


February 7, 2025

TO: Hon. Vedat Gashi, Chair
Hon. Jose Alvarado, Vice Chair
Hon. Tyrae Woodson-Samuels, Majority Leader
Hon. Margaret Cunzio, Minority Leader

FROM: Kenneth W. Jenkins
County Executive 

RE: Message Requesting Immediate Consideration: **Local Law, CBA, Bond Act – BLA1A (2800), Act, RE: Yonkers Waterfront Park.**

This will confirm my request that the Board of Legislators allow submission of the referenced communication to be submitted to the Board of Legislators February 10, 2025 Agenda.

Transmitted herewith for your review and consideration is legislation, which, if approved by your Honorable Board, will authorize the County of Westchester ("County") in partnership with the City of Yonkers ("City"), to create a riverfront park on the Hudson River, in the Ludlow Section of Yonkers.

Therefore, since this communication is of the utmost importance, it is respectfully submitted that the County Board of Legislators accepts this submission for February 10, 2025 "blue sheet" calendar.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.



Kenneth W. Jenkins
Westchester County Executive

February 5, 2025

Westchester County Board of Legislators
148 Martine Avenue, Room 800
White Plains, New York 10601

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Legislators:

Transmitted herewith for your review and consideration is legislation, which, if approved by your Honorable Board, will authorize the County of Westchester ("County") in partnership with the City of Yonkers ("City"), to create a riverfront park on the Hudson River, in the Ludlow Section of Yonkers, as follows:

- 1) a local law ("Local Law"), which will authorize the County to enter into an intermunicipal agreement ("IMA") with the City of Yonkers (the "City"), pursuant to which the County will (i) contribute up to \$15,000,000.00 for the creation of a riverfront park on the Hudson River, in the Ludlow section of Yonkers ("Park," "Property" or "Fernbrook/Ludlow Waterfront Park") and (ii) lease the Park from the City, which Park is comprised of certain riverfront properties owned by the City located on Water Grant Street, Pier Street and Yerks Place, Yonkers, NY, more particularly identified as Section 1, Block 615, Lots 1, 6, 10 and 35.45, Section 1, Block 622, Lots 1 and 8 and Section 1, Block 623, Lots 1, 2 and 4 on the tax maps of the City of Yonkers, and certain County property which is being conveyed to the City and leased back to the County, as more particularly detailed in subparagraph 2) below.

Under the proposed IMA, the County will contribute up to \$15,000,000.00 to finance the construction of upland site work improvements to create the Park, including, but not limited to, remediation work. Pursuant to the IMA, the Park will be operated and maintained solely by the City and remain accessible to all County residents for park purposes, in perpetuity and free of any parking entry charges or use fees, except for the renting of picnic facilities, kayak equipment or other activities mutually approved by the parties, provided (i) such fees are reasonable and (ii) the City will charge the same fees to residents and non-residents of the City of Yonkers.

The term of the proposed IMA will commence upon the start of construction of the upland site work improvements on the Park and shall continue for the life of the bonds which is anticipated

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to be fifteen (15) years, unless the Agreement is terminated sooner in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

Pursuant to the proposed IMA, the City will be responsible for all labor and equipment to create the Fernbrook/Ludlow Waterfront Park, including procuring design services and construction of the Park improvements. Such procurement will be in compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. The City will not deviate from the approved drawings and specifications without the prior written consent of the County's Department of Planning Commissioner ("Planning Commissioner") and the Department of Public Works and Transportation Commissioner.

I have been advised that pursuant to Section 104.11(5)(e) of the Laws of Westchester County, authorization of the proposed IMA, pursuant to which the County will lease the Park from the City requires the passage of a Local Law. Also attached is a Resolution authorizing a Public Hearing as required by §209.141(4) of the Laws of Westchester County.

- 2) an act ("Conveyance Act"), which will authorize the County to convey to the City certain County-owned land located at 1 Fernbrook Street, Yonkers, New York, consisting of approximately 0.4 acres of vacant unused land, as more particularly identified as Section 1, Block 600, portion of Lot 1 in the tax maps of the City of Yonkers (the "County Parcel") to be added to the Park for the construction of certain upland park improvements by the City. Those improvements will include, but are not limited to, the installation of a parking lot and three (3) electric vehicle ("EV") charging stations, capable of charging six (6) cars at the same time, to be used by all County residents desirous of enjoying the Park for park and recreational purposes.

