



SENATOR RYAN, ASSEMBLYMEMBER MCMAHON ANNOUNCE \$500,000 TO BUILD NEW INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND AT CLEARFIELD PARK

Community Planning Meetings to be Announced

New York State Senator Sean Ryan and Assemblymember Karen McMahon announced \$500,000 in state funding for a new, inclusive playground at the Clearfield Community Center Park in the Town of Amherst. \$250,000 of the funding comes from a State Senate grant secured by Senator Sean Ryan, and \$250,000 comes from a State Assembly grant secured by Assemblymember Karen McMahon.

The first stage of the planning process is set to begin with a round of meetings, in which community members can contribute to the plan and discuss how the new playground can best fit the needs of the community and the fabric of the neighborhood. Community members are encouraged to participate in the meetings. They can contact Mary Diana Pouli, Executive Director of Youth and Recreation, at Mpouli@amherst.ny.us to be notified of upcoming playground meetings. The first meeting is expected to take place in the spring. The Town of Amherst is highly focused on community input, as to ensure the best possible result for the community when the playground is finally installed.

Senator Sean Ryan said, "We are very excited to announce new, inclusive offerings for the Clearfield Park in the Town of Amherst. The new playground will replace a long outdated one. I encourage community members to get involved and be a part of the planning stages while this project takes shape."

Assemblymember Karen McMahon said, "The Town of Amherst is a fast-growing community, particularly with young families. The Clearfield Community Center Park is a popular place for recreation in the heart of the town, but the current playground is over 20 years old and in desperate need of upgrades. I am very happy to join with my colleague, Senator Sean Ryan, in providing critical funding so that the Town of Amherst can build a new inclusive playground where families can have fun and children can play safely for years to come."

Town of Amherst Supervisor Brian Kulpa said, "Thank you to Senator Ryan and Assemblywoman McMahon for their continued commitment to Town of Amherst families. The Clearfield Community Center is a centerpiece of our community and this improvement will provide families with an updated, safe place to gather and explore. Active and passive recreation are critical to any community's success and I am pleased to be working with New York State to improve the Clearfield playground."

Deputy Supervisor Shawn Lavin said, "We appreciate that Senator Ryan and Assemblywoman McMahon prioritize community investment, especially ensuring inclusivity for all children and families. The new playground is a welcomed upgrade as we continue to improve our recreation spaces throughout town. Many thanks to New York State for this funding allocation and I look forward to working with the community as we develop the plan for this improvement project."