

Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island



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PRESS RELEASE

North Kingstown Seeks Half Million in Funding for Yorktown Park

North Kingstown, RI — As announced at the July 17, 2023 Town Council Meeting, the Town of North Kingstown will be filing two competitive cycle applications with the State of Rhode Island Department of Housing for Small Cities Community Development Block Grant funds. The largest of the applications is for \$500,000 in funding for significant upgrades to Yorktown Park.

Yorktown Park is a recreational area in one of the most densely populated areas of North Kingstown with approximately 500 single-family homes, 300 multi-family homes, and 100 mobile homes within a short half-mile walk. Requested funding will allow the Town to complete improvements to positively impact all segments of the community, and “will have a positive effect on community in the immediate area” according to Nicole LaFontaine, Director of Planning and Development for the Town of North Kingstown. Upgrades are sought for the installation of fitness pieces to create a circuit training feature around a more accessible walking track; electricity and running water for the existing pavilion; solar lighting, a hose bib, and a community board for the posting of events and available services. Work is also proposed for the heavily utilized basketball courts, to include new hoops and surface repairs. If funded, the existing play structure will be removed and replaced with a ninja fitness component for teens and a new playground apparatus for younger children. Lastly, signage will be installed in parking areas and throughout the park to highlight rules for the safe use of the recreation areas by all.

The improvements planned for Yorktown Park will allow the North Kingstown Recreation Department to use it for youth track programs, and for expanded use by the North Kingstown adult and senior communities for adult fitness. Town Manager A. Ralph Mollis also stated, “The funding of the Yorktown Park upgrades with a CDBG grant will be a big win for all residents, especially those in the closest proximity to the area where safe, modern recreational opportunities are both welcome and much-needed.”

Please contact Kate Glass, Executive Assistant, at kglass@northkingstownri.gov with any questions.

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