the site in the driveway and parking lot. Preservation work is in the process of being completed. The grant funds restored the interior which includes plaster restoration, millwork restoration, restoration of wood floors, new finishes and also historically appropriate wallpaper, and window treatments. The funding also provided an ADA compliant elevator and bathrooms.

Phase II work is nearing completion and the City anticipates that the bidding for the Phase III site work will take place in the fall of 2013.
**Loew’s Jersey Theater**

In 2005, the Friends of the Loew’s Inc. was awarded funds to upgrade the air-conditioning system to help the theatre accommodate year-round programming. The award was reprogrammed for work intended to achieve safety and health upgrades to the Theatre.

In 2008, Friends of the Loew’s, Inc. was awarded a grant to continue the renovation of the Loew’s Jersey Theatre. The exterior fire stairs at the southern and northern elevations need to be repaired and repainted to be used as emergency escape elements for the Theatre’s balcony. New emergency lighting, modification to railing heights, and exterior emergency doors and frames need to be installed, repaired, or replaced.

The final review and revisions to the main entrance door plans are underway. The non-profit has also started renovation of the fire stand pipe and the emergency and egress lighting.

**Pershing Field Community Projects**

The Pershing Field Garden Friends and the Friends of Van Vorst Park, along with members of the Jersey City Parks Coalition, were awarded funds to restore the original detail and patina of the American Triumphant statue at Pershing Field. Many layers of gold paint were removed from the statue and the names of the 147 residents of the Jersey City Heights neighborhood who were members of armed forces during military engagements were returned to the monument. The granite boulder on which the statue rests was also restored. On Veteran’s Day in 2008 the restored statue was unveiled and rededicated with a new mosaic base designed by Christine Moss, a local artist.

The Pershing Field Garden Friends with the JC Parks Coalition were awarded an additional grant to restore the Fourth Regiment Arch, Historic Bell Sculpture and Flagpole, and Mayor Frank Hague and Governor A. Harry Moore Bronze Plaque. The Fourth Regiment Arch was treated for salt efflorescence and biological growth removal and then re-pointed. The intention was to nominate the Arch for the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. However, it was ineligible due to the fact that the Arch was moved from its original location. The restoration work for the Historic Bell Structure and the Flagpole is delayed. Once complete, both will be structurally stabilized and injected with conservation material. The bronze plaque in honor of Mayor Hague and Governor Moore will be cleaned and maintained to create a legible surface.
**Reservoir #3**

In 2006, the City of Jersey City, in collaboration with Jersey City Reservoir Preservation Alliance, was awarded funds to prepare an historic structure report for the Reservoir No. 3, located in the Heights neighborhood off of Central Avenue. The historic structure report, completed in July 2010, provides documentary, graphic, and physical information about the property’s history, the existing conditions, and addresses site management and goals for the use of the property.

The Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund awarded the City of Jersey City and the Jersey City Reservoir Preservation Alliance funds to stabilize the historic structures at Reservoir No. 3. Following recommendations in the Reservoir No. 3 Historic Structures Report, emergency stabilization of Gatehouse No. 1, Gatehouse No. 2, the screen house, and the surrounding retaining wall will be completed.

**Columbia Park**

The City of Jersey City was awarded a grant for park improvements at Columbia Park, located in the Greenville neighborhood. The renovation includes removal and replacement of existing play equipment, new lighting, asphalt, concrete curb replacement, a chain-link fence, improved site drainage, a street curb, an interior curb, and concrete foundation, which made the park ADA compliant. Additionally, the toddler playground at Columbia Park was overhauled and renovated.

**Boyd McGuiness Park**

The Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund awarded open space funds in 2008 to Jersey City to acquire a 0.25 acre parcel for open space at 91 and 95 Duncan Avenue. The site was acquired and the planning process is underway.

The City of Jersey City redveloped Boyd McGuiness Park, located at Duncan Avenue and Kennedy Boulevard, into an ADA-accessible facility. The redesigned park incorporates the adjacent lot along Duncan Avenue. The park will conform to the Jersey City Parks Master Plan and include passive recreation as the primary use along with new seating, game tables, lighting, and landscaping.

**City Hall Historic Preservation**

The City of Jersey City was awarded funds to restore the historic Council Chambers at the City Hall of Jersey City. The project, completed in 2008, included plaster, paint, wood finish, stained glass, and furniture restoration. In addition, historic lighting features were restored and enhanced with more aesthetically pleasing features. The carpet was replaced with more historically appropriate carpet.

