

**NJDEP Green Acres – Jake’s Law
Borough of Bloomingdale
Playground at Bogue Pond Park
Environmental Impact Assessment**

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

a. Briefly describe the total development project

The Borough of Bloomingdale requests funding to replace the existing playground structure at Bogue Pond Park with a completely inclusive playground. The inclusive playground is a priority for the Borough, and leadership have received a number of requests for the construction of this amenity. The general scope of the project includes the demolition and removal of the existing playground at Bogue Pond Park, as well as the construction of the completely inclusive playground at the same site.

b. State objectives of the project

The project objective is to enhance recreational opportunities for all in the borough of Bloomingdale and surrounding areas through the construction of a completely inclusive playground. This will be achieved via the replacement of the current, non-inclusive playground at Bogue Pond Park with completely inclusive equipment that complies with the New Jersey Administrative Code for Completely Inclusive Playgrounds as highlighted per the NJDEP Green Acres program.

c. Fully describe multi-phase projects

This criterion is not applicable, as this is not a multi-phase project.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Describe existing environmental features:

a. Vegetation

There is no notable vegetation at Bogue Pond Park. The Borough has selected this site to minimize impacts on the environment and will not include the removal of any trees.

b. Wildlife, including State and federal threatened and endangered species and critical habitats

Bogue Pond Park is an established park in a developed suburban area. There are no State and federal threatened endangered species nor critical habitats in the park space. Currently, wildlife primarily consists of small animals such as birds, squirrels, or rabbits.

c. Geology, topography, and soils

The proposed project site topography is generally flat and hosts an existing playground site. Topography is flat and there are no significant geological or soil features of note in or around the project limits.

d. Water resources/hydrology

The proposed project will not disrupt any water resources. Although Bogue Pond Park hosts Bogue Pond, the proposed playground will replace an existing playground site and there will be no impact on the pond. The closest edge of the current playground is approximately 38 feet from the edge of the pond, and the water resource and playground are separated by grass and an established walking path.

e. Historic/archeological resources

There are no historic/archaeological resources in or near the project site per the LUCY mapping tool.

f. Transportation/access to site

Bogue Pond Park is accessible to the public. The park is accessible for pedestrians via the Borough's sidewalk network, and there is street parking available on Sandra Lane adjacent to the park. There are a number of bus stops along the Paterson-Hamburg Turnpike, which is approximately a 15-minute walk to/from the park. Passaic County Route 700 (Glenwild Avenue) runs along the western side of the park, which provides a central transportation line spanning the Borough from north to south.

g. Adjacent land uses/description of the surrounding neighborhood

Bogue Pond Park is located in a developed residential area, and the surrounding neighborhood is primarily composed of private residences. The park is located in the central, eastern area in the Borough, with Passaic County Route 700 (Glenwild Avenue) running along the western side of the park. This central avenue provides a linkage to the rest of the Borough, as well as other small businesses in the area.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED ACTION

Impacts are defined as direct or indirect changes to the existing environment, whether beneficial or adverse, that are anticipated to result from the proposed action or related future actions and uses. Any off-site impacts, such as increased traffic on neighborhood roads or increased noise levels in surrounding areas, should be described. Whenever possible, environmental impacts should be quantified (i.e., number of trees to be removed, cubic yards of cut/fill, etc.).

a. Discuss all affected resources and the significance of each impact

There are no anticipated impacts on any resources through the replacement of the existing playground at Bogue Pond Park. The proposed project would replace an existing facility without expanding the footprint of the space.

b. Discuss short-term and long-term project impacts

Anticipated short-term impacts include soil disturbance during removal and installation of the requested inclusive playground equipment and necessary resurfacing. There are no anticipated long-term project impacts.

c. Discuss anticipated increase in recreation and overall use of site over time

The Borough expects an increase in recreational opportunities at Bogue Pond Park through the expanded access the inclusive equipment will provide. The proposed inclusive

playground will open up access and expand opportunities for all individuals, regardless of ability. This is positive and requested improvement in the Borough, and the Borough hopes that all residents and those visiting from nearby areas will take advantage of using the playground.

d. Identify adjacent environmental features that may be affected by the proposal

The Borough does not anticipate that any adjacent environmental features will be affected by this proposal. Bogue Pond is the nearest environmental feature, and the Borough intends to constrain all construction efforts explicitly within the playground space.

e. List any permits required for project and brief status (i.e., waterfront development)

The project will not require any major permits.

f. For development that would impact an undisturbed portion of the project site, the local government must submit a [Natural Heritage Data Request Form](#) to the DEP's Office of Natural Lands Management (form available at the website or by writing to Natural Heritage Program, PO Box 404, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0404). Please attach and discuss the results of the search.

This criterion is not applicable; the proposed project will not impact any undisturbed portions of the project site as it will replace an existing playground site.

g. Discuss if/how the project may be impacted by sea level rise and any related design considerations.

There is no anticipated impact by sea level rise.

4. ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

a. Identify alternate sites

The Borough has not identified any alternative sites for this project. The Borough has targeted this location due to the need to upgrade the existing facility and reduce environmental impacts on the Borough's open spaces.

b. Discuss alternate levels and types of development

There are no alternate levels and types of development for this project.

c. Compare environmental impacts of each alternative

The Borough has not identified any alternatives for this project. As a result, this criterion is not applicable. There are no environmental impacts anticipated from this project.

5. MITIGATING MEASURES

Describe the measures that will be undertaken to mitigate adverse impacts

The Borough recognizes the importance of undertaking measures to mitigate adverse impacts on the environment and culture around Bogue Park. The proposed project has been a priority for the Borough, and as a result the Borough has reached out for comment on the project to ensure resident feedback has been taken into consideration. To ensure the project

is well designed and adheres to the requirements set forth under Green Acres, the Borough has developed a concept plan and cost estimate to ensure the project is appropriately designed and within budget. The Borough will provide continued maintenance from the Department of Public Works to ensure litter or other debris is addressed, as mirrored in its current operations.

6. AUTHOR(S) AND QUALIFICATIONS

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