

Host Community Project Number: HCSC-11-07

Date Submitted: 5/23/11

### Host Communities Standing Committee Review Form

**PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION:**

Name: Town of Lewiston

Mailing Address: 1375 Ridge RD

State: NY Zip Code: 14092

**PROJECT TYPE**

- Check all that apply:
- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural/Heritage | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land or Water Public Access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural  | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational/Interpretive               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterfront or Land Based Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Signage                      |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                        |   |

Project Name: Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project

Location: 1705 Saunders Settlement Roadt

Site Address: 1705 Saunders Settlement Road, Niagara Falls

State: NY Zip Code: 14305

Minor Civil Divison(s): Town of Lewiston

County: Niagara

Project Proponent Property Interest (own, lease, easement or other):

OWN

**AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL**

**Name:** Steve Rieter **Title:** Supervisor

**Business Address:** 1375 Ridge Rd, Lewiston

**State:** Ny **Zip Code:** 14092

**Telephone Number:** 716-754-8213 **Cell Number:** 716-609-0891

**Fax Number:** 716-754-0971

**E-Mail Address:** bjcich@townoflewiston.us

**PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT**

**Name:** Michael Dashineau **Title:** Recreation

**Business Address:** 1375 Ridge Rd Lewiston

**State:** NY **Zip Code:** 14092

**Telephone Number:** 716-754-8213 **Cell Number:** NA

**Fax Number:** 716-754-0873

**E-Mail Address:** dash3640@yahoo.com

***If you have any questions regarding this form, please call 716-278-8760 for assistance.***

## PROJECT NARRATIVE

Please attach material, which responds to the follow five items in the order that they are presented.

1. In a brief paragraph, describe the project and its purpose, how and when it will be accomplished, and why it is important.

The purpose of the Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project is to build, expand, and restore a public park in the Town of Lewiston. In its current condition, Colonial Village Park fails to serve the surrounding population or the Town of Lewiston at large with quality recreational opportunities and creates a dangerous environment for residents to enjoy the Park's facilities and surrounding green space and open air activities.

Colonial Village Park is located less than one quarter mile from the New York State Power Authority Water Reservoir on Saunders Settlement Road (Route 31). Also, as is the tradition in many communities, Colonial Village Park is adjacent to Lewiston Fire Company #2, where it is an important facility for both Fire Company functions as well as for public and community use. It is one of the few parks on the South side of the Town of Lewiston, and neighbors the Town of Niagara. It is also about 2.5 miles from New York State Reservoir Park.

The Colonial Village Park Restoration Project seeks to completely remove and rebuild an existing tennis and basketball court due to its unsafe and antiquated condition. Upon the removal of these two courts, this project will install approximately 14,000 square feet of usable asphalt surface to replace the existing Basketball and Tennis Courts, to then be enclosed with 240 linear feet of twenty-foot-high fencing. This project will also remove rusted and unusable basketball and tennis structures and replace them, including poles, hoops, and nets.

Colonial Village Park is encircled by a four foot wide walking path. The second phase of this project will upgrade the walking trail with needed sitting areas by adding benches along this trail.

Along with maintaining the grounds and facilities, the Town of Lewiston also maintains one of its 11 Town Park baseball diamonds at Colonial Village Park for the community's youth baseball programs. These upgrades will enhance the attractiveness and functionality of the rest of the Park as a whole by providing more space that can be used for recreational activities. This project will also enhance the ability of this Park to serve the recreational needs of the Colonial Village community and the Town of Lewiston as a whole when integrated with our other Parks.

The Town of Lewiston declares that it is their opinion, shared by the Town of Lewiston Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, that the completion of the Colonial Village Park Greenway

Project will have a positive effect on the use and usefulness of parks connected by the Niagara Greenway.

2. Referring to the Niagara River Greenway Plan, clearly document and describe how the proposed project will advance the Niagara River Greenway vision including the goals, principles, and criteria that define that vision.

