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**NEW PARK PROJECTS AROUND THE COUNTY SUPPORTED
BY GRANT PROGRAM**

LINCROFT – The Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners recently awarded \$2.8 million in park improvement and open space acquisition grant funds to 19 different municipalities in the County through the 2021 round of the Monmouth County Open Space Grant Program. The program continues to be a successful means for the County Commissioners to demonstrate their support of local parks and recreation projects throughout County.

“As our residents continue to get much needed fresh air and exercise in their local parks and open spaces during these ongoing difficult times, the County Commissioners are proud to provide the help and support our local partners need to continue to make the improvements necessary to keep our neighborhoods great places to live and play with our families,” said County Commissioner Director Thomas A. Arnone.

By providing vital funding, the County’s Open Space Grant Program assists municipalities in meeting their local open space acquisition, recreation, historic and conservation goals. Many of the projects

funded by the program would not be possible without the County’s assistance. An additional round of NJDEP Green Acres grants for park development projects in 2021 encouraged many towns to “think big” when proposing new projects, hoping to receive funding from the State and the County.

The County Commissioners allocated \$2 million in grant funds, combined with \$816,000 of reprogrammed grant funds, which allowed awards totaling \$2.8 million in grant funding.

“I have been very impressed with the hard work and creativity of all of the applications received this year for grant funding,” said County Commissioner Ross Licitra, liaison to the Monmouth County Park System. “It is no easy task deciding which of the many great projects get funded each year. We look forward to continuing this great program and seeing the completed projects being enjoyed by everyone.”

The municipalities that have been awarded funding through the 2021 grant round include:

Township of Millstone	Clarksburg Cultural Center Phase III	\$150,000
Township of Colts Neck	Improvements to Laird Road Recreation Center and Five Points Park	\$140,000
Township of Wall	Pickleball Courts at Camp Evans	\$134,000
Borough of Eatontown	Nicodemus Park Splash Pad Project	\$48,000
Borough of Fair Haven	Spagnuolo Property Acquisition	\$250,000
Borough of Bradley Beach	ADA Park Improvements at Lake Terrace Park	\$70,000
Borough of Oceanport	Pickleball Court and Community Garden Project	\$53,000
Borough of Highlands	Snug Harbor Skate Park Project	\$200,000
Borough of Manasquan	Improvements to Curtis Park Phase II	\$150,000
Borough of Keyport	2021 Park Improvement Project	\$140,000
Township of Middletown	McMahon Park Improvements Project	\$200,000
Township of Aberdeen	Cambridge Park Improvements	\$150,000
Borough of Monmouth Beach	Griffin Park Improvements	\$100,000
Borough of Neptune City	Improvements to Adams Field Phase II	\$200,000
Borough of Atlantic Highlands	2022 Open Space Acquisition	\$250,000
Township of Hazlet	North Hazlet Community Park	\$250,000

Township of Holmdel	Pedestrian & Bikeway Plan Phase I	\$114,000
Borough of Red Bank	Various Park Improvements Phase III	\$100,000
Borough of Freehold	Various Park Improvements	\$117,000

Since the inception of the program in 2003, 50 of Monmouth County's 53 municipalities have been awarded more than \$38 million for local parks and acquisition projects. As of 2021, 275 grants have been awarded, with 213 of those grants going toward parks development projects and 62 of the grant awards going toward open space acquisition projects.

To learn more about this program or the Monmouth County Park System, please visit www.MonmouthCountyParks.com or call 732-842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the Park System TTY/TDD number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks, and Recreation agency.

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