





# Thomas A. Edison Park. Fact Sheet: #1

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**The County wants to demolish our park &  
replace it with a money-making scheme!**

## **What is the County planning to do?**

- Demolish Thomas A. Edison Park and destroy 11 acres of parkland woods.
- Replace our park with a money-making Destination Athletic Complex that has 14 synthetic (plastic) fields, a 1,350 space parking lot, a 5,000 seat stadium with a sports bar next to it, and cricket ground on the Middlesex College campus. These facilities will be for rental or fee only.

## **Why don't we know about this?**

- On Nov. 1, 2022, Middlesex County officials announced the finalization of the CIO Plan to demolish the park and build this complex. But they didn't ask for your input, and the Plan is not available to the public.

## **What did the County do?**

- December 2022 - they closed the park to do geotechnical test pits. It has remained closed.
- February 2022 - the Planning Board held a hearing on the 2022 Middlesex County Open Space Plan but *MADE NO MENTION OF THE DESTINATION SPORTS COMPLEX IN THAT PLAN!*
- March 2023 - they held a *single* "Change in Use" hearing as *required* by Green Acres. During this hearing, many residents opposed the Destination Athletic Complex, and nobody spoke for it.
- Summer of 2023, they hired engineering and architectural firms to design the Complex BEFORE they got full approval.
- Went out for bids on the work, and received bids of \$60 million for the work! Before they got Federal Approval.

## **What can we do?**

The Federal Government transferred this property to the County for a park, so the National Park Service must approve any change in the original "*Program of Utilization*".

The National Park Service has determined an **Environmental Assessment** is needed and will include a public comment period. This will be in July 2024.

We have to let them know that *we don't want* our park destroyed and that *we don't need* a destination athletic complex.

To find out more information and help stop the County, contact us at:

[www.edisonopenspaceandparks.com](http://www.edisonopenspaceandparks.com)