The County acquired title to the County Parcel and other County property in 1970. The County Parcel is adjacent to (more particularly located on the north side of) the County's Wastewater Treatment Plant, also known as the Yonkers Joint Resource Recovery Facility ("Facility").

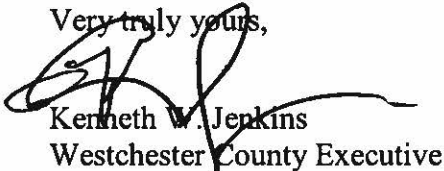
The County has determined that the County Parcel is no longer required for any County purpose and desires that the County Parcel be used for park purposes. As a condition for the conveyance of the County Parcel to the City, the City (i) will grant to the County a permanent easement over the County Parcel for any purpose whatsoever related to the operation of the Facility, including, but not limited to, inspecting, installing and operating the steel bulkhead running along the Hudson River ("County Bulkhead"), new bulkheads, underground utilities, underground storm drainage and other sewer lines and improvements such as, but not limited to, protective barriers and fences and fire hydrants related to the Facility or the County Bulkhead, together with the right of ingress and egress to exercise all such rights; and (ii) shall assume full responsibility for the maintenance, repair and replacement of the existing railroad tie bulkheads ("Railroad Bulkheads") and other existing infrastructure or systems, to the County's reasonable satisfaction. The City will also agree to, in the event necessary, to replace the Railroad Bulkheads with new bulkheads to be designed at the discretion of the City engineer to meet current design and use standards. The County and the City agree to execute and record an easement agreement setting forth the rights and responsibilities of each party thereunder.

Pursuant to Section 209.101(8) of the Laws of Westchester County, the County may sell or convey any surplus real property to be used in perpetuity for park and municipal recreation purposes for the sum of \$1.00. The proposed Land Conveyance Act will authorize the sale of the County Parcel to the City for \$1.00 to be used by all County residents desirous of enjoying the Park for park and recreational purposes, free of any parking or use fees, except as indicated above. A Report from the Planning Commissioner, required pursuant to Section 191.41 of the Laws of Westchester County, recommending disposition of the County Parcel is attached hereto for your consideration.

- 3) an act ("Bond Act"), which will authorize the County to issue \$15,000,000.00 in bonds of the County, to finance the construction of upland site work improvements to create the Park, including remediation work. The total estimated cost for the creation of the Park is approximately \$21,000,000.00, of which \$15,000,000.00 will be funded by the County under the Bond Act and the remaining amount or other excess amounts will be funded by the City to finance the creation of the Park.
- 4) an act ("Capital Budget Amendment Act"), which will amend the current-year capital budget to increase the County share for this specific capital project BLA1A (2800) –Yonkers Waterfront Park ("BLA1A") by \$5,000,000.00, from \$10,000,000.00 to \$15,000,000.00, which continues capital project BLA1A Parkland Acquisition/Westchester Legacy Program.

I urge your Honorable Board's approval of the annexed legislation.

Very truly yours,



Kenneth W. Jenkins
Westchester County Executive

JWJ/BL/cmc
Attachment

**HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER**

Your Committee is in receipt of a communication from the County Executive recommending approval of legislation, which, if approved by your Honorable Board, will authorize the County of Westchester ("County") in partnership with the City of Yonkers ("City"), to create a riverfront park on the Hudson River, in the Ludlow Section of Yonkers, as follows:

- 1) a local law ("Local Law"), which will authorize the County to enter into an intermunicipal agreement ("IMA") with the City of Yonkers (the "City"), pursuant to which the County will (i) contribute up to \$15,000,000.00 for the creation of a riverfront park on the Hudson River, in the Ludlow section of Yonkers ("Park," "Property" or "Fernbrook/Ludlow Waterfront Park") and (ii) lease the Park from the City, which Park is comprised of certain riverfront properties owned by the City located on Water Grant Street, Pier Street and Yerks Place, Yonkers, NY, more particularly identified as Section 1, Block 615, Lots 1, 6, 10 and 35.45, Section 1, Block 622, Lots 1 and 8 and Section 1, Block 623, Lots 1, 2 and 4 on the tax maps of the City of Yonkers, and certain County property which is being conveyed to the City and leased back to the County, as more particularly detailed in subparagraph 2) below.

