



TOWN OF HUNTINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

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<http://town.huntington.ny.us>

# Rink Side

*An Investment in Huntington's Future*



## Rink Expansion and Renovation Underway

As anybody visiting the facility has seen, the project to renovate and expand the **Dix Hills Ice Rink** is well underway.

In just a few short months, significant progress has already occurred as construction crews finalize work on a new parking area and drainage system. Soon, excavation will begin at the site of the new, state-of-the-art ice skating facility that will adjoin the existing rink building. When completed, the two ice surfaces will operate as one skating facility, managed and maintained by Town of Huntington employees.

The new facility will add a total of 43,232 square feet to the existing structure of 36,554 square feet. The new and expanded portion will be constructed on the existing rink's parking lot. A new parking area containing 70 spaces will be built just to the north of the new facility, in the vicinity of the former driveway circle. This new parking area has been designed to enhance traffic flow and to minimize clearing of vegetation. Plans also call for a new and enhanced pedestrian walkway from the rink to the large pool parking area.

In addition to the new ice surface, the expansion will include four locker rooms with restrooms and showers; an upgraded concession stand with two adjacent party rooms; new restroom facilities for men and women; new lobby with seating; weight training room; elevated bleachers for 447 spectators; a new main office and skate rental booth; and a new pro shop.

The project will also enhance maintenance of the facility. A new central maintenance area will allow for combined condensers for both ice surfaces. The ice surfacer (Zamboni) will also be used to maintain both rinks. To conserve energy and protect the ice surfacer, a specially designed pit will be built inside the facility to safely dispose of collected ice scrapings.

In addition, improvements and upgrades are planned for the existing skating facility. These include two new locker rooms, new piping to enhance the skating surface and new dasher boards. The target completion date for new construction and improvements is fall 2010.

## Rink Use and Programs Update

The primary purpose of the new and expanded ice-skating facility is to meet a growing demand for ice time among our children, teens and adults. A second sheet of ice will not only help meet this growing demand but also enable the Department of Parks and Recreation to offer new programs, instruction and activities for Huntington residents. Here are lists of existing programs and groups that use the existing facility and a sampling of potential new programs and activities that will be possible with a second sheet of ice.

### EXISTING

- ❖ **PUBLIC & RECREATIONAL SESSIONS:** Free style – pro skaters; Friday Night D.J. Night; adult evening rentals; holiday show; organization fundraisers.
- ❖ **TOWN PROGRAMS:** Dix Hills Recreation League; Monday Night Men's Recreation Hockey; group lessons; Adventure Camp; Skate Camp; Hockey Camp; Special Olympics.
- ❖ **CHARTERS:** Half Hollow Hills Hockey Club; Northport/Huntington Hockey Club; Dan Bivona's Pops; Midnight Hockey; Dix Hills Mites; Long Island Rebels.



### PROPOSED

- ❖ **MINI-MITES:** Town operated program that would be offered to 3 and 4 year old children who want to learn the basics of hockey.
- ❖ **SLED HOCKEY:** Specialized program for persons with disabilities.
- ❖ **CURLING:** This activity is becoming more popular, especially with senior citizens. It is a form of lawn bowling on ice.
- ❖ **ICE DANCING:** A form of ballroom dancing on the ice. Very popular with adults and the senior citizen community.
- ❖ **ICE SKATING CAMPS/CLINICS:** With a second sheet of ice, both camps and clinics could be offered at the same time. Also offer various skating camps during the various holiday school breaks.
- ❖ **FIGURE SKATING COMPETITIONS:** Be able to offer full-day USFSA sanctioned figure skating competitions.
- ❖ **HOCKEY TOURNAMENTS:** Town of Huntington high schools along with state championships and youth hockey tournaments.



## Stimulus for Huntington's Economy

The new skating facility may be described as a local economic stimulus project. Throughout construction, an estimated 100 skilled trade jobs will be created. On a daily basis, 30-plus workers will be on the job site. These positions include heavy equipment operators, masons, electricians, carpenters, plumbers and iron workers. Many of these men and women are residents and taxpayers of the Town of Hunting-

ton. Furthermore, a majority of the material and supplies that will support the project's construction will be purchased from local businesses.

### EMAIL CLUB

Receive the latest and most up-to-date information on the ice rink and other Town projects. Send your email address to: [parksandrec@town.huntington.ny.us](mailto:parksandrec@town.huntington.ny.us)



Welcome to the inaugural edition of *Rink Side*, an informational newsletter about the new and soon-to-be expanded Dix Hills Ice Rink facility. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep our residents apprised of the ongoing construction project and plans for our new, state-of-the-art skating facility.

We will publish periodic updates of *Rink Side* to ensure everyone is kept up-to-date on this major capital recreational investment. For your convenience, *Rink Side* will be available on the Town's website. You may also automatically receive updates by joining the *Rink Side* e-mail club (see opposite page for details).