In 2009, the City of Jersey City was awarded funds to prepare a historic preservation study to provide for preservation of historic elements and future restoration plans for its City Hall. The Historic Preservation Plan for City Hall will provide recommendations for sustainable modernization of City Hall to improve energy consumption and reduced operation costs. The City of Jersey City will also seek LEED certification as part of the renovation and preservation.
801 ROUTE 440 ACQUISITION

The County of Hudson was awarded funds through the Open Space Trust Fund to acquire the land located at 801 Route 440 consisting of approximately 5.088 acres. The property will be preserved and maintained by the County of Hudson for its continued use as a recreational park for open space, natural resource conservation, and public access to the Hackensack River waterfront.

SPEER CEMETERY

The cemetery is named for Abraham Speer, an undertaker and acting sexton for the church, who bought the land from the De Mott estate in 1857 and made it a public cemetery. The Jersey City Parks Coalition and Friends of Speer Cemetery were awarded a historic preservation grant for site preparation work for the first phase of the restoration project. In late 2012, the City of Jersey became a co-sponsor in order to assist with the project. The grant covers the use of ground penetrating radar or similar technology to identify graves for mapping paths and resetting tombstones. In October 2013, the site was cleared of debris and overgrown vegetation to create a safe environment for visitors. The radar work was complete in July 2013. The goal is to nominate the site to be placed on the New Jersey and Federal Register of Historic Places.

VAN VORST SPRAYGROUND

The Jersey City Parks Coalition, in conjunction with the City of Jersey City, was awarded funds to construct a sprayground water feature at Van Vorst Park. The conceptual drawings and plans for the sprayground have been completed. The site will have proper drainage and plumbing to support the water feature. Additionally, the site will be constructed to meet ADA standards for accessibility and remain open to the residents of Jersey City and Hudson County.

HARSIMUS CEMETERY

The Jersey City Parks Coalition was awarded funds for restoration work at the Jersey City and Harsimus Cemetery in 2009. The pathways, bluestone pavers, and fallen tombstones will be reset to provide safe access to the grounds. The JCPC intends to purchase an excavator machine and has cleared soil and overgrowth from some pathways. The group is the process of raising matching funds to assist in the purchase of the excavator.

In 2010, the Jersey City Parks Coalition was awarded a grant to assist in the preparation of a historic preservation report with the intent to determine eligibility and prepare for the nomination of the cemetery to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. The report will address historic interpretation, ADA accessibility, and historic preservation issues related to the site. Some of the initial research has been completed and was used to develop a historic walking tour of the cemetery.

PETER STUYVESANT STATUE

The Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy worked in partnership with the City of Jersey City to restore the city-owned Peter Stuyvesant Statue and its base. The grant funds were used to assist the Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy in the restoration of the statue base which is a gift to the City. After the restoration is complete the statue will be returned to its original location at the northeast corner of Academy Street and Bergen Avenue at Bergen Square, the location of the oldest municipality in the state. The statue pays homage to Stuyvesant, the last Dutch director general of New Netherland, who granted permission for settlement in the area in 1660.
WASHINGTON PARK ASSOCIATION PARK PROJECTS

The WPA was awarded funds to complete upgrades to Washington Park and Lincoln Park in Hudson County. The park improvements include ADA compliance, restoration and site improvements, and wayfinding signage. In August 2011, the WPA was awarded additional funds from NJ Green Acres to pursue park improvements. In the summer of 2012, WPA and Hudson County created a partnership to govern the management of the project. An engineer and landscape architect were retained for the project. As of the summer of 2012, a draft preliminary assessment was completed and pre-bid contacts, design schematics, and construction drawings are underway.

1ST STREET PARK

The Jersey City Parks Coalition, in partnership with the Village Neighborhood Association, was awarded funding to rehabilitate the 1st Street Park located at 384-388 1st St., Jersey City, NJ. The grantee will coordinate with the Jersey City Division of Parks and Forestry and rehabilitate the site to an improved neighborhood park.

Currently, site planning and engineering of the park is underway. In late 2012, the City of Jersey City became a co-sponsor of the grant to assist with completing the grant administration.

WINDOW RESTORATION FOR MAIN LIBRARY

The Jersey City Free Public Library was awarded funding in November of 2012 for a window restoration project at the Jersey City Main Library in the Van Vorst neighborhood in Downtown Jersey City. 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.

