

**CITY OF
JERSEY CITY
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF ARCHITECTURE**

GLENN A. WRIGLEY, A.I.A.
CHIEF ARCHITECT



JERRAMIAH HEALY, MAYOR
BRIAN O'REILLY, B.A.

Re: **City Parks and Open Space Master Plan**

TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY:

T&M Associates of Middletown, New Jersey has been retained by the City to prepare a comprehensive City Parks and Open Space Master Plan for our sixty seven (plus) Parks and Open Space areas. T&M went through a very competitive bidding and interview process prior to being awarded the contract.

The comprehensive study began in February 2006 and should be completed by late August 2006. The project has been divided into the following Work Tasks:

1. Assess the physical condition and inventory all of the City's 67 parks. Provide general recommendations to improve the parks and make the parks ADA compliant.
2. An assessment of the recreation needs of Jersey City is currently underway (and ongoing). Recommendations will be made to add new types of facilities to the existing parks, upgrade existing ones and convert some facilities to alternate recreational uses.
3. Conduct a series of Public Meetings (currently underway and ongoing) to get a sense of the recreational needs, concerns and goals of Jersey City residents.
4. Perform an assessment of current and future open space acquisition opportunities will be conducted, to explore the possibility of expanding the park system and increasing the number of parks and facilities. Methods of linking all of the park sites via public transit, a system of bicycle trails, etc. will also be undertaken.
5. G.I.S. (Geographical Information System) mapping will be prepared for all 67 parks, using recent NJDEP digital aerial photographs. T&M Associates will provide new base maps to be utilized in Work Task #6 below.
6. Concept Park Plans will be prepared for several of our parks, showing a proposed design with new facilities and/or among existing rehabilitated facilities. A detailed corresponding construction cost estimate will additionally be prepared for each of these parks.

7. A prioritization (a spread sheet matrix) of all suggested improvements to be made, will be prepared, to plan and budget for anticipated implementation over the next ten years. This is a key document of the overall City Parks and Open Space Master Plan.
8. A draft report will be prepared and submitted to Jersey City for review and comment by the Department of Administration. An additional series of public meetings will also be held, to gain further input about the plan from Jersey City residents. A public presentation to the Planning Board will also be made by T&M Associates.
9. Several copies of the final report, including an executive summary, will be prepared and submitted. This will include information from Work Tasks #1 – 8 as well as funding and implementation strategy. The submission of this final report by T&M Associates will perfect the City Parks and Open Space Master Plan project.

Input from Jersey City residents is encouraged and welcomed throughout the City Parks and Open Space Master Plan project. Residents wishing to add input should contact Brian Weller, Landscape Architect at the Division of Architecture. Brian can be reached by telephone at (201) 547-5900, or via e-mail at WellerB@jcnj.org. All comments will be forwarded to T&M Associates.

Mayor JERRAMIAH HEALY and his administration thank you for the opportunity to inform and update you on this very important City Parks and Open Space Master Plan project.