**Niagara Greenway Vision Statement:**

*The Niagara River Greenway is a world-class corridor of places, parks and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, recreational, scenic, and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.*

The Lewiston Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will promote and further the vision of the Niagara River Greenway by supporting public parkland along the Niagara River to serve as a recreational, educational, and scenic gateway for visitors to the Greenway Corridor.

The Colonial Village Park property, located adjacent to Lewiston Fire Company #2, is within close proximity to drive, bike, hike, and/or jog Lewiston's other parks as well as to the Niagara River, Devil's Hole State Park, and the NYS Reservoir Park. Colonial Village Park is one several Town-owned parks that the Town of Lewiston maintains. The pride of the Town's parks system is supported by Kiwanis Park, Lewiston Town Park, Sanborn Park, Upper Mountain Park, and Colonial Village Park. Colonial Village Park also supports Lewiston's other parks by providing new playground equipment for visitors and the community's youths. Between these parks, the Town maintains eleven baseball fields, one of which is located at Colonial Village Park. During the spring and summer the Town sponsors Youth Baseball, outdoor lacrosse, and supervised playground activities every weekday from the end of June to mid-August in its five parks. Fall baseball programs also begin at the end of August. Members of Lewiston's Fire Company #2 also make frequent use of this Colonial Village Park for recreational and leisure activities including fundraising programs.

Town playground activities that can be supported by Colonial Village Park include instructional tennis, basketball, and other athletic activities, arts and crafts, pre-schooler sessions, field trips, instructional chess and other games and classes in specific arts or crafts.

The Town's 2008 recreational survey and park inventory clearly indicated a critical need for parkland and open space. The limited municipal parks in Lewiston are currently overcrowded and force residents (mainly children) to be driven to other parks for recreation including educational recreation programs such as scouting, nature walks, orienteering, passive usage, etc.

This project incorporates six goals of the Greenway Commission, and the project will support an accessible, unified, environmentally friendly, and revitalized corridor that highlights the natural beauty, cultural diversity, and historic significance of the Niagara River. These goals are as follows:

## **GOALS**

### **Improve Access**

The Lewiston Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will serve as a recreational destination for members and visitors of the community and will further support recreational activities and programs for the Town's youth. During both leisure Park enjoyment and organized Park activities, including youth baseball games as well as Fire Company events, the current courts cannot be made use of due to their unsafe, deteriorating condition. This project will improve access to the currently unusable basketball and tennis courts by restoring the playing surfaces and replacing the rusted, unsafe basketball hoops and tennis court structures. A sport-specific safety sealant to the court area to reduce any potential of slick footing or unsafe playing conditions. The walking trail will also be improved to provide additional seating benches around the trail, which circles around the perimeter of the Park. This phase of the project will also upgrade the attractiveness and functionality of the entire Park.

Implementation of this project will significantly contribute to the improvement of the Town's park that has experienced a large increase in usage due to the increase in population within the Town and surrounding communities.

### **Make Connections**

This project will facilitate increased access for Park users to playground equipment and recreation areas in Colonial Village Park, and will serve as a recreational destination for Town residents and the surrounding community. The Town maintains one of its community baseball fields within the Park for use by the community, its spring, summer and fall baseball programs, and its Fire Company members. This project will connect park users to additional equipment and recreational opportunities while at the Park by restoring its basketball and tennis courts back to safe, usable condition.

### **Protect and Restore Environmental Systems**

This project will ensure that the Colonial Village Park property remains open space and parkland and will preserve the surrounding environment from commercial and residential development. The project contributes to the environmental well-being of the region. As this property is located adjacent to Lewiston's Fire Company #2, protecting and restoring the surrounding landscape remains a priority for maintaining the pride of Lewiston's parks system. The Niagara River Greenway will protect and restore the environmental resources of the region through habitat restoration, reclamation of damaged areas, and preservation of unique and threatened ecological resources.

