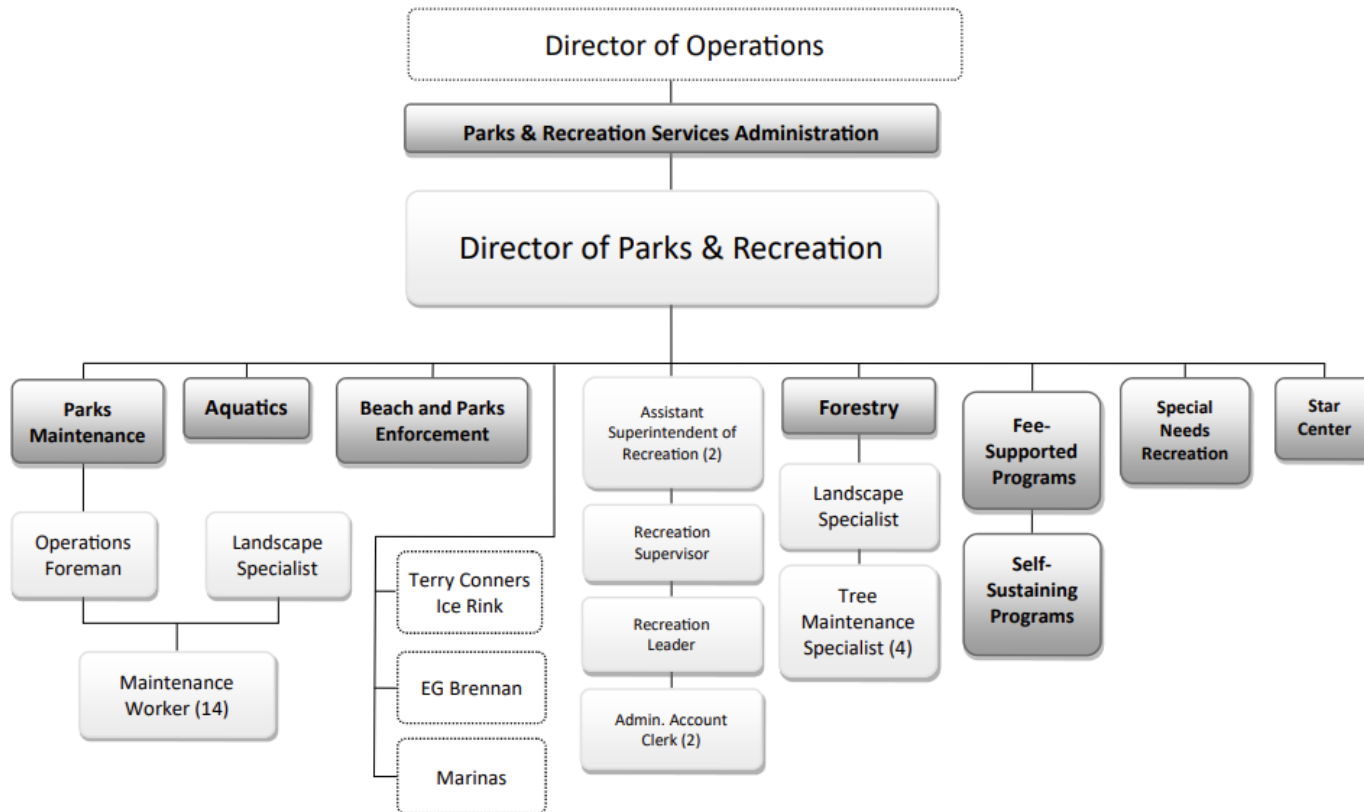


CITY OF STAMFORD  
Parks & Recreation

Kevin Murray  
Director of Parks &  
Recreation  
3/18/2025



# City of Stamford Office of Operations Parks & Recreation



\*Subsidized Programs Absorbed by Special Events

## *Staffing/Budget Updates*

- **Staffing Updates-** Parks Department, Recreation Services, Forestry, Marinas, and Beaches & Parks Enforcement
- **(New Position) Urban Forester (Forestry Department)-** under supervision of Director of Operations or designee will preserve and expand Stamford's urban forest, oversee the City's tree inventory and administer the City Invasive Species Management plan.
  
- **Parks Maintenance 2134 Increases**
- **Overall budget increase of 2.6% \$89,602**
- Parks Maintenance/contracted services increase 154% \$161,000
- Park Maintenance/Building maintenance increase 75% \$60,000
- Park Maintenance/Land Supplies increase 40.6% \$65,000
- Park Maintenance/Housekeeping supplies increase 32.5% \$30,000
  
- **Parks Maintenance 2134 Decreases**
- Park Maintenance Overtime is down 34% \$155,000
- Park Maintenance electric is down 8.9% \$37,800
- Park Maintenance/Natural Gas 18.2% \$6,800

# Staffing/Budget Updates

- **Forestry 2127 Increases**
  - Forestry Salary 9% \$39,166
  - Urban Forster Position \$117,960.93
  