LINCOLN PARK FOUNTAIN RESTORATION

The County was awarded funding in 2012 for the restoration of the Lincoln Park Fountain, the focal point of historical significance within the County Park. The proposed restoration activities include the rebuilding of the fountain basin and walls, the fabrication and installation of all decorative elements on the center column, new spouting frogs, upgraded mechanical and electrical systems, new underground service vault, new surrounding sidewalks, and landscaping.
Kearny Open Space Trust Fund Projects

1. Bell Playground
2. Belgrove Playground
3. Brighton Avenue Playground
4. Veteran’s Field & Facility Improvements
5. Maguillian Park Development
6. Reading Park at Main Library

**Bell Playground**
The Town of Kearny was awarded this grant to update and redesign the playground equipment to accommodate toddlers, younger children, and children with disabilities. The design work included upgrades for increased security, lighting, and landscaping. The playground was completed and opened with a ribbon cutting event in December of 2006.

**Belgrove Playground**
The Town of Kearny was awarded a grant for the rehabilitation of the Belgrove Drive Playground. Completed in the summer of 2008, the grant funds provided playground equipment for 3-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds and included seating, benches, safety surfaces, fencing, landscaping, trash receptacles, as well as a security system that includes cameras and lighting.
BRIGHTON AVENUE PLAYGROUND
The Town of Kearny was awarded funds to construct a playground facility along Brighton Avenue with equipment for 3-5 year old and 5-12 year old children. Seating, benches, rubberized safety surfaces, improved fencing, and landscaping were also added. The new recreational facility includes lighting and will be open to the residents of Kearny and Hudson County. All improvements conform to ADA accessibility guidelines. Upon completion, the site was added to the Town’s recreation and open space inventory (ROSI). The park is open to the public and a ribbon cutting ceremony was held in June 2012. This new 27,000 square foot playground area was completed to include all the originally proposed park elements such as a slide and climbing boulder. The playground is also accompanied by a new illuminated off-street parking lot which accommodates up to ten vehicles with one handicap-accessible space.

VETERAN’S FIELD & FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
The Town of Kearny was awarded funds for the reconstruction of the field house at Veteran’s Field. The current facility will be demolished and replaced with a new field house, complete with a concession stand, storage access, ADA restrooms, an ADA accessible second floor announcer booth, as well as lighting improvements. The project will include additional landscaping to create a buffer from the surrounding residential and commercial areas. The Field House will include LEED improvements, such as demolition recycling, low E glass, gray water restroom facilities, solar panels, a wind turbine, and other LEED activities consistent with the project application. In addition, the Town of Kearny was awarded funds to rehabilitate the athletic fields at Veteran’s Field with all season field surface for softball, baseball, football, and soccer activities. The Field House opened in spring of 2013, with the surface installation following.

MAGUILLIAN PARK DEVELOPMENT
The Town of Kearny was awarded funding to assist in the development of Riverbank Park located along the Passaic River. The Maguillian Property at 589-629 Passaic Avenue will be developed to provide public access to the Passaic River and a continuous link to adjacent riverfront open space. The park construction will include lighting, ADA compliant access, and improved landscaping.

In August 2012, the Town of Kearny applied to the Hudson County Planning Board for approval of the design. As of August 2013, the Maguillian project is nearly complete — there is some landscaping, grass re-seeding and the installation of several benches that remain.

READING PARK AT MAIN LIBRARY
The Town of Kearny was awarded funds to construct a reading garden on the grounds of the Kearny Main Library located at 318 Kearny Avenue, Kearny, NJ. Items covered under this grant include site preparation, infrastructure installation, park construction, furnishing, and landscaping. The park will be ADA compliant and remain open for public use.
North Bergen Open Space Trust Fund Projects

1. Guttenberg & North Bergen Waterfront Park
2. North Bergen Pool Complex
3. North Bergen Multi-Parks Project
4. Stan Newman Field

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**GUTTENBERG & NORTH BERGEN WATERFRONT PARK**

In 2010, North Bergen was awarded funds to acquire a property adjacent to Guttenberg for open space development. Plans began to create a park design, which details the 1.5 acre, multi-use facility situated on the Hudson River waterfront. The property was acquired by the municipalities through a combination of Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund and Green Acres funding. The new park will 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 Waterfront Walkway.

By the summer of 2012, Phase I was completed. The site was cleared, piles driven, and utility lines were cleared. The bid for Phase II was awarded by the end of February 2013 with construction beginning in early April. It is estimated that Phase II will be completed by August 2013 and that the park will open by the end of the fall of 2013.