Your Committee is advised that under the proposed IMA, the County will contribute up to \$15,000,000.00 to finance the construction of upland site work improvements to create the Park, including, but not limited to, remediation work. Pursuant to the IMA, the Park will be operated and maintained solely by the City and remain accessible to all County residents for park purposes, in perpetuity and free of any parking entry charges or use fees, except for the renting of picnic facilities, kayak equipment or other activities mutually approved by the parties, provided (i) such fees are reasonable and (ii) the City will charge the same fees to residents and non-residents of the City of Yonkers.

Your Committee is also advised that the term of the proposed IMA will commence upon the start of construction of the upland site work improvements on the Park and shall continue

for the life of the bonds which is anticipated to be fifteen (15) years, unless the Agreement is terminated sooner in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

Your Committee is further advised that, pursuant to the proposed IMA, the City will be responsible for all labor and equipment to create the Fernbrook/Ludlow Waterfront Park, including procuring design services and construction of the Park improvements. Such procurement will be in compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. The City will not deviate from the approved drawings and specifications without the prior written consent of the County's Department of Planning Commissioner ("Planning Commissioner") and the Department of Public Works and Transportation Commissioner.

Your Committee is also advised that, pursuant to Section 104.11(5)(e) of the Laws of Westchester County, authorization of the proposed IMA, pursuant to which the County will lease the Park from the City requires the passage of a Local Law. Also attached is a Resolution authorizing a Public Hearing as required by §209.141(4) of the Laws of Westchester County.

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Your Committee is advised that the County acquired title to the County Parcel and other County property in 1970. The County Parcel is adjacent to (more particularly located on the north side of) the County's Wastewater Treatment Plant, also known as the Yonkers Joint Resource Recovery Facility ("Facility").

Your Committee is also advised that the County has determined that the County Parcel is no longer required for any County purpose and desires that the County Parcel be used for park purposes. As a condition for the conveyance of the County Parcel to the City, the City (i) will grant to the County a permanent easement over the County Parcel for any purpose whatsoever related to the operation of the Facility, including, but not limited to, inspecting, installing and operating the steel bulkhead running along the Hudson River ("County Bulkhead"), new bulkheads, underground utilities, underground storm drainage and other sewer lines and improvements such as, but not limited to, protective barriers and fences and fire hydrants related to the Facility or the County Bulkhead, together with the right of ingress and egress to exercise all such rights; and (ii) shall assume full responsibility for the maintenance, repair and replacement of the existing railroad tie bulkheads ("Railroad Bulkheads") and other existing infrastructure or systems, to the County's reasonable satisfaction. The City will also agree to, in the event necessary, to replace the Railroad Bulkheads with new bulkheads to be designed at the discretion of the City engineer to meet current design and use standards. The County and the City agree to execute and record an easement agreement setting forth the rights and responsibilities of each party thereunder.

Your Committee is further advised that, pursuant to Section 209.101(8) of the Laws of Westchester County, the County may sell or convey any surplus real property to be used in perpetuity for park and municipal recreation purposes for the sum of \$1.00. The proposed Land Conveyance Act will authorize the sale of the County Parcel to the City for \$1.00 to be used by all County residents desirous of enjoying the Park for park and recreational purposes, free of any parking or use fees, except as indicated above. A Report from the Planning Commissioner, required pursuant to Section 191.41 of the Laws of Westchester County, recommending disposition of the County Parcel is attached hereto for your consideration.

- 3) an act ("Bond Act"), which will authorize the County to issue \$15,000,000.00 in bonds of the County, to finance the construction of upland site work improvements to create the Park, including remediation work. The total estimated cost for the creation of the Park is approximately \$21,000,000.00, of which \$15,000,000.00 will be funded by the County under

the Bond Act and the remaining amount or other excess amounts will be funded by the City to finance the creation of the Park.

- 4) an act (“Capital Budget Amendment Act”), which will amend the current-year capital budget to increase the County share for this specific capital project BLA1A (2800) –Yonkers Waterfront Park (“BLA1A”) by \$5,000,000.00, from \$10,000,000.00 to \$15,000,000.00, which continues capital project BLA1A Parkland Acquisition/Westchester Legacy Program.

The Department of Planning has advised your Committee that pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617 (“SEQRA”), the City classified this capital project as an Unlisted action. Pursuant to a resolution approved on October 22, 2024, the City Council declared itself as the lead agency and circulated the Environmental Assessment Form (“EAF”), supplemental attachments and the criteria set forth in SEQRA and has identified and carefully considered the relevant areas of environmental concern which are set forth in the EAF, to determine if this proposed action will have a significant impact upon the environment. On December 10, 2024, the City Council issued a Negative Declaration for the project. Since the City undertook coordinated review and the County was included as an involved agency, then, in accordance with SEQRA, no further environmental review is required by the County. Your Committee concurs with this recommendation.