- **Forestry 2127 Decreases**
- **Overall Forestry Budget down -3.8% \$35,862**
- Overtime reimbursement per project and events
  - Forestry Vehicle Maintenance -\$6,300
  
- **Marinas 2138**
  - **Marinas overall increase of 2.3% \$12,038**
  - Marinas Medical & Life 15.8% \$3,966
  - Marinas Unemployment 29% \$3,210
  - Marinas/Non-Capital Equipment 97.9% \$3,958
  - Marinas/Electric Utility- 17.8% increase/\$1,600
  
- **Marinas 2138 Decreases**
  - Marinas/Electric Utility 16% -\$1,700
  - Marinas/Vehicle Maintenance 40% \$1,200
  - Marinas/Bonded Interest 38.5% \$2,674
  - Marinas/Bonded Principal 44.7% \$11,706
  
- **Beach & Parks Enforcement 2536 Increases**
  - Permanent Part-time increase of \$50,000 within Budget that includes (3) full-time park police officers and (16) park rangers to assist with park patrolling and assisting with quality life issues citywide 7 days per week.

## *Staffing/Budget Updates*

- **Recreation Services Increases**
- **2534 Youth Programs/Camps Fee Supported/Overtime** 5% \$1,000
- **2534 Youth Programs/Camps Fee supported Services** 10.9% \$27,527/Contracted
- **2534 Youth Programs/Camps Fee Supported Uniforms** 14.6% \$1,761
- **2534 Youth Programs/Camps Fee Supported Recreation Supplies** 4.4% \$3,260
- **2528 Star Center/Contracted Services** 81.8% \$86,968
- **2528 Star Center/Overtime** 7.8% \$2,200
- **2528 Star Center/Facility Rental** 1.5% increase \$3,504-increase per agreement contract w Church (last year)
- **2528 Star Center/Housekeeping Supplies** 10% \$5,500
- **2535 Recreation Leagues/Programs(self-sustaining)/BOE Custodial Overtime-** 15.5% increase \$5,705
- **2535 Recreation Leagues/Programs(self-sustaining)/Contracted Services** increase of 29.6% \$80,000

# *Reduced Budget Adjustments Across All Budget Programs*

- **Parks Maintenance** - A reduced budget would prevent us from continuing to upkeep and maintain 25 facilities within the parks, 92 lawns and medians, 58 park properties, 3 major beaches, and 80 sports fields/game courts, to which we provide a clean, safe, and sanitary environment for the City's residents and visitors.
- **Forestry** - A reduced budget will affect our operation, which covers 330 miles of roadway, and be able to efficiently act upon removals and citizen requests, which responds to all tree hazards and or emergencies.
- **Marinas** - A reduced budget will eliminate the upkeep and maintenance of our (2) public marinas and (2) boat ramps.
- **Recreation Services** - A reduced budget would take away the ability of general administrative support to all leisure programs, long and short-range planning and eliminate youth and adult recreation sports, programs and the demand of summer camps and after school programs.

# *Parks and Recreation Department Overview*

- To enhance the quality of Life in our City by providing and maintaining quality parks, trails, and green space and by offering enriching recreational activities and facilities for people of all ages and abilities.
  
- **Department Initiatives:**
  - Maintaining and protecting 58 City Parks
  - Managing/operating 25 seasonal facilities, 92 lawns/medians, which includes 3 major beaches, 30 baseball/softball fields, 15 soccer fields, 3 synthetic fields, 26 Tennis Courts, 12 Basketball courts, and 1 swimming pool.
  - Managing/operating (1) municipal golf Course- EGB Brennan
  - Managing/operating (1) municipal Ice Rink- Terry Conner's
  - Managing Recreation and Youth Engagement, Leagues, Afterschool Programs, Outdoor Recreation, Aquatics Programs, and summer camps.
  - Managing Forestry Department, which handles the all-tree emergency and non-emergency maintenance, storm, and planting needs throughout the city.
  - Management of the Marina Division, which is responsible for assisting boaters with docking, maintaining docks, ramps and slips to ensure they are safe and secure for all boaters.
  - Utilizing Parks and Recreation spaces for active and passive activities/programs which builds a collective environment to build a sense of community and motivates people from diverse backgrounds to work together and achieve shared visions.