### **Spark Revitalization and Renewal**

The Lewiston Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project addresses the heart of the Greenway's goal for revitalization and renewal of green spaces and public recreational opportunities. Colonial Village Park serves as a recreational destination for visitors and several of the community's youths through its spring, summer and fall baseball programs, as well as the Town's Fire Company #2 members. The current basketball and tennis courts are restricted from use due to the deteriorating, unsafe conditions, which prevents a great deal of recreational activities for a wide range of users. This project will completely restore these courts to safe, new condition complete with safe surfaces and perimeter fencing. Further, the use of the Park's perimeter walking trail will be revitalized by the installation of additional bench seating for those who desire or require it.

### **Celebrate History and Heritage**

The installation of additional bench seating for leisure recreation and improved, safer play areas will draw people from the Town as well as visitors to the area, thus providing additional recreational amenities to serve the steadily increasing population. Throughout its history the Town of Lewiston has been a close-knit community within itself as well as with surrounding municipalities. Its heritage and pride of its park system is supported by all five of Lewiston's parks, which includes Colonial Village Park. It is an important, longstanding tradition for fire companies to have park space adjacent to their facilities for both company functions as well as for community, public access. This project will allow the community to uphold those traditions and to preserve the programs available for toddlers and their parents.

### **Promote Long Term Sustainability**

As the Town of Lewiston currently owns the property, the Town will continue to ensure that the Colonial Village Park playground and recreational structures are maintained and updated to remain an attractive destination along the Niagara River Greenway. Due to the current deteriorating basketball and tennis courts and unsafe conditions, the project will ensure that Park is sustained for years to come. Revitalization of the Parks currently deteriorating recreational amenities will ensure that this property, as it is located adjacent to the Town's Fire Company #2, will be conscientiously maintained will into the future. Through its recreational events and programs the connection between Colonial Village Park and Lewiston's other Town parks will contribute to vitality of the area as it continues to serve as an attractive and essential gateway and stopover along the Niagara River Greenway and trail systems. The Town is committed to the yearly funding and manpower that are necessary to keep the Park and its amenities in top condition.

### **Extend Olmstead's Legacy**

Currently, the Town of Lewiston has limited public recreational property available for the enjoyment of residents and visitors. Due to the recent increase in population and the projected

continuance of that trend, The Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will provide local residents and visitors to the area with improved access to the Park's playground equipment, baseball diamond, and basketball and tennis courts for a steadily growing population (mainly the community's youths). Additionally, the project will provide supplementary resting benches along the perimeter walking trail to meet the special needs of those who require it. The new courts and equipment will facilitate safer conditions for its users, particularly toddlers and youths between the ages of 7-12, and will make equipment available for each of the Park's target segments so users of all ages can make use of the equipment and recreational areas.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPALS**

The implementation of the **Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project** will meet the guiding principles of the Niagara Greenway Commission as follows:

### **Excellence**

The Town of Lewiston is committed to maintaining excellence at its recreational facilities as well as for its Fire Companies. The Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project, with its close proximity to other Town and State parks, bike trails and pedestrian, and access to the Niagara River, will capitalize on the Park's surrounding area's recreation amenities (playground equipment, recreation programs for youths, and baseball fields), pristine natural beauty, and scenic vistas, thus contributing to the Greenway Commission's first-class standards.

### **Sustainability**

The Town of Lewiston's Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will promote the *ecological, economic* and *physical* sustainability for long-term viability and effectiveness. The project will be conscientiously maintained by the Town's Parks and Recreation Department.

### **Accessibility**

The Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will be situated along the Niagara Corridor in the Town's of Lewiston and Niagara, thus facilitating improved public access to the Town's additional parks as well as the Niagara River Vistas. The project will be designed to provide and increase physical accessibility to its currently unsafe, deteriorating basketball and tennis courts and related resources for a full range of users (youth, seniors, and persons with special needs).

### **Ecological Integrity**

The Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will support parkland that is used, and will improve the health, vitality, and integrity of natural resources and wildlife habitats with an

emphasis placed on restoring and retaining ecologically significant areas and natural landscapes both in and over the water and inland.