In addition, Section 167.131 of the County Charter mandates that a capital budget amendment that introduces a new capital project or changes the location, size or character of an existing capital project be accompanied to the Board of Legislators by a report of the County Planning Board in respect to the physical planning aspects of the project. The Department of Planning has advised that since the Planning Board has reviewed the project and issued a report, which is attached hereto for your consideration, no further action by the Planning Board is necessary at this time.

Your Committee has also been informed that the adoption of the Local Law, the Land Conveyance Act, Capital Budget Amendment as well as the related Bond Act each require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members of your Honorable Board. Your Committee is

further advised that the Bond Act can only be enacted following adoption of the Capital Budget Amendment. Additionally, as indicated in subparagraph 1) above, prior to taking any action on the proposed Local Law, this Honorable Board must hold a public hearing pursuant to 209.141(4) of the Laws of Westchester County, and a resolution providing for the hearing is annexed hereto.

Your Committee has carefully considered this matter and recommends that your Honorable Board adopt the annexed Local Law and Acts authorizing the County to enter into the IMA, sell the County Property to the City for \$1.00 for park purposes and accept an easement, amend the current-year capital budget and issue bonds in the amount of \$15,000,000.00 to finance the needed upland park improvements, including remediation work.

Dated: _____, 2025.

White Plains, New York

COMMITTEE ON

c/cmc.02.06.2025

TO: Michelle Greenbaum, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Jeffrey Goldman, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Carla Chaves, Senior Assistant County Attorney

FROM: David S. Kvinge, AICP, RLA, CFM
Assistant Commissioner



DATE: January 24, 2025

SUBJECT: **STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW FOR CAPITAL PROJECT:
BLA1A, PARKLAND AND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION PROGRAM
YONKERS WATERFRONT PARK ON FERNBOOK STREET**

The Planning Department has reviewed the above referenced capital project (Fact Sheet Unique ID: 2800) with respect to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617 (SEQR).

This capital project will provide funding to support the creation of a new waterfront park on Fernbrook Street, south of Ludlow Street, in the City of Yonkers. The park will include a playground, a pavilion, walking paths, lawn areas, an observation area overlooking the Hudson River, and a parking lot. This is part of a larger project that is being undertaken by the City of Yonkers that will include facilities for the Yonkers Fire and Police departments and for the Yonkers Paddling and Rowing Club. In addition to the provision of funding, which will require an inter-municipal agreement and a temporary lease over the City-owned property, the County will convey approximately 0.4 acres of land on the north side of the Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant to the City to be added to the new park, which will be open to all county residents. The County will retain a permanent easement over the property to be conveyed to allow the County to utilize the property as necessary to maintain the treatment plant and its operations.

Pursuant to SEQR, the Yonkers City Council classified the overall project as an Unlisted action. On November 1, 2024, the City sent out a notice of intent to serve as lead agency, along with Part 1 of a full Environmental Assessment Form. On December 10, 2024, the Yonkers City Council adopted a Negative Declaration for the project. Since the City undertook coordinated review and the County of Westchester was included as an involved agency, then, in accordance with section 617.6(b)(3), no further environmental review is required by the County.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

DSK/cnm

cc: Andrew Ferris, Chief of Staff
Paula Friedman, Assistant to the County Executive
Lawrence Soule, Budget Director

Tami Altschiller, Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney
Blanca Lopez, Commissioner of Planning
Dianne Vanadia, Associate Budget Director
David Vutera, Associate County Attorney
Brian Hegt, Director, Government & Community Relations (DPWT)
Susan Darling, Chief Planner
Michael Lipkin, Associate Planner
Claudia Maxwell, Associate Environmental Planner

RESOLUTION NO.196-2024

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT COLLINS-BELLAMY, MAJORITY LEADER RUBBO, MAJORITY WHIP ROBINSON, MINORITY LEADER BREEN, COUNCILMEMBERS, PINEDA –ISAAC, DIAZ AND MERANTE:

A RESOLUTION TO ISSUE A DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE PURSUANT TO THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT ("SEQRA") RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW PARK LOCATED ON THE WATERFRONT AT FERNBROOK STREET

