

## Rochester, Jacqueline

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**From:** Bilella, AnnaMarie  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 8, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** minutesandagendas  
**Cc:** Pierce, Steve; Macken, John; Kendra, Jennifer; Guglielmo, Joseph  
**Subject:** P&R Commission - CORRESPONDENCE #1 to Be Posted

Please post along with the Sept 14th P&R Commission agenda.

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**From:** Vanderslice, Lynne  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 14, 2022 5:48 PM  
**To:** ParkRecCommMailingList  
**Subject:** Playground Information and Other

Hi All,

I watched the video of your meeting and wanted to provide you with information related to the New Canaan playground project mentioned at the meeting.

As part of the FY2023 budget process, New Canaan approved \$455,000 in bonding for a recreational area at Waveny that includes two playgrounds, younger and older and an adult all-abilities fitness area. The large base for all three will be a poured rubber floor. You can see a rendering within this newspaper article:

<https://newcanaanite.com/parks-officials-propose-childrens-playground-area-at-waveny-4982821>



### Parks Officials Propose Children's Playground Area at Waveny &nbsp; | NewCanaanite.com

newcanaanite.com

Parks officials on Wednesday voted in favor of requesting funds for next fiscal year to update the fitness area at Waveny while also creating a children's playground area. Located just below the main road through Waveny, next to the parking lot that serves the "Orchard Field" softball diamond, the all-abilities fitness station has equipment that [...]



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As Steve shared last night, the cost of the poured rubber floor can often equal the cost of the play equipment itself. In late 2017, New Canaan purchased equipment for two playgrounds at Mead Park, younger and

older. Residents who wanted the older playground to be accessible with a poured rubber floor raised \$167,000 of donated monies for the cost of the floor. The Town paid \$190,000 for the larger playground equipment and related costs.

The two playgrounds built as part of the Miller Driscoll renovations cost +/- \$300,000. One is a smaller ADA playground with both poured rubber and woodchips. The other, larger playground is woodchips only. The timeframe was similar to Mead Park.

Poured rubber flooring is not an option for the playground at Merwin Meadows because of the proximity of run off to the Norwalk River.

We are fortunate we received the \$5.4 million in ARPA funds and had budget savings, primarily due to employee cost savings, that allowed the BOS to build the \$1.2 million Infrastructure funds, which made the funding possible for the playground and the drainage/irrigation work. Otherwise, those project would have had to been prioritized into a 5-year capital plan, which already is expected to result in a total of \$40 million in requests over a three-year period.

This includes the \$19.4 million in bonded projects presented and approved at the May Annual Town Meeting. Another \$10 million that may be requested at the May 2023 ATM-approximately \$8 million in projects on the 5-year capital plan, see link below, and up to \$2 million for the third turf field. Another \$10 million that may be requested at the May 2024 ATM-\$5.3 million on the 5-year capital plan, plus \$4 million for renovations to WHS and Middlebrook, plus \$800,000 in renovations for the yellow house at Ambler Farm.

The 174-unit apartment building at 141 Danbury Road, for which work has started, is estimated to generate \$900,000 in annual property taxes. Unfortunately, the construction lags the increase in debt service for the projects approved at this year's town meeting. Another potential project at the School Sisters of Notre Dame property could generate \$1.2 to \$1.9 million in annual property taxes depending on its size. But again, that would also lag debt service increases related to the \$40 million. More information is available on this link to a presentation I made to the BOS on Tuesday. [https://www.wiltonct.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf4046/f/agendas/bof\\_mtg-7-12-22-website.pdf](https://www.wiltonct.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf4046/f/agendas/bof_mtg-7-12-22-website.pdf)

I hope you find this information useful during your discussions in August and as general background info.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the town.

Lynne

FY2023 5-year capital plan:

[https://www.wiltonct.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf4046/f/uploads/fy23\\_bonded\\_capital\\_-4-6-22-website.pdf](https://www.wiltonct.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf4046/f/uploads/fy23_bonded_capital_-4-6-22-website.pdf)

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