**NORTH BERGEN POOL COMPLEX**

The new pool complex, which opened to the public in June of 2007, replaces the older North Bergen Pool. The new facility includes a state-of-the-art, ADA compliant pool complex with three pools, one spray pool, ADA compliant bath houses, a volleyball court, a basketball court, passive sitting areas, picnic tables and benches, accessible picnic tables, concession stand, landscaping, and an ADA compliant parking lot.
**North Bergen Multi-Parks Project**

The Township of North Bergen was awarded funds to renovate three parks and playgrounds, the Fireman’s Memorial Park located at 43rd Street, the 82nd Street Park, and the 88th Street Park. All of the funds have been dispersed. The park improvements were inspected in April of 2010 and the play areas are in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.

- **Sponsor:** Township of North Bergen  
- **Grant:** PI-16-08  
- **Location:** the Fireman’s Memorial Park located at 43rd Street in Riverside Park  
- **82nd Street Park near Grand Avenue**  
- **88th Street Park near Grand Avenue**

**Stan Newman Field at 64th Street**

The Township of North Bergen developed two junior-sized soccer fields with under drain system at the 64th Street Park. The tennis and basketball courts were removed and replaced with two soccer fields to serve youth participants. ADA accessible parking spaces and pathways were provided along with renovated field lighting and fencing. As of March 20, 2012, the grant funded items were completed to industry standards for workmanship and code compliance.

- **Sponsor:** Township of North Bergen  
- **Grant:** PI-14-09  
- **Location:** 1308 64th Street, North Bergen, NJ

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*Hudson Reporter 2011*
Secaucus Reading Garden

The Friends of the Secaucus Library were awarded funds to construct a new, public reading garden at the Secaucus Public Library, adjacent to the library’s story tower. The reading garden, completed in 2010 is enclosed by decorative fencing and includes unique seating, reading areas, gliders, bird houses and feeders, a sundial, wind chimes, and a gazebo. The gazebo is ADA accessible and includes lighting for evening use.

Sponsor: Friends of the Secaucus Library
Grant: PI-11-07
Location: 1379 Patterson Plank Road, Secaucus, NJ
IVANOSKI PARK
The Town of Secaucus was awarded funding to rehabilitate Ivanoski Park, located at Charles Street in Secaucus. The park, rededicated and reopened in October in 2011, has a new water spray area, benches, ADA accessible picnic tables, safety play surface, landscaping, and improved drainage. In addition, new fencing and a gated entrance were installed with ADA-compliant sidewalk surfacing along the front of the park. The monument for the park was also relocated.

Hackensack River Water Trail Stop at Laurel Hill
The Hackensack Riverkeeper operates a canoe and kayak launch along the Hackensack River at Laurel Hill Park in Secaucus. The grantee was awarded funds to install an ADA compliant, dedicated canoe/kayak launch. The “floating dock” is used for paddle craft only and provide separated access to the river from motorized watercraft. The dock is maintained through a partnership between the Hackensack Riverkeeper and the Hudson County Division of Parks. In 2009, the ADA compliant canoe and kayak launch was installed on the south dock at Laurel Hill Park. Remaining funds were used for installation of wayfinding water trail signage. As of 2013, the Riverkeeper has designed signage for approximately ten intersections in the surrounding area and they will soon purchase the signs.

Farm Road & Oak Lane Acquisition
The Town of Secaucus was awarded 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 waterfront walkway and a passive park. The Town is working with Green Acres and Hudson County to acquire and receive funding for the acquisition of the properties.

Sponsor: Town of Secaucus
Grant: Pi-12-10
Location: On Charles Street near Moller Street

Sponsor: Hackensack Riverkeeper
Grant: Pi-03-08
Location: New County Avenue at the Hackensack River

Sponsor: The Town of Secaucus
Grant: OS-21-07
Location: Oak Lane and Farm Road, Secaucus, NJ
**Keystone Property Acquisition**

The Town of Secaucus was awarded funds to acquire a parcel of open space within its boundaries, consisting of approximately 1.376 acres, known as the Keystone Property. The property will be preserved and maintained as open space within the Town of Secaucus.

