

## **SKATE PARK INTRODUCED BY FORMER ISLIP COUNCILMAN CHRIS BODKIN BACK APPROX 2007, BOND ?**

**SKATE PARK WAS REVISITED BY FORMER DEMOCRAT SUPERVISOR NOLAN, THE BOND TAKEN FOR IMPROVEMENTS WAS TAKEN OUT FOR IT, PUSHED ASIDE WHEN CROCI/CARPENTER TOOK OVER.....**

**ISLIP SUPERVISOR HID THE BOND TO BE USED AND NOW IS TRYING TO GIVE THE BOND BACK SO SHE CAN SAY IT WAS HER IDEA! VERY SAD.....**

LONG ISLAND **SUFFOLK**

## **Skate Park planned at Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood**

Credit: Newsday / Valerie Bauman

By Valerie Bauman [valerie.bauman@newsday.com](mailto:valerie.bauman@newsday.com) **February 28, 2018**

Islip Supervisor Angie Carpenter said this week that the town will build a skate park at Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood.

The announcement coincided with a demonstration from more than a dozen skateboarders who came from Brentwood to the town board meeting Tuesday to demand a place where youth could skate.

"You will have your skate park," Carpenter said, drawing cheers from the advocates.

The young adults, all in their 20s or early 30s, spoke out about the informal mentoring that happens between skateboarders when they have a spot to practice, and the sense of community the sport fosters while keeping youth off the streets.

"The youth need to know that you guys support them and aren't just leaving them out on the streets," said Francisco Bolanos, 24, of Central Islip. "We are very excited to know that the park is in motion."

The skateboarders said that the sport has been a positive force in their lives.

"Skateboarding is where I found one of the most supportive groups because whether you bail on a trick or you land it, people will still root you on," said Christian Simon, 29, of Brentwood.

Parents also spoke out in favor of a skate park, saying that it could play a role in changing Brentwood's image, which has been tarnished by gang-related crime.

"I want to be able to take my son to a place where we can bond and ride that bicycle or skateboard," said Kerrin Rodriguez, of Brentwood. "We need Brentwood to become a better place than what it's portrayed as. There's got to be more of us than there are the ones who are ruining it for the rest of us."

Town officials said they have funding set aside for the project but have not yet finalized details for where exactly the new facility would go, or when work would begin.

"The sooner the better," Carpenter said after the meeting. "I'm very excited about it . . . I think it's important for kids in every community to have a safe place to go."

Carpenter said she and town officials have been working behind the scenes on the project, even visiting a skate park in Northport for research. She said she likes the idea of creating an outdoor space that will help kids stay active and engaged in positive pastimes.

"I think it's going to be a unifier for the community," she said.

Advocates said that's all they've been asking for since first appearing at a town hall meeting in last July.

"You're seeing gangs and violent activity (in Brentwood), and I feel like if we had more positive places for younger kids to go to, we could take back our children," said Jessica Jones, a lead organizer calling for the skate park. "Instead of being bored and hanging out in the street, go out and exercise, learn how to skate. That's the goal . . . to give the kids in this town something positive to do."

## Contracts propel Brentwood skate, spray parks forward

Town of Islip Supervisor Angie Carpenter last fall peeks into the site of a new spray park at Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood. Credit: Daniel Goodrich

By Antonio Planas [antonio.planas@newsday.com](mailto:antonio.planas@newsday.com) **January 20, 2019**

**Islip officials approved contracts worth more than \$246,000 for a Long Island company to design spray and skate parks at Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood.**

**Council members on Jan. 15 voted to approve a \$148,800 contract with Nelson and Pope Engineers and Surveyors of Melville for the design of the spray park. Also, board members**

**voted at the Dec. 18 meeting to approve a \$97,600 proposal to hire Nelson & Pope to design the skate park.**

Islip spokeswoman Caroline Smith said in an email the skate park project is only in the "very early stages" and no dates have been determined for when construction will begin or when the park will be completed.

Town Supervisor Angie Carpenter and town officials have met with the skating community and will continue to do so to gather input, Smith said. Town officials will also eventually select a company to construct the skate park, Smith said.

Carpenter said a little-used parking lot on the east side of the park that is visible from the road will be converted into a skating area.

Jessica Jones, who was among a group of young advocates who successfully lobbied for the skate park, said building it will provide a big lift for Brentwood residents.

"That area, the southeast side of Brentwood, has seen a lot of negative energy and a lot of violence," she said. "When kids have nothing to do, that's when they get in trouble."

Children and young adults skating together will impact their lives, Jones said.

"It's a very supportive community, and we need more of that. You learn these good habits as a kid, and you will carry them on later in life as an adult."

Islip councilmembers last September awarded a contract to build the \$2.4 million spray park next to the Olympic-size pool at the Brentwood park.