### **Public Well-Being**

With a proposed project area of the Niagara River and Greenway Corridor, the Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will provide much-needed recreational opportunity to a wide range of users, including the community's youth and their parents who utilize the park for recreation, after school programs, and sports, as well as the members of Lewiston's Fire Company #2. The Park's project will advance public well-being and promote physical and emotional wellness through the experience that it offers to the public by providing access to both active and passive recreational opportunities, and amenities for those with special needs. The project will provide improved access for various recreational activities and will support a relaxing atmosphere for all visitors.

### **Connectivity**

The Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will facilitate increased access to playground equipment and both passive and active recreation areas in Colonial Village Park, and will serve as a recreational destination for Town residents and the surrounding community. The Town maintains one of its community baseball fields within the Park for use by the community, its spring, summer and fall baseball programs, and its Fire Company members. This project will connect park users to additional equipment and recreational opportunities while at the Park by restoring its basketball and tennis courts back to safe, usable condition.

### **Restoration**

The location of the proposed Park improvements features the Park's recreational basketball and tennis courts, which are currently not compliant with safety standards and are rusted, deteriorating, no longer meets the needs of the increasing population, and presents hazardous, unsafe conditions for its users. The project is designed to encourage the restoration of recreational resources and equipment, the safety of the surrounding landscape, as well as the protection of the environment.

### **Community Based**

The Town of Lewiston's Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project has been in the planning stage for several months, with support provided by the Town's Recreation Supervisor Mike Dashineau, Town Supervisor Mr. Steve Reiter, and the Town of Lewiston's Town Board. The project reflects the preferences and plans of the local community, as reflected in the 2008 survey, while respecting other stated goals and the communal vision of the Niagara River Greenway. The project is vital in restoring the Park to meet the needs of the Town and the surrounding population and has the full support of the local community.



## **CRITERIA**

Through the **Town of Lewiston Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project**, the Town of Lewiston meets criteria of the Niagara River Greenway Plan:

### **Priority Status**

The Lewiston Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project has been in the planning phase for several months to restore and enhance the several recreation opportunities for users of all ages, including the community's abundant, increasing youth population, and will provide additional amenities for those utilizing the Parks perimeter walking trail. Colonial Village Park supports the pride of Lewiston's parks system and will enhance the overall attractiveness and usability of the park for the community and Fire Company #2.

### **Focus Area**

The implementation of the proposed project will visually improve the aesthetics of the Town's Colonial Village Park property and, as it is within close driving proximity to other Town and State parks and attractions along the Niagara Corridor, the improvements to the Park will have a local and regional impact at the heart of the Greenway.

### **Environmental Soundness**

The conceptual plan has addressed the need to provide proper maintenance of landscaping and plant life, as well as return any disturbed ground to its original condition. The improvements will make the Park's maintenance more efficient and easier, as the new safety surfaces will allow for easier brush pick up and less ground disturbance from raking and the sorting of "good" from "bad" material.

### **Implementable**

The Town has requested proposals for the engineering and construction costs. The Town of Lewiston will be awarding this project during the summer of 2011 under all Federal and State DOT guidelines.

### **Economic Viability and Local Sponsor**

All maintenance and upkeep of the Park will be provided through a line item in the Town of Lewiston Parks and Recreation Department Budget. The Town of Lewiston will continue to provide stewardship for this project, and provide the necessary money, equipment, and manpower to further this project along from the design phase to its completion and beyond.

### **Matching Funding/Leveraging**

The Town of Lewiston is committed to developing and maintaining the Park as part of its yearly

budget.

**Consideration of Other Planning Efforts**

This project is consistent with the Town of Lewiston's Comprehensive Master Plan.

**Clear Benefits**

The Town of Lewiston's Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will serve as both an active and passive recreation destination, linking surrounding communities for recreational activities, programs, and sporting events, will improve the quality of life in our growing community, and enhance tourism and the visitor experience for those visiting the Greenway.