**Sponsor:** The Town of Secaucus  
**Grant:** OS-18-09  
**Location:** 22 Raydol Avenue, Secaucus, NJ

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**Improvements at Buchmuller Park**

Situated on a 5.42 acre lot, Buchmuller Park is located in Secaucus’ downtown area and is the Town’s largest active recreation park. The Town was awarded funds to complete various “piecemeal” improvements, including improved site furniture, lighting, paving, and updates for ADA compliance.

The new field was converted this year from a grass field to a synthetic turf surface that will reduce potential injuries and will lessen some routine maintenance costs. The last major upgrade to the field was completed in 2001. Upgrades included new dugouts which were named after Steven Strobert and Michael Tanner, both of whom played here as boys, and both who perished in the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.¹


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“This was a beautiful field when I played on it in 1965 and it is a beautiful field now.” — Michael Gonnelli, Mayor of Secaucus
WASHINGTON PARK RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS

In 2006, a new synthetic turf soccer field was installed at Washington Park to provide active recreational opportunities for the residents of Union City and northern Hudson County.

In 2010, the City of Union City was awarded an additional grant to assist in the conversion of the existing little league athletic field to a multi-purpose, artificial turf field that will accommodate baseball, soccer, and football. The project will include new field lighting, retaining wall construction, and landscaping to replace the cut mature Sycamore trees. The City plans to plant approximately 100 new trees as part of the project.

MICHAEL LEGGIERO MUSIC PARK

The City of Union City was awarded a grant to construct an amphitheater in the music park. However, construction costs exceeded expectations and the plan for this site was revised by the City. Opened in the summer of 2012, the new park includes an active open space component consisting of a playground with music-themed water features, along with typical playground equipment. A unique feature of the facility will involve the installation of a large moveable video screen, which can be used to show movies.
**Stained Glass Windows at William V. Musto Cultural Center (formerly 15th Street Library)**

The City of Union City was awarded a grant to repair the historic stained glass panels at the 15th Street Library, also known as the West Hoboken Library. Built in 1903, the library was funded by the Andrew Carnegie Philanthropic Foundation. The stained glass window restoration was the final phase of a complete renovation of the building. The adoptive re-use of the structure as a community center with three museums, a concert space and an art gallery serves to expand educational experiences to the community. The William V. Musto Cultural Center, named for the former mayor of Union City, was opened during a dedication ceremony June 2011.

![Stained Glass Window](image1.png)

**Fireman’s Memorial Park (formerly Doric Park)**

The City of Union City was awarded funds to renovate Doric Park into Fireman’s Memorial Park with a pool complex. The new park, complete with active and passive elements including water features, landscaping, ADA accessibility, benches, and lighting, was opened to the public in 2009.

![Fireman's Memorial Park](image2.png)

**Ellsworth Park Improvements**

The City of Union City was awarded a grant in November of 2012 for improvements to Ellsworth Park. This project’s goal is to modify this primarily passive park to be a multi-purpose facility with a picnic area, central fountain, and an amphitheater. Other improvements include the development of water features and the addition of modernized playground equipment, as well as the provision of landscaping, benches, and lighting.

![Ellsworth Park](image3.png)
Weehawken Open Space Trust Fund Projects

1. Weehawken Cove Hudson Riverfront Walkway
2. Maple Street Garden
3. Weehawken Water Tower and Park Project
4. Weehawken Waterfront Multi-Use Pavilion
5. Pier B Restoration

Hoboken/Weehawken Cove Hudson Riverfront Walkway

A portion of the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway was constructed at the Weehawken Cove with grant funds for the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund. The project was completed and an official ribbon cutting ceremony held in May 2012. This section of the HRWW was a critical step in linking the two communities and furthering the completion of a seamless pedestrian esplanade and bikeway along Hudson County’s northern waterfront. The project included a boat launch for canoes and kayaks and connects with the adjacent public park owned by the City of Hoboken.

Sponsor: County of Hudson
Grant: PI-07-05
Location: JFK Boulevard north of 15th Street, Hoboken and Weehawken, NJ

Legend

- Project Type
  - Historic Preservation
  - Open Space
  - Park Improvement
  - Planning Study
  - Proposed Trail
  - Completed Trail
  - Turnpike
  - Interstate
  - State Hwy
  - US Hwy
  - NJ Transit Station
  - HBLR Station
  - PATH Station
  - NJ TRANSIT
  - HBLR
  - PATH
  - County Road
  - Open Space / Park
  - State Owned Open Space
  - Wetland & Wildlife Sanctuary
  - Recreation Facility
  - Golf Course
  - Cemetery
  - Landfill
  - Vacant / Undeveloped
  - Land-Park

Photo: Left to Right: Councilman Robert J. Sosa, Councilwoman Rosemary J. Lavagnino, Mayor Richard Turner, Hudson County Executive Thomas DeGiue, Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer, Freeholder Anthony Romano, Hoboken Councilwoman Beth Mason, Hudson County Planning Board 2012 Chair Renee Bettinger
MAPLE STREET GARDEN
The Township of Weehawken was awarded a grant in 2005 to assist in acquiring a 0.078 acre parcel located at 2800 Palisade Avenue. The full award was dispersed and as of March 2008 the property was acquired by the Township. The parcel was developed into a reading garden park for neighborhood school children, called the Maple Street Garden.

WEEHAWKEN WATER TOWER AND PARK PROJECT
The Weehawken Water Tower, located on Park Avenue in Weehawken, is listed on both the New Jersey and Federal Register of Historic Places. The restoration of the Tower is a project combining historic preservation and creation of open space in a densely populated area of the Township. The plans for the project include adaptive reuse of the site to provide safe, public access by constructing a main egress stairway from the ground level to the 7th floor.

The Township of Weehawken has had the interior electric, welding, sewer, painting, structural and decorative iron work, and other related restoration work performed. New bathrooms are currently under construction. Structural and decorative work on the outside of the Tower, landscaping, and other related work in and around the Tower also remains to be completed.
**Weehawken Waterfront Multi-Use Pavilion**

The Township of Weehawken was awarded funds to construct a public, multi-use pavilion at the Weehawken Waterfront Park located along Harbor Boulevard and Port Imperial Boulevard. The proposed facilities include a municipal swimming pool, an ice hockey/skating rink with surrounding deck, a pavilion and floor cover which will make the rink convertible to a basketball court, and a canoe/kayak launch. The site will be ADA compliant.

**Pier B Restoration**

The City of Weehawken was awarded funding in November of 2012 for the construction of a walkway pier on the Hudson River at the site of former Pier B, with several "pods" linked by bridges 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.
Improvements for Donnelly Park & Veteran’s Park

The Town of West New York is rehabilitating Donnelly Park and Veteran’s Park, both located at Kennedy Boulevard East and 57th Street. The City’s consulting engineers have performed a structural evaluation and revisited their vision for the conjoined parks. As a result, the engineers prepared preliminary conceptual plans for a multi-phase improvement plan. Phase 1, set to begin in the fall of 2013, will include a three (3) phase plan with the first phase (Phase 1A) including the construction of an upper retaining wall with associated park improvements. This wall would alleviate erosion issues along the existing concrete paver walkway. Phases 1B and 1C would include improvements to the two existing structures in the park north of the proposed retaining wall. The future Phase 2 plans would include the construction of a lower retaining wall to the east of the Phase 1A retaining wall and the construction of an amphitheater.

Sponsor: The Town of West New York
Grants: PI-23-09, PI-22-09, & PI-25-10
Location: Kennedy Blvd. East and 57th St., West New York, NJ
Hudson County is the smallest, most urbanized and most densely populated county in the State of New Jersey. The County is home to more than 600,000 residents in just 46 square miles, making it the sixth most densely populated county in the country. The Hudson County Division of Planning seeks to create an urban forestry management plan focused on almost sixty miles of county roads, over 700 acres of county park land, and other county-owned property. Hudson County recognizes that a management plan is essential to a healthy urban forest. If properly managed, this urban forest will yield long-term benefits for the public health, environmental, and economic sectors in addition to reducing the County’s public liability.

During the 2007 State of the County Address, Hudson County Executive Thomas A. DeGise declared a goal of planting 1,000 trees along county roads and in parks and facilities during the next five years, with 10,000 total trees over ten years. In order to achieve this objective, a well-organized and comprehensive plan is necessary. Hudson County aims to create a state-approved urban forestry management plan to ensure the success of this program.

**Mission Statement**

To promote a progressive community forest and shade tree plan that fosters the sustainable development and maintenance of Hudson County’s urban forest resources, which will benefit the environment, improve human health and psychological well being, provide economic advantages, minimize County liability, and enhance the overall quality of life for residents, workers, visitors, pedestrians and motorists alike.
Sources

All Trust Fund project maps were produced using data from the New Jersey Geographic Information Network and the Hudson County Division of Planning. Open Space Trust Fund project updates were compiled from stakeholder meetings and project status update reports submitted by the applicants.