# Capital Project Submissions 2026-2027

- **Page 87 Cove Island Park CP4000006-** \$600,000 Tennis & Pickleball Court/Basketball Court Upgrades to post tension
- **Page 89 Hatch Field Park CP4000010-** \$525,000 New Playground structure, surfaces and amenities. Associated with an awarded stated grant in the amount of \$2 million.
- **Page 90 Park Amenities CP0122-** \$50,500 Citywide picnic table, grills, sports bleachers, and signage upgrades.
- **Page 91 All Season Accessible Park Bathrooms CP4000087-** \$252,500 Next phase of bathrooms
- **Page 92 Playground Rehabilitation C56139-** Citywide playground upgrades
- **Page 94 Parks Fencing C56079 -** \$50,000 Citywide Park fencing upgrades.
- **Page 95 Park Lighting C56272-** \$50,000 Citywide park light upgrades
- **Page 96 Paving & Drainage C56169-** \$100,000 426 Shippan Ave maintenance building parking lot upgrade
- **Page 98 Citywide Tree Replanting CP6816-** \$50,000 Installation of Trees within citywide parks

## *Abandoned Services/Programs and Key Department Challenges*

- Facility overuse within all park infrastructure, beaches, and fields, which is a (7) day operation starting April through October annually.
- Declining infrastructure and game court upgrades are needed throughout our City Parks
- Lack of Space for Recreational Programs within City Facilities
- Recruiting and retaining seasonal staff includes lifeguards, counselors, directors, and paraeducators throughout park and recreation programs.
- The rising cost of minimum wages and custodial union wages
- Lack of active athletic field space that includes lighted fields and game courts.
- Seasonal bathrooms incorporates high rental rates for (Porto Jon's) citywide within the parks.

# *Parks & Recreation Highlights*

- Working with our administration and Grants department to obtain state and federal funding opportunities to coincide with the Capital campaign to improve our park infrastructure and amenities.
- Continuation of City of Stamford Parks Community Partnership 501 C to enhance, protect and sustain the parks and open spaces through Strategic funding and community engagement
- Continuation of a volunteer program for residents to clean beaches and parks and beautification upgrades.
- The process of installing safety Blue Light surveillance cameras as a test pilot has begun @ Dorthey Heroy, Lione and Scalzi Park(s)
- Installation of remote barrier gate @ Riding Stable RD @ Dorthey Heroy Park to enforce park curfew.
- Continuation of Northern Park Attendant program to assist with quality-of-life issues and monitoring until December.
- Courtland Avenue Dog Park upgrade-Completion this spring 2026
- Scofield Town Park Dog Park upgrade-Completion this spring 2026
- Cummings Beach & park East and West Parking lot Upgrades to be completed this Spring 2026
- Scalzi Park New (10)Tennis and (6)Pickle Ball Game Courts to be open this spring 2026
- New Sport light for Cubeta Stadium to be completed this spring 2026
- New Bocce Court opened in Spring of 2025
- Cove New Marina opened in spring of 2025/ This spring new utilities will be installed and in use in 2026 (water/electric)
- Organic Turf Maintenance Program is going into year #5 on (2) fields and year #4 on (18) other fields, which promotes healthier athletic fields.

# *Parks & Recreation Highlights*

- Working with our administration and Grants department to obtain state and federal funding opportunities to coincide with the Capital campaign to improve our park infrastructure and amenities.
- Creation with the City of Stamford Parks Community Partnership 501 C to enhance, protect and sustain the parks and open spaces through Strategic funding and community engagement
- Continuation of a volunteer program for residents to clean beaches and parks and beautification upgrades.
- Cataloging Park Locations for park vending concessions
- The process of installing safety Blue Light surveillance cameras as a test pilot has begun @ Dorthey Heroy, Lione and Scalzi Park(s)
- Installation of remote barrier gate @ Riding Stable RD @ Dorthey Heroy Park to enforce park curfew.
- Continuation of Northern Park Attendant program to assist with quality-of-life issues and monitoring until December.
- Courtland Avenue Dog Park upgrade- The design and concept plan are being finalized.
- Scofield Town Park Dog Park upgrade- Finalizing Design and concept plan.

# *Parks & Recreation Highlights*

- Continuation of the Invasive Management Plan being performed by our Forestry and Land Use Departments.
- Continuation of the Domus work program which concentrates on (35) park easements and illegal dumping locations for continuous maintenance and debris removals.
- Continuation of extending seasonal bathrooms @ (7) locations into the off-seasons.

# Highlights- Recreation Programs

<b>2025 Recreation Season</b>	<b>Star Center Revenue Collected</b>	<b>Non-Star Center Revenue</b>
Winter	\$157,672	\$31,743
Spring	\$117,954	\$29,480
Summer Camps/programs	\$181,456	\$72,380
Summer Camp		\$584,074
Fall	\$110,875	\$22,835



# Highlights- Recreation & Leagues

Leagues:	
Adult Leagues	416
Aquatics Participants	410
Tournaments	28

## Adult Leagues – Managed by Recreation

Basketball

Beach Volleyball

Kickball

Indoor Volleyball

Softball

Flag Football

Pickleball (Indoor and Outdoor)

## Adult Independent Permitted Leagues

Soccer- Woman's, Coed, Men's

Over 30 Baseball - Men's

Cricket

Bocce

# Budget Highlights- Recreation

Year	Season	NON Star Center # Participants	Star Center # Participants
2025	Winter	486	1146
2025	Spring	326	1099
2025	Fall	679	781
2025	Summer Programs	261	799
2025	Summer Camps	902	160
2025	Totals	2654	3985