The 7,100-square-foot spray park will boast 30 water features, including its own filtration system. It will be accessible for people with disabilities and for people of all ages, officials said.

Norberto Construction Inc., based in Commack, won the contract to build the park modeled after the Shipwreck Cove in Bay Shore. Assemb. Phil Ramos (D-Brentwood) secured \$2 million in state funding for the park. Islip will pick up the remainder of the tab, officials said.

Representatives with Norberto Construction Inc. have said the spray park will be completed by the spring.



CARPENTER | 2023  
ISLIP TOWN SUPERVISOR

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## ISLIP SEEKS FUNDS FOR SKATE PARK

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FROM NEWSDAY

The Islip Town Board voted 5-0 to apply for state funding for the construction of a skate park at Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood. The town is seeking a State and Municipal Facilities Program Grant of \$250,000 from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York. Town capital funding of \$196,000 will also be used to build the skate park, according to the resolution.

A \$97,600 proposal to hire Nelson & Pope Engineers and Surveyors, of Melville, to design the skate park was approved in December. A little-used parking lot on the east side of the park that is visible from the road will be converted into the skating area, town officials have said.

No dates have been determined for when construction will begin or when the park will be completed. Town officials will also eventually select a company to construct the skate park.

### ISLIP TOWN

# Islip Town skate park in the works

***Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood to house space for skaters***

**A sign outside the southwest side of the proposed Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood. A completion date has not yet been established by the town.**

IB/NALEPINSKI

Posted Wednesday, **February 17, 2021** 9:36 pm

**Kate Nalepinski**

Ramps, steps, rails and approximately 7,000 square feet of space to skate.

It'll all be part of the new skate park coming to Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood, according to Islip Town Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs deputy commissioner Deirdre Wahlberg.

"We know that parents are currently traveling to other townships [so their children can skate]," Wahlberg said in an email. "We're excited to soon be able to provide a creative and safe skating experience, right here in the Town of Islip."

The proposed 12,000-square-foot neighborhood skate park will be located on the southwest side of Roberto Clemente Park on Broadway Avenue, formally known as Timberline Park. Plans call for a "plaza-style" design, Wahlberg said, which traditionally includes equipment like ramps, steps, rails and more.

The effort to construct a skate park in Islip Town has been in the works for a "number of years," Wahlberg said. Supervisor Angie Carpenter and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs commissioner Thomas Owens met with interested Islip residents in March 2018 after they had addressed the town board.

**(SKATE PARK WAS ORIGINALLY INTRODUCED BACK IN APPROX 2007 BY FORMER COUNCILMAN CHRIS BODKIN.)**

It got the gears in motion. By January 2019, the town hosted a design kickoff meeting for the park.

**The new skate park is being funded in part through a \$250,000 state and municipal grant secured by New York State assemblyman Phil Ramos from Dormitory Authority of the State of New York for Islip Town.**

Wahlberg said she could not yet provide the total or estimated cost of the project since it has not yet gone out to public bid for construction. For the same reason, she said the town does not have an expected completion date for the project. The project has "tremendous benefits" for the community, Wahlberg said.

"For one, it allows our youth to use their energy in a positive direction and creates camaraderie," she said. "It also provides a safe, designated environment, away from vehicles in the roadway, where youth can be active and creative."

In November 2020, a group of Islip School District students – Jackson Doring, Luke Smith and Nate James – formed a petition in an effort to construct a skate park in Islip Town. The petition, directed to the Town of Islip, gained over 500 signatures.

However, the skate park was already in the works prior to the petition. Back in 2018, a different group of Long Islanders addressed the town board to request a skate park.

This was news to 12-year-old Jackson, who had grown used to the 16-mile trek from his Islip home to Tanner Park in Copiague, or the roughly 18-mile car ride to Veterans Park Skate Park in East Northport.

When he discovered the skate park was coming to Brentwood, his initial reaction was an ear-to-ear grin. Then, the surprise hit him.

"I was like, 'Is this really happening? Where? When? What?'" Jackson recalled. "One hundred percent, I'm going to use it."

Jackson added that he and his friends were interested in reviewing the park layout to ensure the design allows for optimal usage.

"A lot of parks were made by non-skaters, and those parks have no flow – you can't cruise around," he said. "They have good obstacles, but you need to stop throughout."

When Jackson's mother, Suelyn Doring, told her son about the park, he said he hopes that residents will respect the new space. "They know that people can vandalize it, and they want the community to take care of it," Suelyn said.

## **\$450G secured for skate park at Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood**

The future site of a skate park at Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood, seen on March 8. Credit: Barry Sloan

**By Brinley Hineman**[brinley.hineman@newsday.com](mailto:brinley.hineman@newsday.com) Updated June 16, 2022 3:48 pm

Islip Town officials have secured \$450,000 in state funding that will make way for plans to build a long-awaited skate park at Roberto Clemente Park in Brentwood, town officials said.