WHEREAS, there is pending before the City Council, items related to the City's development of a new waterfront park at Fernbrook Street, including an intermunicipal agreement with the County of Westchester; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the proposed development has been reviewed as an Unlisted Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") requiring the City Council to comply with the regulations promulgated pursuant to SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the City Council declared itself Lead Agency by resolution at its meeting of October 22, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the City Council received and considered comments from involved agencies;

WHEREAS, the City Council has carefully considered the proposed action, has reviewed the attached Environmental Assessment Form ("EAF"), supplemental attachments, and the criteria set forth in Section 617.7 of 6 NYCRR Part 617 of the SEQRA, and has identified and carefully considered the relevant areas of environmental concern, which are fully set forth in the EAF, to determine if this proposed action will have a significant impact upon the environment.

RESOLUTION NO.196-2024 (CONTINUED)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Yonkers City Council that, based upon the City Council's review of the EAF and for the reasons set forth therein, the City Council hereby adopts a Negative Declaration under SEQRA that there will be no adverse impact on the environment from development of a new waterfront park of the Property.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A STATED MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024. BY A VOTE OF 7-0.

L. Alt-Bellamy
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12/16/2024
DATE

SENT TO MAYOR 12/19/2024
DATE

[Signature]
MAYOR

APPROVED 12/23/24
DATE

ATTEST:

[Signature]
CITY CLERK

12/24/24
DATE

RESOLUTION 24- 13

WESTCHESTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

**BLA1A Parkland and Historical Preservation Program
Fernbrook Waterfront Park, City of Yonkers**

WHEREAS, BLA1A Parkland and Historical Preservation Program funds will be used for the construction of upland site work improvements to create a riverfront park in the Fernbrook-Ludlow neighborhood in the City of Yonkers, for use by all county residents, in the amount of \$15,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the County will accept an easement for access over such property and the County will lease City-owned property; and

WHEREAS, the County will convey property to the City of approximately 0.4 acre of undeveloped land adjacent to the County's Wastewater Treatment Plant, which the County desires to use as park and recreational purposes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Land Conveyance Act will authorize the sale of the County Property to the City for \$1.00 to be used as a parking lot by all County residents who would use the Fernbrook-Ludlow Park for park and recreation purposes; and


WHEREAS, the park will be open and accessible to all Westchester County residents; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive will submit legislation to the County Board of Legislators which would authorize an amendment adding this site to the 2024 Capital Budget requests utilizing appropriated funds in **BLA1A Parkland and Historical Preservation Program**; and

WHEREAS, the project is consistent with the policies of *Westchester 2025*, in that it will enhance the quality of Westchester's parks and recreation facilities; be it

RESOLVED, that the County Planning Board, pursuant to Section 167.131 of the County Charter, amends its report on the 2024 Capital Budget to add \$5,000,000 to this project as well as use of \$10,000,000 from already appropriated funds from **BLA1A Parkland and Historical Preservation Program** for the construction of upland site work improvements to create a waterfront park in the City of Yonkers.

Adopted this 2nd day of April 2024


Richard Hyman, Chair

TO: Honorable George Latimer
County Executive

FROM: Blanca P. López, M.S.
Commissioner



DATE: April 15, 2024

SUBJECT: Disposition of 0.43 acres of undeveloped land adjacent to the County's
Wastewater Treatment Plant in the City of Yonkers

Pursuant to Section 191.41 of the County Charter, this is the required report of the Commissioner of Planning on the proposed disposition of 0.43 acres of undeveloped land adjacent to the County's Wastewater Treatment Plant in the City of Yonkers for the development of the Fernbrook Waterfront Park. The proposed Land Conveyance Act will authorize the sale of the County Property to the City of Yonkers for park and recreational purposes.

The disposition of the .43-acre parcel for the purposes of creating park and recreational opportunities in the City of Yonkers is recommended for the following reasons:

1. the park will be accessible to all County residents;
2. there are few waterfront recreational opportunities in this densely populated area of Westchester County;
3. the property is pedestrian accessible as well as via Metro-North commuter rail and Bee-Line bus service;
4. there are approximately 18,000 persons who live within a 0.5-mile radius of the site;
5. the property being disposed will provide much needed parking for the site;
6. the project is consistent with the policies of *Westchester 2025*, in that it will enhance the quality of Westchester's parks and recreation facilities

