



MACOMBS DAM PARK NEWSLETTER

Reporting on the Redevelopment of Parkland Surrounding Yankee Stadium

Welcome to the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation's first edition of the quarterly Macombs Dam Park Newsletter, designed to keep the South Bronx community and all New Yorkers informed of the redevelopment of parkland surrounding the new Yankee Stadium.

By 2011, all of our new replacement facilities are scheduled to be available—including a great new waterfront park along the Harlem River. The new amenities include a running track; fields for soccer, little league, and softball; tennis, handball, and basketball courts; and passive recreation areas featuring benches, walkways, and landscaping.

Please stay tuned to our quarterly newsletter to find out more about what's happening with the different Yankee Stadium Redevelopment projects: Macombs Dam Park, Mullaly Park, Heritage Field, Ruppert Place, ballfields at Public School 29 in Melrose and the West Bronx Recreation Center in Highbridge, two new parks on River Avenue, Bronx Terminal Market Waterfront Park and Parks' tree planting initiative. The newsletter will also highlight related topics of interest for the surrounding community, such as the new Metro North station and local recreational activities, featured in this edition. Enjoy!

INTERIM TRACK AND FIELD FACILITY

The Macombs Dam Park Interim Track and Field facility, located on the corner of Jerome Avenue and East 161st Street, was the first project completed associated with the redevelopment of the Yankee Stadium area and opened to the public on Wednesday, May 23, 2007.

The facility features a synthetic track surface, a synthetic turf softball/soccer field, adult fitness equipment, and a long-jump pit. The track and field complex has proven to be extremely popular with the community, which heavily uses all components of the park and has offered positive feedback on all features!

Parks encourages its patrons to use this facility. The Macombs Dam Park Interim Track and Field will remain open until the new permanent track and field is installed.



BALLFIELD AT PUBLIC SCHOOL 29

Parks is reconstructing recreation space at P.S. 29 in the Melrose section of the Bronx. In addition to restoring the handball and basketball courts, Parks will build a new synthetic turf ballfield that will be jointly operated with P.S. 29. The public will have access to the new softball field after school hours and on non-school days.

Parks will also plant new trees, install bleachers, repair fences, and provide an accessible drinking fountain. Construction began in the Summer of 2007, and the field opening is scheduled for Winter 2008.

LOCAL STREET TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE

Over the next four years, the Parks Department will plant nearly 8,000 trees throughout the neighborhoods surrounding Yankee Stadium. These trees will not only be a beautiful addition to the streetscape but will also contrib-

ute to the quality of life for the neighborhood by cleaning the air, conserving energy, controlling storm water, muffling noise, providing wildlife habitat, and adding natural beauty. Request a street tree by calling 311.

BALLFIELD AT WEST BRONX RECREATION CENTER



West Bronx residents can expect a new playing field next spring as Parks completes a softball field/soccer field at the West Bronx Recreation Center on Jesup Avenue.

The recreation area will include green space, seating, a drinking fountain, a misting station, and pedestrian paths that will link to the neighborhood and community. Parks will provide trees and other plantings at the site. Construction started in early August 2007 for a planned opening of Spring 2008. Parks hosted a well-attended groundbreaking event for this site in mid-November.

MACOMBS DAM PARK

The section of Macombs Dam Park, west of Ruppert Place, at East 161st Street between Jerome Avenue and the existing stadium, will include a 400-meter, 8-lane high school competition synthetic running track with associated field events; a regulation synthetic turf soccer/football field with a grandstand; a comfort station; a maintenance/storage facility; handball and basketball courts; a children's play area with play equipment; sports lighting; landscaping and trees.

The site will also feature grassed seating berms. These will be used by spectators to observe the various sporting activities. They will serve as destination spaces for visitors or simply serve the passive recreational needs of park patrons. Construction will begin in the Fall of 2008. Phase 1 is scheduled to open during the Spring of 2009. This entire section is due to open in the Spring of 2010.