The money from the state capital funding for the skate park, which is now estimated to cost about \$1 million, was secured by Assemb. Philip Ramos (D-Brentwood). The town had already budgeted more than \$600,000 for the park but faced a funding gap as a result of higher costs for labor and materials caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

Islip Supervisor Angie Carpenter in 2018 announced plans for the skate park after residents, particularly young people, demanded a place where youth could skate, saying it could play a role in changing Brentwood's image, which has been tarnished by gang-related crime. Hamlet residents have largely been supportive of the skate park — which will be the only one in Islip Town and will be located in the southwest portion of Roberto Clemente Park.

No dates have been determined for when construction will begin, but it could be completed this year, Carpenter told Newsday on Wednesday. She had previously said the town board will need to approve design contracts.

Roberto Clemente Park, the site of illegal dumping in 2013 and 2014, was shuttered for more than three years as crews removed tons of hazardous construction waste. The state

attorney general's office in 2017 filed a federal lawsuit against companies involved in the illegal dumping.

State Attorney General Letitia James in May 2021 announced eight companies would pay \$627,000 for the contamination of multiple parks in Brentwood. The settlement was earmarked for park enhancements, but the town has not yet received approval from the attorney general's office to use the funds.

Brentwood students have been a driving force behind the proposed skate park, Ramos told Newsday.

Alberto Melgar, a Brentwood High School senior, garnered 1,100 signatures for a petition in support of the park. As a representative of the National Honor Society, Melgar, 18, attended the attorney general's office meetings related to the park, which, he said, enabled him to discuss the skate park with his peers and stakeholders.

"I have a lot of friends who skate, and I think it's something that I wanted to do for my friends and for everyone," he told Newsday on Wednesday, adding that while he doesn't skate, he plans to skate at the new park.

Roberto Clemente Park in recent years has received some \$13 million in improvements, including a \$2 million splash park and a revamped pool. The skate park will be the latest addition at the facility.

The skate park is a key focus of the newly formed District 1 Youth Advisory Board, composed of local high school and college students who hope to engage town officials on issues important to them.

"This skatepark is more than just a place where kids skate. It's a spot where dreams can be talked about, where lifelong friendships can be created, and serves as a memory for the lives taken way too early," the youth board said in a news release on Wednesday.

**By Brinley Hineman**

[brinley.hineman@newsday.com](mailto:brinley.hineman@newsday.com)



July 21, 2020

**MEMORANDUM FROM:  
OFFICE OF THE TOWN ATTORNEY**

No. 21

TO: SUPERVISOR ANGIE M. CARPENTER  
COUNCILWOMAN TRISH BERGIN WEICHBRODT  
COUNCILMAN JOHN C. COCHRANE, JR.  
COUNCILWOMAN MARY KATE MULLEN  
COUNCILMAN JAMES P. O'CONNOR

FROM: JOHN R. DICIOCCIO, TOWN ATTORNEY

RE: TOWN BOARD DISCUSSION AGENDA

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Consideration to **refund** the Public Improvement Serial Bonds currently outstanding in the principal amount of **\$6,735,000** issued on September 8, 2010.

FOR INCLUSION ON THE TOWN BOARD DISCUSSION AGENDA.

SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, OR IF YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE ATTACHED, PLEASE CONTACT:

**Joseph Ludwig**

IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS, PLEASE ADVISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

enclosure:

cc: OLGA H. MURRAY, TOWN CLERK  
JOSEPH LUDWIG, COMPTROLLER  
TRACEY KRUT, CHIEF OF STAFF



EXHIBIT B  
PERIODS OF PROBABLE USEFULNESS  
(2010 Bonds)

<u>Purpose</u>	Period of Probable Usefulness (Years)
Various Improvements to Town Facilities	10
Paving of Roads	15
★ Construction of Drainage Improvements	40
Construction of a Spray Park at Bay Shore Marina	15
★ Improvements to the Town Landfill	20
Pathways and Parking Areas in Town Parks	10
★ Acquisition and Installation Playground Equipment	15
★ Improvements to Town Facilities	15
Construction of Improvements to Traffic Signs	10
★ Road Safety and Traffic Calming Improvements	15
★ Acquisition of Heavy Vehicles	15
Acquisition of Patrol Boat	10
Sidewalk Improvements	10
★ Acquisition of Backhoe for Marina	15
★ Ballfields and Fencing Improvements	15
Paving of Roads	15
Skatepark Improvements	15
★ Intersection Improvements	15
★ Heavy Vehicles and Equipment for Code Enforcement	15
★ Marinas and Bulkheads	20
Various Capital Improvements - 5 Years	5
Various Capital Improvements - 3 Years	3

**Then there had to be a bond for a skate park!**

**SURPRISE WE DON'T HAVE ONE!**  
**NEVER DID, SO HOW'D**  
**THEY SCAM A BOND FOR ONE**