

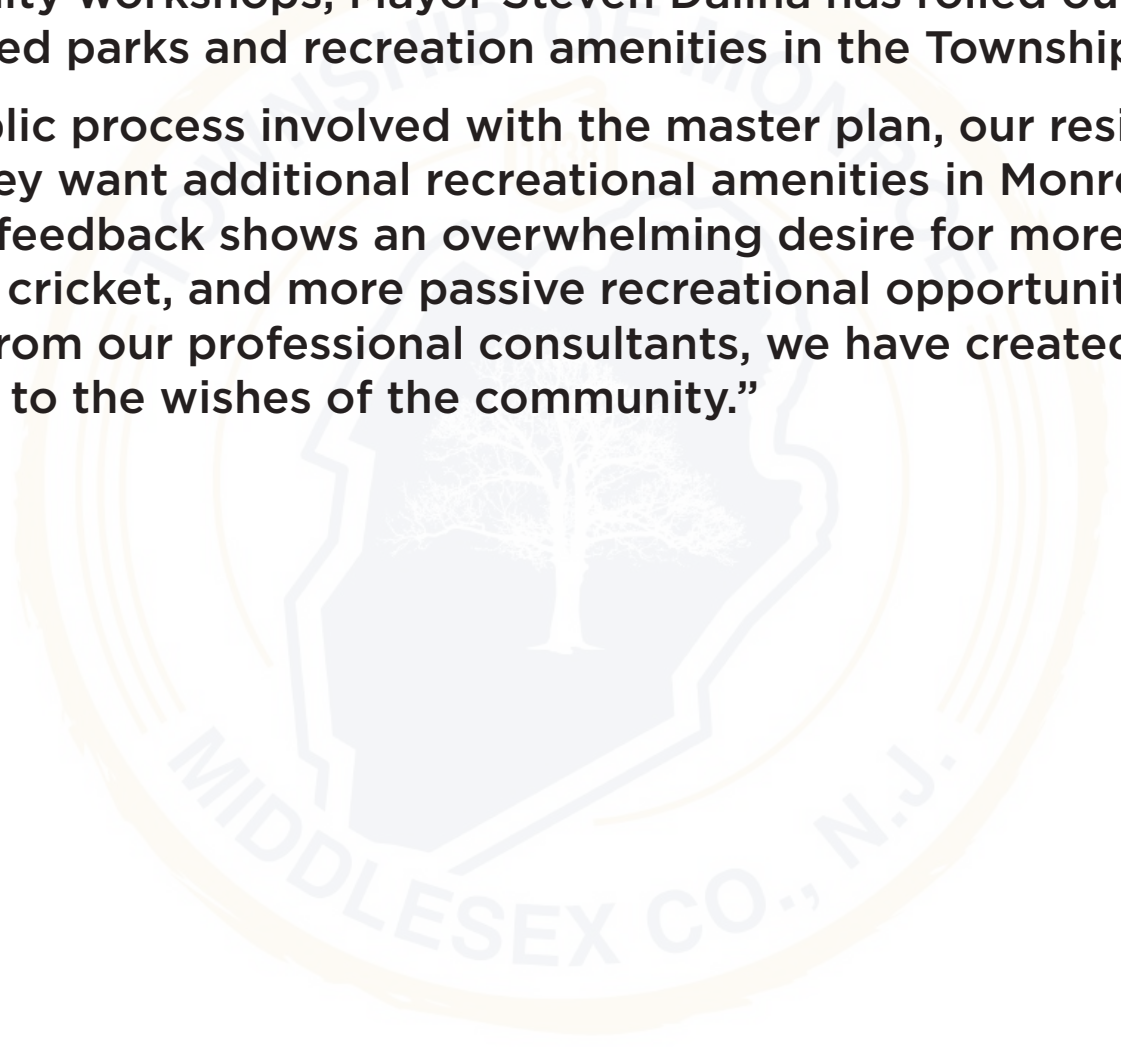


INTRODUCING MONROE TOWNSHIP 2023-26 PHASE 1 PARKS EXPANSION PLAN

MASTER PLAN SURVEY GUIDES MULTI-YEAR PLAN

Following the adoption of a municipal master plan – which included more than 80,000 survey responses, more than 5,000 comments, and in-depth feedback at a series of community workshops, Mayor Steven Dalina has rolled out his long-term vision for expanded parks and recreation amenities in the Township.

“Through the public process involved with the master plan, our residents made it very clear that they want additional recreational amenities in Monroe,” Mayor Dalina said. “The public feedback shows an overwhelming desire for more pickleball, volleyball, tennis, cricket, and more passive recreational opportunities. Following additional input from our professional consultants, we have created a plan that directly responds to the wishes of the community.”