Based on this record, I have no objection to the disposition of the parcel owned by Westchester County. Attached is a copy of the resolution adopted by the Planning Board in support of the proposed disposition.

cc: John Nonna, County Attorney
Tami Altschiller, Deputy County Attorney
Christopher Steers, Director of Real Estate
Lynne A. Colavita, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Claudia Maxwell, Principal Environmental Planner
Susan Darling, Chief Planner
Michael Lipkin, Associate Planner

BLA1A Parkland and Historical Preservation Program
Fernbrook Waterfront Park, City of Yonkers

FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAM (in thousands)

	Estimated							
	Ultimate	Approp-						Under
	Total Cost	riated	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Review
Gross	32,227	27,227						5,000
Less non-County Shares								
Net	32,227	27,227						5,000

Project Description

This project continues Capital Project BLA01 Parkland Acquisition/Westchester Legacy Program. The Legacy Program is designed to aggressively pursue land acquisition for three major objectives:

1. Purchase parkland for active recreation such as baseball and soccer fields, trailways, and bike paths.
2. Preserve green space, protect natural habitats and protect rivers, streams, and lakes.
3. Preserve land for historic preservation and protection of our cultural landscape.

The project will provide funding for the construction of upland site work improvements to create a riverfront park in the Ludlow neighborhood in the City of Yonkers. The 2024 capital budget amendment (CBA) is to move \$5 Million in Under Review to this project. The project has \$10 Million in existing appropriations from 2021 for this project. The total county contribution will be \$15 Million. The project also includes an Act to approve conveyance of County property to the City for open space, with the County accepting an easement for access over such property.

Appropriations/Requests

2020: Funding for acquisition of properties for parkland and historic preservation (\$1,000,000)
2021: Creation of a new park in Ludlow Park, Yonkers (\$10,000,000); 4th Street Playground, Mt. Vernon (\$2,000,000); RiverWalk Improvements, Yonkers (\$5,000,000)
2022: Funding for environmental reviews for the design and construction of RiverWalk trail connections in Tarrytown (\$1,300,000)
2023: Funding for a True Linear RiverWalk Park in Yonkers (\$5,000,000) and Flint Park Turf Field, Larchmont (\$1,000,000), Habirshaw County Park (2020 appropriations)
2024: \$1,000,000 for Improvements to RiverWalk in Tarrytown. BOL add of \$2,000,000 for Silliman Park in Ardsley ¹; BOL add of \$427,000 for Rye Town Interior Bathhouse ². \$500,000 was added for general purposes and cost inflation,
Under Review: \$5,000,000 additional funding for parkland preservation

Justification

The Westchester County park and open space system has contributed greatly to the quality of life in the County. Municipal officials and residents throughout Westchester have indicated that open space preservation remains a top priority. The acquisition and protection of lands for environmental protection helps to build on this legacy. The County has played an important role in expanding opportunities for active recreation; traditionally it was municipalities and school districts that developed athletic fields.

¹ This Board of Legislators late addition to the Capital Plan 2024-2028 has not yet been reviewed by the County Planning Board.

² This Board of Legislators late addition to the Capital Plan 2024-2028 has not yet been reviewed by the County Planning Board.

The 1999 Open Space Policies were adopted by both the Planning and Parks Boards. These policies have goals for a continued County park and open space acquisition program that includes:

1. Provision of opportunities for active and passive recreation, with emphasis on locations close to concentrations of the County's population;
2. Establishment of a series of open space linkages to provide a connected system of parklands;
3. Preservation of significant amounts of the Hudson River waterfront;
4. Protection of environmentally significant properties; and
5. Preservation of properties considered to be of historic significance.

CONSISTENCY WITH PROGRAMS OR PLANS: The project is consistent with the policies of *Westchester 2025*, the County's long-range land use policies, and the 1999 Open Space Policies in that it supports open space preservation, provides opportunities for active and passive recreation, promotes open space linkages, preserves environmentally significant properties and helps preserve properties considered to be of historic significance.

Planning Board Analysis:

PL2: The Planning Board supports this project to improve parkland in the densely populated City of Yonkers. The Planning Board supports projects with the goal to keep park facilities in a well-maintained state. Performing physical improvements on a priority basis reflects a comprehensive approach to undertaking capital improvements.

As per Westchester County policy, stormwater management must be addressed with every capital project. Designs should comply with the NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual and the NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control.

- 2025

Dated: _____, 2025
White Plains, New York

Dated: _____, 2025
White Plains, New York