

QUARTERLY UPDATE • DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES HUDSON COUNTY

Winter 2018

NEW HOUSING FOR HOMELESS VETS

On October 10, 2017, The Division of Housing and Community Development celebrated the ground breaking of a new project for homeless veterans in Hoboken. Hudson County Executive Tom DeGise, Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer, and other dignitaries joined with members of the American Legion to break ground on the Hoboken American Legion Post 107 project. Once complete, the building will include a flood-resilient new meeting hall and six units of permanent, supportive housing for homeless veterans on the top floors.

Ending Veteran Homelessness is a top priority for Hudson County. In April 2015, the Division of Housing and Community Development created a Homeless Veteran Committee of the Hudson County Alliance to End Homelessness. Since then, the committee has seen success including:

- The Annual Point-in-Time Counts show a 40% decrease in veterans experiencing homelessness on a single day in January;
- More than 100 veterans have moved into permanent housing since April 2015;
- As of October 16th, there are only 10 veterans staying in Hudson County Emergency Shelters;
- 24 homeless veterans remain on the by name list, with at least 6 approved for housing assistance and 8 currently engaged in

apartment searches. The remaining 10 veterans are either newly engaged veterans or veterans who have not yet progressed forward toward establishing a permanent housing plan.

Hudson County is proud this project will be an important step in ending veteran homelessness.



County and City officials joined the American Legion on October 10, 2017 for the 107 project groundbreaking.

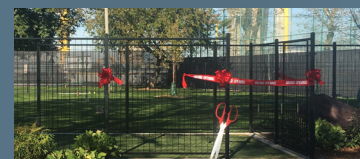
NEW TITLE REFLECTS EXPANDING SERVICES FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

The Hudson County Office of Business Opportunity & Community Services operates under the Department of Parks and Community Services and has been in existence as the Office of Minority & Women Business Enterprise for more than two decades. Its new name speaks to the expansion of business services available through this office and places further emphasis on creating opportunities for Small and Veteran busi-

nesses. Through the adoption of a "Set-Aside" ordinance passed in June of 2016 our scope has been expanded to include the implementation of New Jersey's first County Controlled "Set-Aside" program that is increasing the number of companies owned by Minorities, Women, Veteran, and Small Businesses that are securing contracts with Hudson County.

By definition, a "set-aside opportunity" is the reservation of buys for businesses that qualify for certain socio-economic classifications. For any buy, set-asides are selected by the Buyer. Only Sellers that meet required socio-economic set aside for the opportunity can view and bid on the buy for goods and/or services. *(Continued on p. 2)*

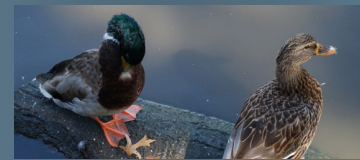
IN THIS ISSUE...



PLANNING NEW
OPEN SPACE (p. 3)



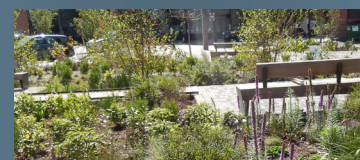
HCOBOCS
EXPANDING
SERVICES (p. 1, 2)



UPGRADES IN
COUNTY PARKS (p. 2)



COMBATING LEAD
POISONING (p. 3)



RESILIENCY PARK
OPENS (p. 4)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

HON. THOMAS A. DeGISE

HUDSON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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CHAIRMAN

HON. WILLIAM O'DEA,
VICE CHAIRMAN

HON. CARIDAD RODRIGUEZ,
PRO-TEMPORE

HON. GERARD M. BALMIR, JR.

HON. ALBERT J. CIFELLI

HON. KENNETH KOPACZ

HON. E. JUNIOR MALDONADO

HON. TILO RIVAS

HON. ANTHONY ROMANO, JR.

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DIRECTOR

MASSIEL FERRARA,
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DIVISION HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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DIVISION OF PLANNING

FRANCESCA GIARRATANA,
DIVISION CHIEF

*As Prepared By
Sam Schroeder, Assistant Planner,
Division of Planning*



UPGRADES IN COUNTY PARKS INCLUDES LAKES, BRIDGES, MORE

Restoration work on two county lakes wrapped up this fall, and the lakes are now open to the public once again. Lincoln Park Lake and Bayonne Lake received new lake-side walkways, benches, trash receptacles, and signage. The retaining walls around the lakes were also restored. These updates protect the scenic landscape of the parks and provide enhanced recreational opportunities for residents of the county.

Additionally, five and one-half basketball courts were rehabilitation, contributing to a series of upgrades within the County's park system. At Bayonne Athletic Fields, \$4 million was invested in new fencing, turf, and landscaping, ensuring the facilities are in top condition for the residents. The County continues to make investments in park facilities, with more projects underway.