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NEW METRO NORTH STATION

Opening in Spring 2009, the new "Yankee Stadium" Metro North Station will service the Hudson, Harlem-125th Street, and New Haven Lines. The MTA projects that ridership for Yankee home games will range from 6,000 to 12,000 riders. The creation of this station will reduce traffic on local streets, create a convenient transit alternative, expand mass transit for local residents, fans, and visitors, and enhance redevelopment opportunities and revitalization of the area.

The station will be open year-round as a commuter station with hourly service on non-game days, and more frequent service in select peak period travel times. On Yankee home game days, Metro North will provide a combination shuttle train service to/

from the station from Harlem-125th Street and Grand Central Terminal.

In conjunction with this project, the MTA will also build a new ADA compliant pedestrian bridge. This overpass will connect the train station and Macombs Dam Park; it will also provide access to the waterfront park, parking lots and upland areas. Construction on the new Metro North station began in August of 2007. For more information, visit <http://www.mta.info>.



Photo courtesy of the MTA

We're on the
Web!
[www.nyc.gov/
parks](http://www.nyc.gov/parks)

MULLALY PARK RECREATION CENTER

SCAN (Supportive Children's Advocacy Network) New York is the community sponsor for the Mullaly Park Recreation Center. SCAN provides a wide range of cultural arts, education and recreational services to 2,000 South Bronx youth and 200 families. The center hosts a "Reach for the Stars" program for youth ages 12 to 18. This program offers college tours, college prep, and SAT assistance. Their "Violence Prevention" program is for all teens; it provides anger management classes, individual counseling, and group sessions. There is also an afterschool program on site for children ages 11 to 15 (middle school grades 6 through 8), Monday through Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Lastly, the center holds basketball clinics for those

ages 10 to 18, teaching basketball fundamentals from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Mullaly Park Recreation Center is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Sunday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Center houses a stage, a gymnasium, a dance room, a library, a computer room, and a kitchen.

Take the #4, B, or D train to 161st Street. Walk to 164th Street and make a left to Jerome Avenue. You can also take the BX6 or BX13 to 161st Street and River Avenue. Walk two blocks to 164th Street. Make a left and walk one block to Jerome. If you are traveling by car, take the Cross Bronx Expressway to the Jerome Avenue exit, and then drive southbound to 164th and Jerome.

WEST BRONX RECREATION CENTER

The West Bronx Recreation Center has a large multi-purpose gymnasium that is open to park patrons ages 12 years and up for basketball on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday and for volleyball on Thursday. The center is also host to a food pantry every Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The building is open 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. The community-based organization Highbridge Life Center operates this facility. As mentioned earlier in the newsletter, the Center will

soon be home to a new softball/soccer field. The field will be available via permit for organized leagues or special events.

The recreation center is located at 1527 Jesup Avenue, between 172nd Street and the Cross Bronx Expressway. You can take the #4 to Mount Eden, and then walk up to Jesup Avenue. By car, take the Cross Bronx Expressway to Jerome Avenue, then take Jerome Avenue to 172nd Street and turn left onto Jesup.



Click on the heading
"Your Park," then
"Redevelopment Projects," then
finally,
"The Yankee Stadium
Redevelopment Project."



Parks plans to keep the
community informed of the
Yankee Stadium
Redevelopment Project through
issuing this quarterly newsletter,
updating our website, and
meeting with local community
leaders during the course of the
project.

Stay tuned!

MULLALY SKATE PARK

Located at 164th Street between Jerome and River Avenues in the Bronx (two blocks from Yankee Stadium), Mullaly Park is home to the most notable skate park in the five boroughs. Park patrons can practice their sport while also partaking in responsible biking, skateboarding and inline skating. The park is free and has a steep half-pipe, a 6-foot mini, a spine, a 6-foot launch box, and an assortment of quarter pipes (one of which is 10 feet and runs up to the launch box, providing for easy speed).

The hours of operation of the outdoor skate park during the school year are 3:00 p.m. to dusk Monday through Friday and from 1:00 p.m. to dusk on the weekends.