As you may be aware, the idea for a new skating facility is far from new. For more than a decade, Town Board members, Town of Huntington civic leaders and representatives from various Town of Huntington skating user groups have publicly discussed plans for a new skating facility.

The new and expanded facility is an investment to further enhance our Town's outstanding quality of life. Huntington is known for its beautiful beaches, playing fields and other recreational facilities. We view this project as a continued commitment to providing safe and quality recreational opportunities for all our residents.

There is clearly a need to expand and enhance the ice facility. As is the case with other youth sports, participation in hockey continues to increase. Due to a lack of ice slots, last fall we were forced to turn away children from our recreational league. Despite a strong demand, we are unable to create a new instructional hockey program for our four and five-year olds because no ice slots are available. At the high school level, we are unable to meet the demand for requested time.

The addition of a second sheet of ice will enable our Parks and Recreation Department to expand

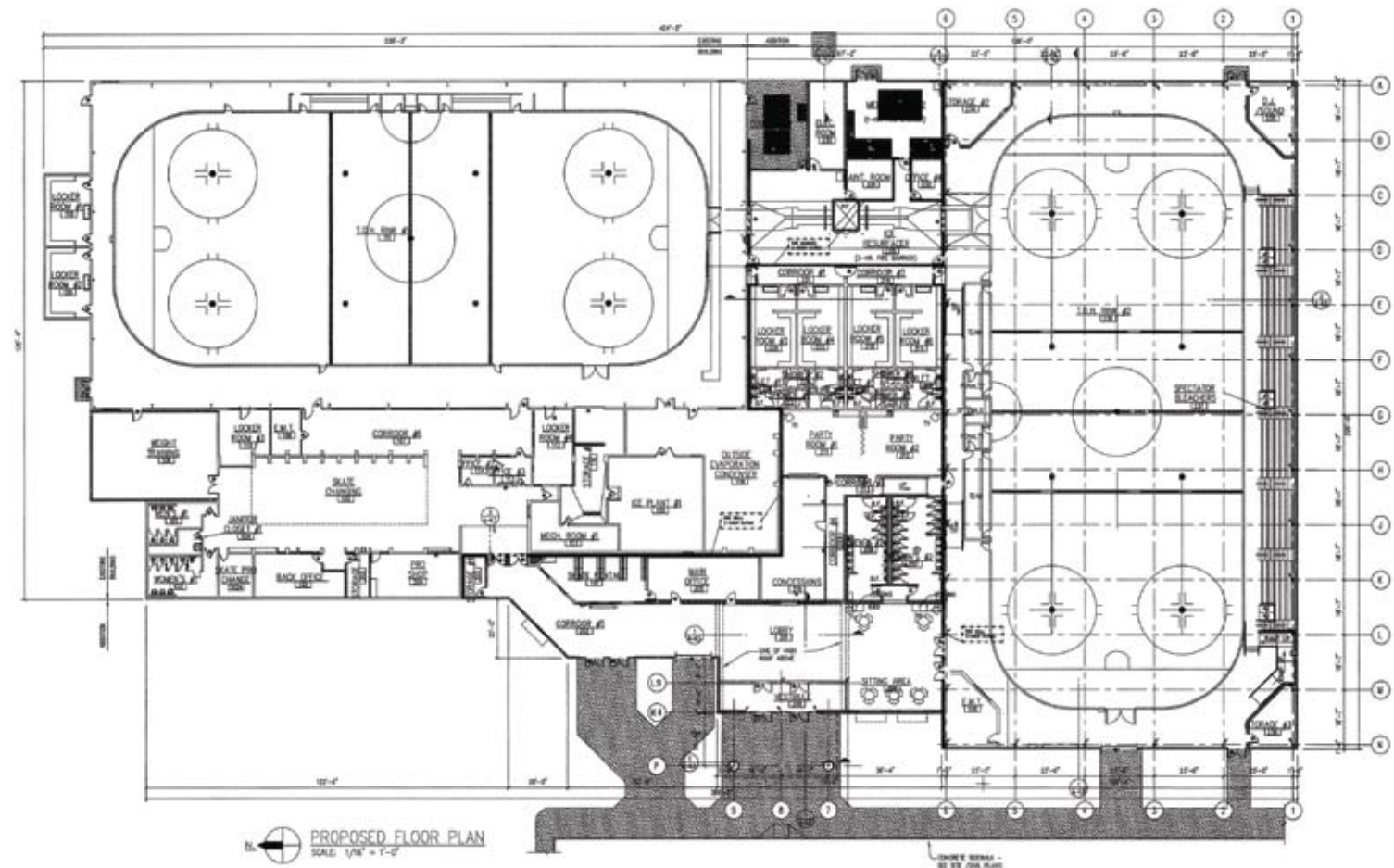
existing programming. Currently, no specific programming for persons with disabilities is offered. We would like to establish a sled hockey program for persons who utilize wheel chairs. We would also like to provide time for autistic children along with our senior citizens.