**3. Define the budget for the proposed project and include costs for the following:**

- Remove and Resurface Basketball Courts - \$40,000
- Seal and Stripe - \$10,000
- Fencing - \$40,000
- Tennis / Basketball Post & Installation - \$5,000
- Benches - \$2,500

Planning \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Construction \$ \_\_\_ \$97,500 \_\_\_\_\_  
Acquisition \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Administration \$ \_\_\_ \$1,950 \_\_\_\_\_  
Operation and Maintenance / Year \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL PROJECT COST is BUDGETED \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$99.450 \_\_\_\_\_

Project schedule: Start June 2011 with a December 2011 completion date.

4. Describe the measures taken at the local level to gain community and government support for this project (hearings, petitions, public surveys, resolutions of support or other methods). If this project has been cited or described in a local planning document or some equivalent thereof, attach copies of that documentation highlighting the sections that are relevant to the proposed project. Describe the role of municipal agencies, stakeholder groups, consultants, volunteers or others who will be involved in the proposed project.

This project will provide excellent opportunities for environmental and geological education, outreach, and community involvement. Once completed, this project will:

- 1) Restore and protect ecologically and geologically significant landscapes;
- 2) Create/enhance public access to a natural resource;

- 3) Provide opportunities to teach young people about geology and ecosystems and the associated challenges of restoration and open space protection;
- 4) Result in the restoration of an area, which has been long neglected and underutilized, and no longer meets the needs of the surrounding community;
- 5) Protect and enhance those scenic, historic and cultural resources, which are readily identifiable as valued parts of the common heritage of New York's citizens; by facilitating convenient access to the Niagara River and Erie Canal; and,
- 6) Maintain the critical natural-resource-based industries, recreation, and tourism.

5. Describe and document the environmental setting and existing conditions at the proposed project site. If you are not the owner of the property include a letter(s) or resolution(s) evidencing support for the project by the owner. Provide photographs, conceptual plans and drawings that show the site as it presently exists and the how the site will change with the addition of the proposed project. Describe how your project will comply with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The existence of wetlands, significant upland and aquatic habitats, and plant or animals species that are classified as rare, threatened, or endangered should be noted. Explain how such natural resources will be protected and / or enhanced. Cite any relevant project related studies.

The Town of Lewiston's Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project will provide improved and restored access to Park passive and active recreational opportunities for *all* Park users, including the members of the Town's Fire Company #2 and the full range of community users (youths to their parents and seniors). This project entails the replacement of deteriorating, insufficient and unsafe recreation structures with equipment to meet the needs of the Town's several target segments of the population. The project will improve upon the safety surfaces of the Park's basketball and tennis courts, replace the courts functional structures (hoops, netting, etc.), as well as provide adequate fencing around the area. Additional seating will be installed to provide adequate seating around the Park's perimeter walking trail for those who require it. As Colonial Village Park is a vital part of the Town's recreational parks system, it is a destination stop along the Niagara River Corridor and is within close proximity to additional Town and State parks to encourage more participation in recreation and provide a stop for trail users along the way.

The proposed project's improvements will allow the Town to continue its tradition of providing its residents and the surrounding community with open space for recreation and environmental conservation. There were no relevant studies necessary for this project, and all SEQRA documentation will be obtained once before the project commences.

Town of Lewiston

RESOLUTION 03/14/2011

Colonial Village Park Basketball & Tennis Court Re-Construction

I, Carole Schroeder, Deputy Town Clerk of The Town of Lewiston located at 1375 Ridge Road  
Lewiston, New York 14092, do hereby certify that the following resolution  
was adopted at a regular meeting of the Town of Lewiston held on March 14th, 2011, and  
is incorporated in the original minutes of said meeting and that said resolution has not  
been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

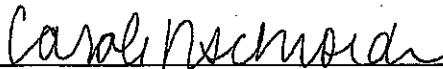
Resolved:

That the Town of Lewiston will submit to the Niagara River Greenway Commission a proposal  
for recommendation of the Town of Lewiston's; Colonial Village Park Basketball & Tennis  
Court Re-Construction grant funding request.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE:

Supervisor Reiter - yes  
Councilman Bax- yes  
Councilman Marra - yes  
Councilman Palmer -yes  
Councilman Winkley - yes

This motion was carried.



Carole Schroeder, Deputy Town Clerk



