

Project name: Greater Plains Park Completion

State program: New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation - Environmental Protection Fund Parks Program

Project location: Town Pool, 51 West End Avenue

Project goal

Complete the Greater Plains Public Pool property as a full neighborhood park. The Town has replaced and reopened the pool and continues to provide free public swimming and lessons. This project expands that investment with water play, accessible support facilities, shade, gathering space, additional recreation, and a safer, more connected site.

Objectives

- Expand free water recreation with a recirculating or standard, zero-depth splash pad.
- Improve accessible restroom and family changing capacity based on the final bathhouse evaluation.
- Add shade, seating, gathering space, and recreation for different ages and abilities.
- Create continuous accessible routes among the pool, recreation areas, arrival points, and site amenities.
- Improve drainage, stormwater management, landscaping, shade, and long-term site comfort.

What the grant would support

Splash-pad systems and utilities; accessible restroom and changing improvements; a pavilion; pickle ball court or other multigenerational recreation; nature play and seating; accessible walkways and site furnishings; permeable surfaces, a rain garden, native plantings, shade trees, drainage work, site restoration, design, permitting, and construction administration. Final elements remain subject to design and State review.

Proposed budget

Total project: About \$900,000 | State request: Up to \$675,000 | Town share: \$225,000

The current Town-share concept is \$110,000 in cash and \$115,000 in eligible Town labor, equipment use, and materials. Final amounts will follow the completed design, professional cost estimate, and State cost-share review.

Public benefit

- More free recreation for children, families, teens, older adults, and residents with disabilities.
- Better accessibility, restroom and changing options, shade, seating, and gathering space.
- A more complete park connected to an established neighborhood, school, and municipal pool.
- Reduced runoff, additional native landscaping and shade, and reuse of an existing public site.

Partners, status, and Board action

The Town has requested support and coordination from Otsego County Planning, the Otsego County Youth Bureau, Greater Plains Elementary and the Oneonta City School District, Assemblymember Brian D. Miller, Congressman Josh Riley, and County Representative Eamonn Hinchey. The final design, cost, and application materials are being completed. Board authorization would permit the submission and local share; it would not approve a final design or award a construction contract.