Please take a few minutes to review our first edition of *Rink Side*. As always, if you should have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Huntington Town Board:

Frank P. Petrone, Supervisor  
Mark Cuthbertson, Councilman  
Susan A. Berland, Councilwoman  
Stuart P. Besen, Councilman  
Glenda A. Jackson, Councilwoman



In addition to constructing a second ice surface, plans call for the renovation and rehabilitation of the existing rink facility. Originally built as an outdoor rink in 1975, the current building was enclosed in 1985. Once the new ice surface is completed, the existing rink will be briefly shutdown and renovated. Plans call for the replacement of the rink's concrete floor and piping (cooling); a new dehumidification system; interior painting; replacement of exterior windows; and new dasher boards. Spectator seat-

ing will also be enhanced. Mechanical upgrades (that will be shared with the new rink) are also planned to conserve energy and improve overall operations.



## Parks & Recreation Improvement Projects

# A TOWNWIDE INVESTMENT FOR HUNTINGTON'S PARK SYSTEM

Over the past several years, the Town Board has invested millions of dollars to enhance existing parks and recreational facilities throughout Huntington. In addition, through a partnership with Suffolk County, the Town has acquired property to expand recreational opportunities for children and adults. The following map illustrates recent capital investments made throughout the Town's park system.

For a complete and detailed listing of all acquisitions and recreational enhancement initiatives, please refer to the Town's website: <http://town.huntington.ny.us>

**1.) Mill Dam Park:** An investment of more than \$240,000 includes new ball field fencing and backstops, a new playground, new picnic tables and bleachers.

**2.) Heckscher Park:** As part of a comprehensive plan to restore this "Crown Jewel" park, more than \$1 million invested over the past several years in a number of projects. These include a new playground, new walkways and entrances, new lighting, playground shade structures, new landscaping and the construction of a memorial for 9-11-2001 victims.

**3.) Manor Park:** Completion of a \$3.2 million renovation that includes a new lighted synthetic turf field for soccer, football and lacrosse. Also built new, lighted softball field and enhanced parking.

**4.) Breezy Park:** The former Mohlenhoff Nursery will be transformed into a state-of-the-art athletic complex. This \$7 million project includes two lighted synthetic turf fields for soccer, football and lacrosse, a natural turf practice area, concession/comfort station, walking trails, memorial garden and new parking.

**5.) Peter Nelson Park:** More than \$500,000 invested to construct a new comfort station and concession facility, install a new and expanded parking lot, and new playground with fencing.

**6.) Deanna Moon Park:** An allocation of \$80,000 to refurbish an outdated playground. Also included was the planting of an evergreen buffer.

**7.) Middle Earth Park:** A \$300,000 project to establish two new soccer fields along with a paved parking lot.

**8.) Half Hollow Park:** Construction of a state-of-the-art natural turf soccer complex completed. Facility includes 10 turf fields for children and adults and comfort station/concession stand. Additional plans call for the installation of a new playground, an artificial putting green and bocce court.

**9.) Terry Farrell Park:** A new backstop and wing fencing for the park's 90-foot baseball field along

with a new playground and benches comprised this investment of \$120,000.

**10.) Caledonia Park:** A \$60,000 allocation to install a new playground, picnic tables and barbecue grills.

**11.) Manor Farm:** After purchasing property and saving it from development, Town invested more than \$500,000 to restore the historic farmhouse. The site is now used for educational and environmental studies.

**12.) Greenlawn Park:** More than \$200,000 invested over the past few years to construct the Town's first skate park. Other improvements include a new basketball court and complete refurbishment of the park's 90-foot baseball field.

**13.) Heron Park:** Construction of a new waterfront park to compliment the existing Grist Mill Park. This \$100,000 project will transform a former dirt parking lot into a landscaped passive park. Also completed multi-million dollar renovation of neighboring causeway bridge.

**14.) Centerport Beach/Senior Citizen Beach House:** Recently completed projects totaling

\$340,000 include construction of new tennis court, new playground, new comfort station at picnic area, fitness trail and structural improvements to Senior Beach House.

**15.) Hobart Beach:** An investment of \$62,000 to install a new playground, fenced-in basketball court and a floating dock at the ramp to accommodate recreational boaters.

**16.) Crab Meadow Beach:** More than \$250,000 invested over the past two years to install a new parking lot, playground and basketball court.

Additional improvements include construction of a new entrance/gate house and new roofing for picnic shelter and main pavilion.

