

Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation

2024 Executive Proposed Budget

Core Programs & Functions

- **18,000 Acres/50+ Parks** – open space for programs, community events, sports, recreation, conservation, entertainment, education and passive observation.
- **Resident Recreation User Survey Results** - 89% of residents use; 92% rating of excellent/good.
- **Quality of Life** – 96% of users agree parks improve physical and mental health and provide for open space.
- **Parks and Services** – more popular and essential since the pandemic servicing over 3 million visits.
- **Nationally Accredited** – only parks system accredited in New York State. Accredited since 2003, Reaccreditation occurs every five years providing accountability to the public, the county and employees.
- **Conservation and Environment** – manage parkland, educate, provide wildlife management and aide in solutions to flooding, climate change and invasive species.
- **Employee Investment** – provide training and education to better our diverse employee base and aid in advancement and succession planning.
- **Help from Friends** – various groups provide volunteer programs, labor and fund raising that better and enhance our parks.

Budget Summary

ITEM	2023	2024
Operating Positions	256	256
Trust Positions	3	3
TOTAL POSITIONS	259	259
Personal Service	28,274,807	29,625,974
Equipment	554,319	504,660
Materials & Supplies	10,008,275	10,620,050
Contractual Expenses	15,646,344	20,798,187
Inter-Departmental Charges	6,755,522	7,431,342
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	61,239,267	68,980,213

Budget Summary

ITEM	2023	2024
Inter-Departmental Revenue	395,693	423,496
Departmental Revenue	23,485,697	26,026,023
Interfund Revenue		576,047
State & Federal Aid	45,000	45,000
TOTAL REVENUE	23,926,390	27,070,566
DEPARTMENT TAX LEVY	37,312,877	41,909,647

New Initiatives & Highlights

- **County Center** – fully reopened and booking year-round while needed infrastructure projects to restore this historic treasure begin, securing its future as the County’s Civic Center.
- **Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center** – year two under Parks management builds on expanded sustainable agriculture for farm fresh foods and native plant programs while needed infrastructure projects begin and the Master Plan moves forward.
- **Golf Westchester** – upgraded facilities and amenities continue to allow residents to take advantage of the most affordable, comfortable pace of play golf rounds in the County.
- **Re-Accreditation** – successfully gain national accreditation based on the five year review from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).
- **Recreation** – providing a multitude of free programming while accommodating for the needs of a changing population including Corn Hole and Pickleball Tournaments.
- **New Summer Programs** – including Zumba classes and Park and Read children’s program.
- **Westchester County’s First Full Cricket Pitch** – Opened at Croton Point Park.
- **Recreation User Survey** – implement and bolster the findings from the once in a decade full scope survey keeping Parks on track with programming and infrastructure needs.

New Initiatives & Highlights

\$250M+ in Unprecedented Capital Investment in past six years including

- Croton Point Bathhouse** – new for beach goers (open in 2023)
- Kingsland Point Park** – bulkhead rehabilitation and River Walk (almost complete)
- Lasdon Park and Arboretum** – main house renovations (open 2023)
- V.E. Macy Park** – new playground, picnic area, ballfield improvements (open 2022)
- Mohansic Golf Course** – clubhouse improvements and cart barn (open 2023)
- Muscoot Farm Main House** – historic reconstruction (open 2023)
- Muscoot Farm Site Work** – septic, drainage, site work, paving, parking lot (ongoing)
- Playland Park** – historic reconstruction of buildings and facilities (ongoing)
- Tibbetts Brook Park** – resurfacing, drainage and improvements (almost complete)
- Tarrytown Lighthouse** – historic reconstruction (almost complete)
- Wightman Estate** – historic reconstruction (almost complete)
- Woodlands Lake Dam** – removal and river site work (ongoing)
- More to come** – Bronx River Pathway, Cranberry Lake, County Center, Dunwoodie, Glen Island, Hilltop Hanover, Ice Casino, Tree Canopy Study and Planting...