

January 11, 2017

Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY, 10065

Re: South Park Ball Fields (Owl Hollow)

Dear Commissioner Silver



We hope this letter finds you well.

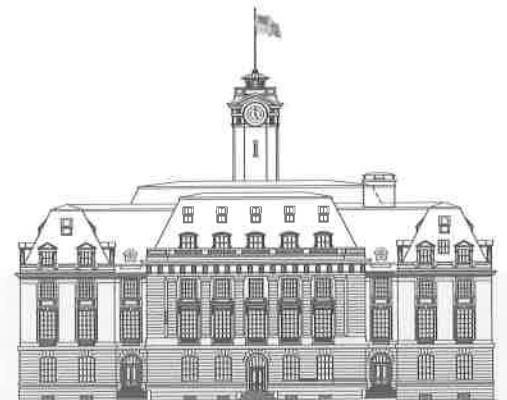
We met today with Borough Commissioner Lynda Ricciardone and Chief of Planning and Parklands Nicholas Molinari to discuss the potential development of ballfields at South Park, both north and south of the existing Owl Hollow fields.

At the meeting, Commissioner Ricciardone shared with us preliminary drawings for the new fields. She also expressed to us that the \$30 million of funding allocated to each borough for anchor park projects would not be sufficient to build fields at both sites, and that further studying both sites might result in the necessity for additional design work and unnecessary construction delays.

Her suggestion, therefore, was that we provide her with our preference, north or south of Owl Hollow, so that the consultant might focus its efforts there.

CM Borelli and I had an extensive conversation following the meeting and decided that although we would prefer to build both, if we were forced to focus on a single area in order to move more swiftly that area would be South Park (that is, NORTH of the existing Owl Hollow fields).

We would, however, ask that the design for that area be more ambitious than described in the preliminary plan. We have included below additional requests that we would like you to incorporate into the preliminary design:

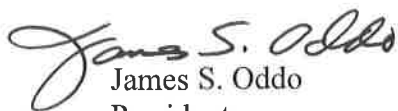


- Obtain formal Wetlands and Waters delineation from NYSDEC and South Richmond architectural survey prior to commencing preliminary site design
- Incorporate new accessory parking area immediately east of Owl Hollow Park to service existing facility (100 vehicles) as well as adjacent to new facility (120 vehicles)
- Redesign and realign Muldoon Avenue to maximize aesthetics, safety and site planning for parking and access and circulation through newly planned facility
- Plan and map realigned Muldoon Avenue as a public place under master FreshKills park ULURP application
- Maximize pedestrian connections between Owl Hollow Park and new fields
- Provide (2) full sized soccer fields + intermediate (convertible) fields
- Provide comfort station for new facility
- Incorporate accessible playground equipment into new playground area
- Provide jogging concourse between both facilities with distance markers and exercise stations in addition to fixed nodes around fields
- Consider multi-purpose path access from Arthur Kill Road for pedestrians, bicyclists and potential connection to Arden Woods hiking trails
- Consider future pedestrian connections to northern parts of South Park and incorporate same into NYSDEC approvals now

We look forward to continuing our discussion with you and the consultant once a preliminary design is prepared. In closing we ask you to direct DPR staff and consultants who are planning the site to aggressively work to maximize the site planning effort in order to accommodate our requests. In this case, we believe more is more.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter and we hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo
President
Borough of Staten Island



Joseph Borelli
Council Member
51st Council District