**17.) Crab Meadow Golf Course:** An investment of more than \$3 million to enhance overall playing conditions. Completed improvements include rebuilt tee boxes and bunkers, enhanced irrigation, improved drainage, and purchase of new maintenance equipment. More than \$500,000 invested to refurbish interior of clubhouse and pro shop.

**18.) Woodbine Marina:** A \$250,000 allocation in the 2009 Capital Budget to replace the marina's wave baffle. Awaiting necessary permits.

**19.) Veterans Park:** Phase I, an \$11 million project, is underway and includes the installation of two, lighted synthetic turf fields for soccer, lacrosse and football. Plans also call for the construction of a new Boundless Playground, skate park, comfort station/concession building, and renovated natural turf soccer field. Phase II calls for the addition of new T-Ball and Little League fields.

**20.) John J. Walsh Memorial Park/Kew Avenue Park:** A combined investment of \$124,000 for new playground equipment and the construction of two, new T-Ball fields.

**21.) Sunshine Acres:** This \$850,000 renovation includes a new playground and comfort station, new handicapped parking area, refurbishment and re-alignment of Little League field, walking trails and enhanced parking off Townline Road.

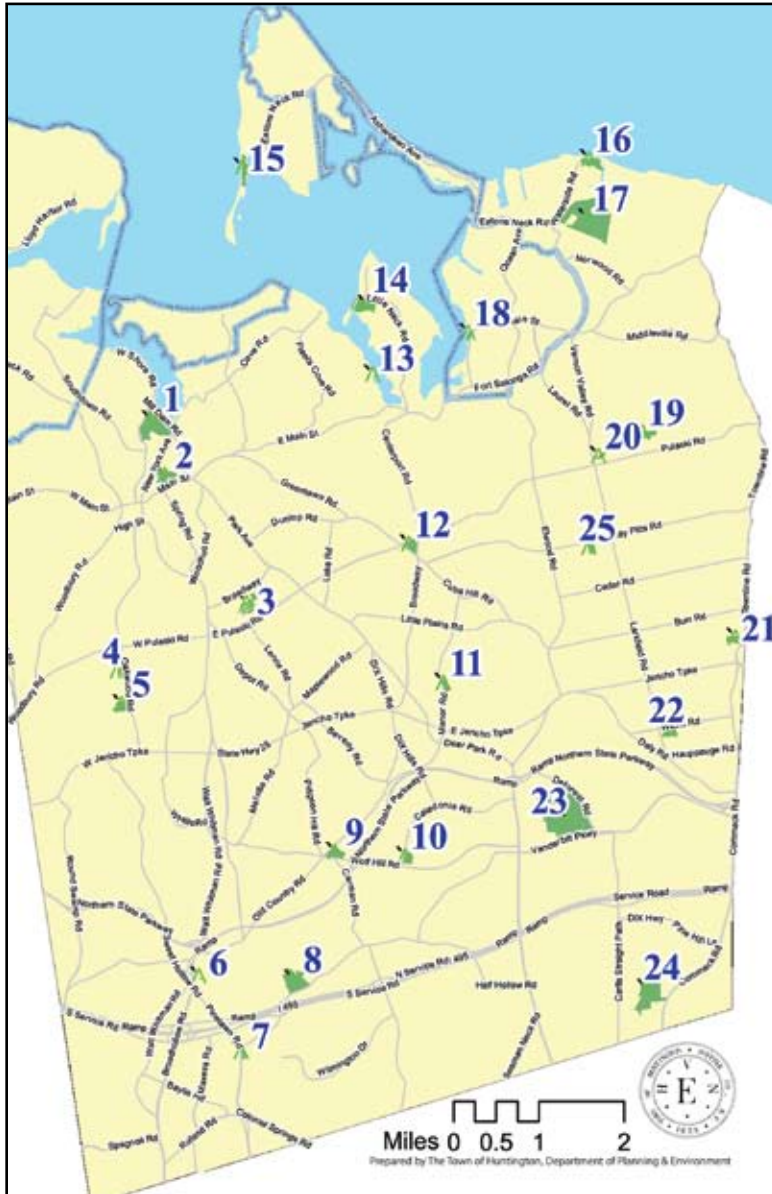
**22.) Commack Park (Wicks):** An investment of more than \$150,000 to replace fencing and backstops.

Other improvements include lighting upgrades and new roller skating surface.

**23.) Dix Hills Golf Course:** Construction of a new cart barn and pro shop enhancements completed. \$70,000 authorized to rebuild three tee boxes this year.

**24.) Otsego Park:** An allocation of \$150,000 to refurbish an existing in-line skating facility.

**25.) William J. Byrne Park:** A \$100,000 allocation to completely replace an existing playground. Additional improvements include new benches and safety surfacing.



Miles 0 0.5 1 2  
Prepared by The Town of Huntington, Department of Planning & Environment