MASTER PLAN SURVEY RESULTS

The recent Master Plan Examination encouraged residents to complete a survey on everything from traffic to parks. Here are the findings:

- **Ensure park facilities align with the surrounding population demographics.**
- **Focus on parkland expansion in the southern half of Monroe, particularly around the Applegarth Road corridor.**
- **Consider additional children’s play areas at Township parks.**
- **Explore more recreational facilities. The following sports were suggested:**
 - ▶ **Cricket**
 - ▶ **Volleyball**
 - ▶ **Pickleball**
- **Expand facilities in Veteran’s Park.**
- **Explore adding active recreation at the Community Garden, as well as parking.**

MULTI-YEAR PLAN PROPOSED

The ten-year plan is broken down into two phases:

Phase 1

Years 1-3: Improvements at five municipal locations immediately addressing several Master Plan components.

Phase 2

Years 4-10: Two complex projects that will take longer to plan and design. Places to play and explore should be available for everyone. These park transformations and expansions will provide accessible and interesting spaces for healthy social engagement.

“This sort of infrastructure investment won’t happen overnight. This is an investment in the long-term health and wellness of Monroe Township,” said Mayor Dalina.

PHASE 1: YEARS 1 TO 3

- **Monroe Township Senior Center, 12 Halsey Reed Road: Installation of outdoor pickleball and sand volleyball courts.**
- **Patriots Park, Cranbury Half Acre Road: Construction of new sand volleyball courts.**
- **Monroe Township Soccer Complex, Prospect Plains Road (between the post office and existing parking): Building a pickleball complex, tennis courts, lighting and additional parking for these new facilities and soccer fields. Plans also call for more lighting for existing soccer fields on the east side.**
- **Monroe Township Community Garden, Applegarth Road: Adding a playground, future restrooms and expanded parking for garden and playground facilities.**
- **Veteran's Park, Avenue K: Installing new restroom facilities, spray park changing area and sand volleyball courts.**
- **James Monroe Park, Dey Grove Road: Replacing restroom facilities and concession areas.**

SENIOR CENTER CONCEPT PLAN

HALSEY REED ROAD • PICKLEBALL AND SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS

The first construction project is set for the Monroe Senior Center. Improvements are targeted for the front of the building, adjacent to the upper parking lot. The plan calls for four full-sized pickleball courts, three sand volleyball courts and a picnic grove, with sidewalk connection to the existing parking area.



PATRIOTS PARK CONCEPT PLAN

CRANBURY HALF ACRE ROAD • SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS & DOG PARK FENCE

Two new sand volleyball courts are to be installed at Patriots Park. The two new volleyball courts are to be located at the east, adding to the existing playgrounds, basketball court, cricket field and a small/large dog recreation area. The dog park fence is also to be upgraded.



SOCCER FIELD & PICKLEBALL CONCEPT PLAN AND SOCCER FIELD PARKING CONCEPT PLAN

PROSPECT PLAINS ROAD • PICKLEBALL COMPLEX • TENNIS COURTS LIGHTING & PARKING

This centrally-located park keeps growing. The proposed expansion is to include five pickleball courts (lighted), a comfort pavilion, two tennis courts (lighted), expanded parking on the west side, lighting of two soccer fields and a new parking lot on the east side.



COMMUNITY GARDEN CONCEPT PLAN

APPLEGARTH ROAD • PLAYGROUND AND EXPANDED PARKING

Adding features for our youngest residents, the site has been targeted for Monroe's next playground. An expanded parking lot, restroom and picnic grove are planned.



VETERAN'S PARK & JAMES MONROE PARK

PHOTOS OF CONCESSION STAND AND RESTROOMS

FIELD AND SOCCER COMPLEX FINISHED PROJECTS • VOLLEYBALL COURTS

Two sand volleyball courts are to be added at Veteran's Park near the spray park, playground, cricket and athletic fields. Construction is underway on new ADA bathroom facilities slated to open in summer 2023 (no concession stand at Veteran's Park). The existing restroom facilities and concession stand is also to be replaced at James Monroe Park. These projects are akin to new facilities including ADA bathroom constructed at Daniel Ryan Field and the Monroe Township Soccer Complex.



PHASE 2: YEARS 4 TO 10

The long-term plan (up to 10 years) calls for:

- Three cricket fields, a multi-age playground and parking lot at a large Township-owned parcel south of Mount Road.
- A full renovation of the existing outdoor sports pavilion at the Community Center to accommodate multi-sport courts, including basketball, pickleball and tennis, with an expanded parking area.

