# 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 <u>Destination Athletic Complex</u> that has 14 synthetic (plastic) fields, a 1,350 space parking lot, a <u>5,000 seat stadium</u> with a <u>sports bar</u> next to it, <u>and cricket ground</u> 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 <u>CIO</u> <u>Plan</u> to demolish the park and build this complex. But they didn't ask for your input, and the <u>Plan</u> 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 <u>Destination Athletic</u> <u>Complex</u>, and nobody spoke for it.
- Summer of 2023, they hired engineering and architectural firms to design the Complex BEFORE they got full 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. But has not yet set a date.

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:

