



Recreation Acquisition & Development Grant Program 2022 Grant Application for Recreation Development Grants

Please see the 2022 Grant Instruction Sheet and enter the information in the spaces provided

PART A: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Municipality:** Town of East Greenwich
2. **Project Name:** Academy Field Pickleball Courts
3. **Address of property to be developed:** 102 Church St, East Greenwich RI 02818
4. **Map and Lot:** 85-1-297
5. **Grant Category:** Check one below:
 - Small Recreation Development Projects up to \$100,000 (20% match)**
 - Large Recreation Development Projects \$100,001 to \$400,000 (20% match)**
- Has a separate application for an associated acquisition project been submitted?
Yes No
6. **Grant Amount Requested:** \$100,000.00
7. **Does the Municipality own the property?** Yes No
8. **Authorized Government Official Name & Email:** Andrew E. Nota,
anota@eastgreenwichri.com
9. **Name of Contact:** Andrew Wade
10. **Title of Contact:** Community Services Director
11. **Email of Contact:** awade@eastgreenwichri.com
12. **Telephone: of Contact:** 401-886-8350
13. **Address of Contact:** 125 Main Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818
14. **Municipal FEIN #:** 05-6000122
15. **Project Target Dates: Start:** 7/15/22 **Finish:** 7/15/2023

16. Project Summary: (Please be concise. Clearly state the problem, how the project will address the problem, how the budget will support the project and what the feasibility is for project completion.)

Academy Field is nestled inside the historic Hill & Harbor District of East Greenwich, sitting on a parcel of land that formerly was the site of the East Greenwich Academy. The Swift Community Center (formerly Swift Gym) operates as the Town’s Senior Center as well as serving as the hub for many programmatic offerings through our Recreation Division. Currently Academy Field offers a youth baseball field, multi-purpose playfield, a playground, and two basketball courts. Our proposal is the addition of two (2) pickleball courts with a small shade shelter with seating. Also, an ADA pathway will be installed to the adjacent parking lot which will see the addition of one handicap parking space. Pickleball has become a very popular activity, especially with those 50 years and older. The courts will provide members of our Senior Center a place to congregate and play pickleball through program offerings as well as the ability to use the courts on their own time on a first come first served basis. Additionally, pickleball has been a popular program offered through our Recreation Division. The Recreation Division routinely offers instructional programs for all ages, as well as evening leagues indoor through the winter. With the growing popularity of the sport both locally and nationally, we have seen an increased demand for courts in town, putting pressure on our tennis courts and limiting play for tennis players as our existing courts are the only space that those seeking to play pickleball can easily visit the park and play currently. At Academy Field, pickleball lines have been painted on our basketball courts. The Senior Center offers a weekly pickleball program from May through October in this space currently, but it requires nets to be set up and taken down to accommodate play. Use of this space for pickleball limits the use of the basketball courts during this time as the two activities cannot function simultaneously. The addition of the proposed project will benefit those who attend the Senior Center, participants in our recreation programs, and the general public.

17. Please list the new facilities that will be developed and/or the existing facilities that will be renovated for the proposed Recreation Development project. Expand the table as needed.

1	Proposed Scope of Work (Include number of items, square footage, dimensions, etc.)	New facility or existing facility to be renovated?	Is the new or renovated facility replacing an existing recreational resource? If yes, provide the rationale for eliminating the existing resource.	Timeline (Start & Finish)
2	Installation of 2 Pickleball Courts	New	No	6 months
3	Installation of Shade Structure	New	No	1 month
4	ADA Walkway to Access Road	New	No	1 month
5	Benches and Trash Receptacles	New	No	1 month
6	Addition of Designated Handicap Parking Space	New	No	1 month

18. Site Maintenance History for any proposed renovations:

Document below how any existing facility(s) proposed for renovation in Question #17 has been maintained consistent with industry standards. Expand the table as needed.

Approximate Date or Annual Schedule or Frequency	Maintenance performed on proposed renovation
Annual Schedule for Park	General Maintenance is performed on a weekly basis by Parks staff. Litter/trash removal, field maintenance, and mowing. Field is irrigated regularly during the growing season.
Basketball Court Surfacing	Court has been routinely resurfaced and cracks filled as needed. Court was crack filled and color coated in 2012 and 2016.
Ball Field	Field is routinely maintained. Infield mix added yearly, edged, raked and groomed regularly. Field is part of our annual fertilization program including fall seeding and aeration, fertilizer applications 4 times per year.
Playground	Annual inspections are completed to ensure the playground meets safety requirements. Playground surfacing is replenished bi-annually or as needed.

19. Public Participation Requirement:

Hold at least one public meeting or hearing with proper public notice no more than 6 months prior to grant submission.

- **Enter date(s) of public meeting or hearing:** 11/22/2021
- **Is a copy of the agenda and meeting/hearing minutes attached?** Yes No

20. Municipal Approval Requirement:

Hold at least one meeting of the City/Town Council with proper public to authorize the submission of the grant application and the municipality's matching contribution. Submit documentation such as an official City/Town Council letter, meeting minutes or a resolution.

- **Enter date(s) of City/Town council meeting:** 11/22/2021
- **Is a copy of a resolution or meeting minutes attached?** Yes No

21. Fees:

Are fees currently charged or proposed for this facility? Yes No

If yes, are fees in compliance with the Fee Policy? (See Instructions) Yes No

Is a copy of the fee schedule attached? Yes No

If not in compliance, explain here: [Click here to enter text.](#)

22. Permit Requirements:

Please list all anticipated state permits required for the project and their application status (including date to be submitted/date submitted, file #, pending/approved):

No State Permits are anticipated for proposed scope of work.

23. By checking the box below, the person filling out this application certifies that he or she is authorized to sign this application on behalf of the applicant/municipality and, if awarded a grant, the municipality will comply with the following program requirements:

- **Diligently manage and execute the grant to complete the project to the specifications described in this application within the project period and budget.**
- **Operate and properly maintain all public-use facilities developed pursuant to the project.**
- **Not discriminate in the availability and usage of any public facilities developed pursuant to the project.**
- **Record a Notice of Grant Agreement on the project land area that permanently restricts it to outdoor recreational use.**

✓ Name and Title of Authorized Governmental Official: Andrew E. Nota, Town Manager

Date: 12/6/2021

PART B: PRIORITY RATING SYSTEM QUESTIONS FOR RECREATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Be concise. If you are referencing reports and documents that are available on the internet, provide links to access them instead of copying the full report in the application or as an attachment.

1. Relationship to Need (10 Points):

Points will be awarded based on the need and/or demand for the proposed recreational activity in the area.

Academy Field is home to the Swift Community Center, which serves as the main hub of Senior Services and municipal Recreation programs services to East Greenwich residents. Currently, the Town does not have any stand-alone facilities to play pickleball, rather there are spaces such as the basketball courts at Academy Field that have Pickleball lines painted on them, creating a shared space for two sports. In recent years the Senior Center operates weekly pickleball programs on these courts, growing in popularity each year. However, each time the courts are used, nets are brought out, setup and taken down to support the program. The addition of these standalone courts would provide the seniors and the public a designated place to congregate and play at

any time. Additionally, our Senior program will be given the opportunity to expand with the addition of these courts.

2. State Planning Consistency (10 Points):

The project satisfies priority needs documented in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and any other State Guide Plan elements identified as applicable by the RRRRC. Points will be awarded based on the number and/or importance of recommended actions supported by the proposal.

The proposed enhancements to Academy Field meet elements of Goals identified in the current [SCORP](#). Specifically, the following goals can be cited are as follows:

**Goal 1 Strengthen connections between health and outdoor recreation. In our culture, we are amid a health crisis of our own making, which results from chronic inactivity. One of the best available cures is outdoor recreation but sadly many people either do not or cannot take advantage of outdoor facilities. Strengthening the connection between health and outdoor recreation, raises awareness of this issue and improves the likelihood of good healthful behaviors. - Pickleball courts provide access to additional outdoor recreation for individuals of all ages.* *

**Goal 1.1.C "Provide upgrades and creative designs that support use and access by people of all fitness and ability levels" Installation of the ADA access to the courts provides access and use of the pickleball courts to individuals of all fitness and ability levels.*

** Goal 1.1.D "Ensure outdoor recreation facility users have access to shade and sunscreen" The addition of the shade shelter provides a shaded area for park goers to sit or stand out of the direct sunlight.*

3. Relationship to Community Planning (5 Points):

The project advances elements of a larger community planning process.

In the Town's [Comprehensive Plan](#), the need for community parks such as Academy has been identified. "**Community Park Play field.** *The play field provides varied forms of recreation activities for young people and adults, although a section may be developed as a children's playground. It provides space for popular forms of recreation that require more area than would be available in the playground and serves as a recreation center for several neighborhoods. A portion of a play field should be developed as an athletic field for highly organized team sports. The play field should provide most of the following features: area for game courts, including tennis, volleyball, handball, basketball, horse shoes, shuffleboard, and other games; sports fields for women and men for such games as softball, baseball, football, and soccer; and open turf lawn including picnic areas, landscaped park, and children's play areas.*" This grant application is seeking to enhance the property to continue to serve the public offering a variety of recreational amenities, serving a wide cross section of its population.

4. Applicant Priority (0-5 Points):

The applicant's highest priority application will receive 5 points, the applicant's second highest priority application will receive 3 points, and the applicant's third highest priority application will receive 1 point. All other applications will receive 0 points.

This is the only Grant Submission in the Small Grant category. This project is the Town's highest priority in this category.

5. Multi- community or Regional Needs (3 Points):

The project demonstrates how it will address multi- community or regional needs.

Academy Field currently serves residents of East Greenwich as well as our neighboring communities of Warwick, West Warwick, and North Kingstown through the Senior Center location onsite, inside the Swift Community Center. Participants in Senior Programs travel to the site to take advantage of the programs offered such as Pickleball as well as the meal site and other community services. Additionally, Academy Field also hosts several large-scale public events (vendor markets, festivals, and concerts) as well as the youth sport leagues such as Little League and youth soccer.

6. Economic Revitalization (5 Points):

The project will improve the economy of an area. Examples can include projects that spur local business activity, tourism, job creation, town center redevelopment, etc.

NA

7. Historic & Cultural Preservation (5 Points):

Projects that protect and restore historic and cultural resources, educate the public about the importance of these resources via interpretive signage, etc.

NA

8. Habitat Creation & Restoration (5 Points):

Projects that create and/or substantially restore areas of wildlife habitat.

This project does not create or restore a wildlife habitat.

9. Brownfield Redevelopment (3 Points):

The project involves the redevelopment of a brownfield as defined by DEM Remediation Regulations.

This project is not defined as a Brownfield Redevelopment.

10. Connectivity (3 Points):

The project creates a connection between two existing recreational resources or from a population center to a recreational resource.

NA.

11. Maintenance (0 to -5 Points)

The applicant has documented that the facility proposed for renovation has been maintained consistent with industry standards.

The Town of East Greenwich's Parks Department has successfully maintained Academy Field for years. Routinely maintaining the athletic surface through an annual seeding and fertilization

program, performing weekly maintenance needs of mowing the grass, litter and trash removal, and grooming the ballfield's infield. The athletic fields are properly irrigated and watered through the growing season from May through September. The existing basketball courts have been properly maintained by filling cracks, color coating, and seal coating on a regular basis. (2012 & 2016).

12. Equity, Service, and Accessibility (15 Points – 5 Points Each for A, B & C):

The project will expand the recreational opportunities available to disadvantaged segments of the population.

A) The project is located within or provides enhanced service to neighborhoods in which low income and/or minority residents are over-represented. (5 Points):

As described in the [Town's Comprehensive Plan](#), Academy Field is located in urbanized sections of East Greenwich that are designed to provide for medium to high-density residential development within Town. This particular section of Town known as the EG Downtown Historic District consists of a mix of upper, middle and lower-income households with the Town's multi-family housing as a type of housing use concentrated here. The Hill & Harbor (Downtown) Historic District is home to nearly half of the Town's renter occupied dwelling units. This concentration is important because tenure type seems to associate certain benefits with owner-occupied property (like neighborhood stability and better property maintenance). Some of the rental properties have suffered from long-term neglect. The housing in this area is quite old, with roughly 58 percent of all units being built before 1940.

Additionally, within a half mile radius of the proposed project the Town's Housing Authority operates, maintains or manages low- and moderate-income housing at the following locations:

Affordable Housing Units in Vicinity of Academy Field

Population	Name	Type	Tenure	Address	# of Units
Elderly	Regal Court	RIH Elderly	Rental	33 Long Street	35
Elderly	Shoreside Apts	HUD Section 8	Rental	300 Sixth Avenue	106
Family	Cove Homes	RIH Family	Rental	1 Crop Street	4
Family	Dedford Farms	Public Housing	Rental	146 First Avenue	12
Family	Duke Street	RIH Family	Rental	111 Duke Street	4
Family	Duke Street	RIH Family	Rental	153 Duke Street	3
Family	Marlborough Street	RIH Family	Rental	41 Marlborough Street	5
Family	Marlborough Crossing	Public Housing	Rental	145, 165 Duke Street	16
Family	Villages on Vine	Other-Family	Homeownership	620 Main Street	2
Family	Cottages on Greene	Other-Family	Homeownership	48 Greene Street	2
					189

B) The project is in a densely populated neighborhood or a neighborhood identified for revitalization by State or community programs. (5 Points):

Academy Field is located in urbanized sections of East Greenwich that are designed to provide for medium to high-density residential development within Town. This particular section of

Town known as the EG Downtown Historic District consists of a mix of upper, middle and lower-income families, with the Town's multi-family housing as a type of housing use concentrated here. The Hill & Harbor (Downtown) Historic District is home to nearly half of the Town's renter occupied dwelling units. This concentration is important because tenure type seems to associate certain benefits with owner-occupied property (like neighborhood stability and better property maintenance). Some of the rental properties have suffered from long-term neglect. The housing in this area is quite old, with roughly 58 percent of all units being built before 1940. The Town of East Greenwich had a long-term program of rehabilitation that was successful for more than 20 years, but was phased out in 2018. The Community Development Block Grant Program assisted homeowners with repair of peeling paint, failing roofs, and windows which were no longer operable. The Town's rehab program received funds annually from the CDBG program and had also received lead paint abatement funds, HUD HOME funds and other state and federal assistance to continue to maintain the quality of the housing stock. Considering that the CDBG funds are no longer available to those residents in need, particularly to those of a disadvantaged population, it makes it that much harder to properly maintain an aging residence.

C) The project is served by public transportation (within ¼ mile of a bus stop) or is proximate to a bikeway. (5 Points):

RIPTA Bus Route 14 stops at Main St after Church St is within a ¼ mile of the park.

13. Expanded Usage (7 Points):

The project adds to the number of recreational amenities or hours of usage (e.g. additional fields are added to a facility or lights are added so it can be used at night).

The proposed upgrades to Academy Field introduce elements that expand the current recreational amenities offered onsite. The pickleball courts will serve as a dedicated place in the park for their associated activity which is not currently present. Members of the Senior Center will have access to the courts through programs offered at the Center or for use anytime as a member of the public.

14. Multiple Uses (5 Points):

The project appropriately integrates a variety of recreational opportunities providing activities for a mix of age groups and degrees of physical abilities.

The addendum of pickleball courts to Academy Field adds an additional recreation opportunity to the park that offers multiple uses to patrons. Currently the park provides a playground, baseball field, multi-purpose playfield, picnic tables, and basketball courts.

15. Improved User Comfort or Safety (5 Points):

The project provides for the addition of bathrooms, fencing to separate recreational activities, benches, shade trees, shelters over picnic tables, etc.

The addendum of the shade structure will provide additional shaded protection from the sun for park users. Picnic tables will be installed under the pavilion to provide for seating in the shade.

16. Opportunities for physically or mentally challenged individuals (5 Points):

The project provides activity or amenity features that expand the recreational opportunities for physically or mentally challenged individuals (such features to be in excess of normally mandated barrier-free accessibility standards).

NA

17. Green Building and Site Design (3 Points):

The project incorporates green building and site design/LEED/SITES features (water or energy conservation, recycled materials, provisions for renewable energy, etc.)

NA

18. Climate Change and Resiliency (3 Points):

The project incorporates innovative ways to account for impacts associated with climate change such as site/landscape construction to provide adaptations for sea level rise, shade, storm buffers, stormwater infiltration, etc.

NA

19. Exceptional Features (3 Points):

The project has special features not noted elsewhere in the application. For example, promotes arts, supports healthy aging, special programming, includes acquisition of land, etc.

NA

BUDGET SHEET FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Note: Double click on the table below to open it and enter information, then click outside the table to close it.

Estimate of Recreation Development project costs and funding sources						
Instructions: Complete unshaded areas below. Enter itemized elements in the Description column and estimated costs in Column A, then enter proposed funding sources in Columns B thru F. Box (I) must equal at least the amount in Box (H). Modify the table as needed. Double click on the table to open it and enter information, then click outside the table to close it.						
DESCRIPTION	TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS (A)	PROPOSED FUNDING SOURCES (B - F)				
		GRANT	MATCHING SOURCES			
		DEM Recreation Grant (B)	Local Appropriation (C)	Local In-Kind Services & Equipment (D)	Other Funding (Specify) (E):	Other Funding (Specify) (F):
<i>Planning:</i>						
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Design & Engineering:</i>						
	\$17,640.00	\$0.00	\$17,640.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Permit Plans & Fees:</i>						
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Site Preparation/Demolition: (Grading, etc.)</i>						
	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>New Construction: (Installation, etc.)</i>						
Courts	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shade Structure	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Renovation Construction: (Removal & installation, etc.)</i>						
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>New Equipment & Materials: (Playground equipment, etc.)</i>						
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Hardscape: (Pavement, walkways, parking, fencing, etc.)</i>						
Walkways	\$11,600.00	\$0.00	\$11,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

<i>Landscaping: (Plantings, etc.)</i>						
Lawn, Plantings	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Site Amenities: (Benches, tables, bike racks, trash receptacles, etc.)</i>						
Benches	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Signage:</i>						
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Other: (Lighting, electrical, etc.)</i>						
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals	\$129,240.00	\$100,000.00	\$29,240.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	20% Minimum Match Required for DEM Grant* (H)	\$25,000.00				
	Total Proposed Match from Columns C - F Above (I)	\$29,240.00				
Total Project Cost		\$129,240.00				
*20% Minimum Match Calculation: (grant amount ÷ 0.8) – grant amount - Minimum Required Match						