Lincoln Park project included instillation of new seating around the lake.



County rehabilitated 5 Basketball courts.

New Title Reflects Expanding Services Cont.

In addition to creating a set-aside process and initiative, the office has become a crossroads for established small businesses and entrepreneurs that are looking for help in navigating the local procurement and contracting processes. Simultaneously, the office connects them to needed business development resources that help them compete, and comply, in the supplier diversity markets and in their business region/industry. In short, the office provides resources and guidance related to Certification, Capi-

tal, Contracts, and required Business Connections. The office is charged with identifying "Set-Aside" Opportunities Countywide and makes those recommendations through the County Purchasing Department and the County Administrator, a model that is being adopted by neighboring County's like Essex. For more information contact the office directly at OBOCSinfo@hcnj.us or (201) 395-6267 or visit the County Website to learn about the mission of the Office and/or review the Set-Aside Ordinance.



HCBOCS featured on 1450 Talk Radio show.



Division promotes opportunities on television.

\$5.7M APPROVED IN COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUNDS



Jersey City Main Library

The Board of Chosen Freeholders approved the partial funding of ten projects across ten different municipalities in the county. Proposed projects are anticipated to be completed by September 2019. Grant applications had to fall into one of three categories: park improvement, open space acquisition, or historical preservation. This year's grant recipients will largely receive funding for park improvements. Five new playgrounds, synthetic turf for athletic fields, and a new ice rink are just some of the improvements that will be made across county open space.

The Town of Kearny was awarded park improvement funds to renovate the Gunnell Oval Recreation Complex. The project will address issues of flooding and stormwater runoff while providing enhanced recreational facilities. The funding will support a new playground area, picnic area, basketball courts, tennis courts, baseball, softball, and soccer fields.

The Town of Harrison and the City of Hoboken received grants for land acquisition for Waterfront Cape May Street Park and Southwest Park Expansion, respectively. Together these parks will add nearly nine acres of parkland to county residents and visitors.

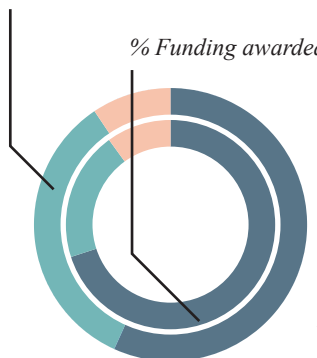
The Jersey City Free Public Library revived historical preservation funds to complete the second phase of its renovation. Specifically, this includes restoration of mansard roof structures, slate roofing, ornamental copper cresting at the roof perimeter, and rooftop penthouse.

The Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust has awarded 147 grants since its inception in 2003.

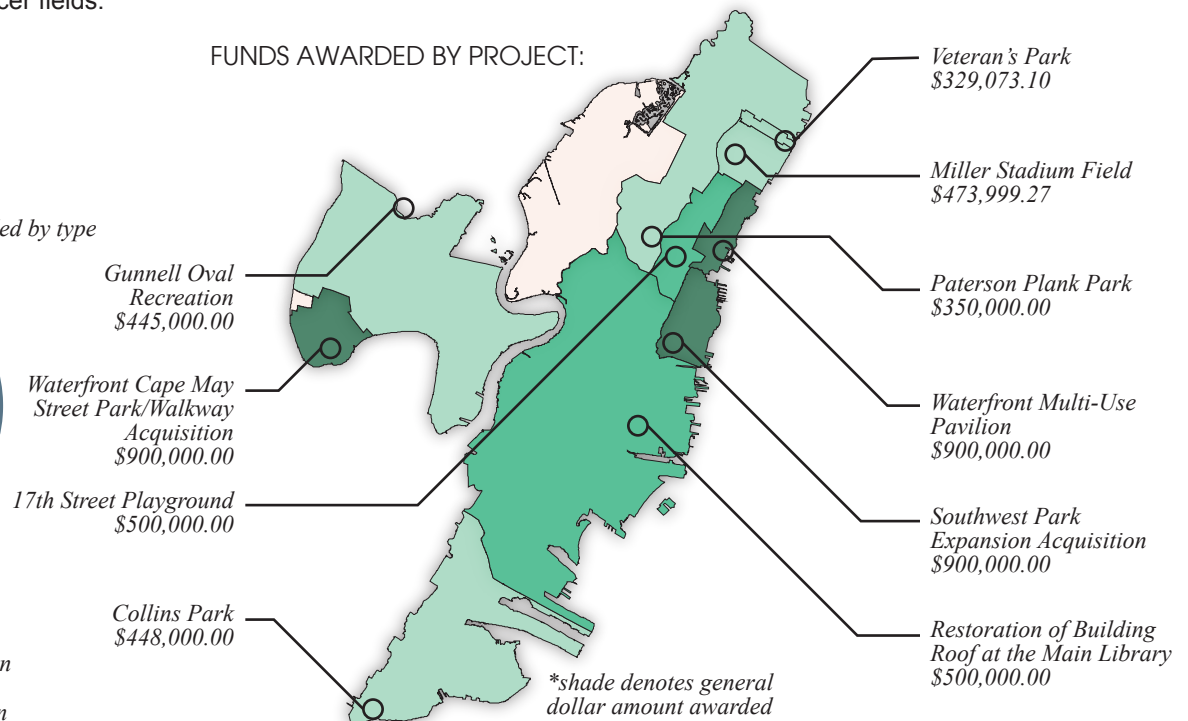
FUNDS AWARDED BY PROJECT:

% Grants awarded by project type

% Funding awarded by type



- Park Improvements
- Open Space Acquisition
- Historical Preservation



COUNTY COMBATS LEAD POISONING

Lead poisoning affects children all over New Jersey. Here in Hudson County, Jersey City has a higher rate of kids affected by lead poisoning than Flint, Michigan. It's not the water, it's the paint. All homes built before 1978 are at risk for lead paint hazards. In Hudson County, that is more than 75 percent of our housing stock. Making homes lead-safe is the best way to protect children from poisoning but doing so can be costly leaving

thousands of buildings with hazards. The Department of Housing and Urban Development recently awarded the Hudson County-Division of Housing and Community Development \$2.4 million in funds to address these lead paint hazards. In partnership with PACO (Puertorriqueños Asociados for Community Organization) the Division will make more than 100 homes throughout the county lead-safe.

If you are interested in applying for funding to rehab your home and make it lead-safe please apply here: <http://pacoagency.org/hudson-county-lead-program/> (phone: 844-722-6432) Priority will be given to families with children under six years old.

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HUDSON COUNTY



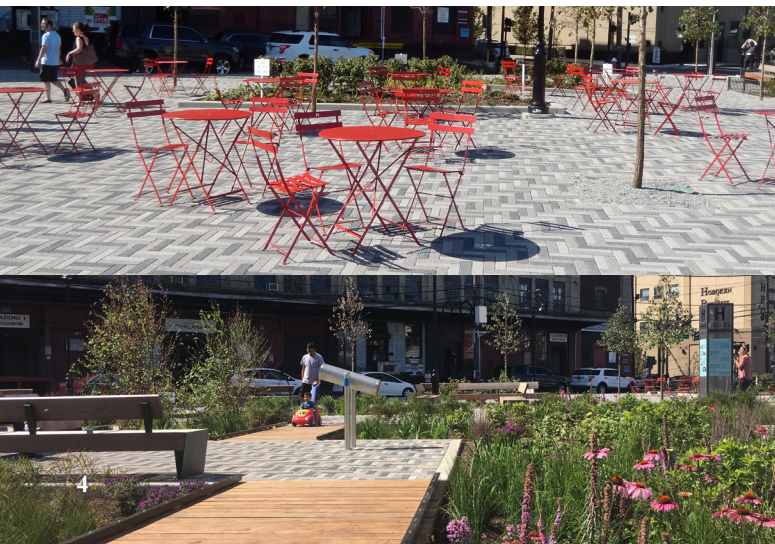
Bergen Square Center
830 Bergen Avenue
Suite 6A
Jersey City, NJ 07306



First Name Last Name
000 Street Name
Second Line
City Name, NJ 00000

SOUTHWEST PARK OPENS IN HOBOKEN

After securing \$3 million in funding for acquisition from the Open Space Trust Fund, the City of Hoboken was able to construct a resiliency park in the Southwest neighborhood of the city. Capable of retaining 200,000 gallons of stormwater runoff, the park serves part of a larger strategy to combat flooding. Recreational amenities include various gardens and greenery, a phone charging station, wi-fi, and a dog park. Hoboken officially opened the 1-acre park on Friday, Sept. 22. It is located at 58 Jackson Street.



County officials and volunteers speaking at the Tree Planting on October 25, 2017.

SHADE TREE INITIATIVE CELEBRATES TREE PLANTING

On October 25, 2017, the County hosted a tree planting as part of the Division of Planning's Shade Tree Initiative. County officials and volunteers celebrated 80 new trees in Washington Park, selected by the NJ Tree Foundation in partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation, TD Bank's Tree Days Initiative, and the Hudson County Division of Parks. As one of the County's most utilized parks, the planting of the new trees ensures it remains the alluring and vibrant park that it has been for nearly 90 years.