



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Interior Region 1
North Atlantic-Appalachian
1234 Market Street, 20th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

December 15, 2022

Ms. Diana Carter
Assistant Division Director for Planning and Analysis
Alternate State Liaison Officer
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
625 Broadway, Floor 2
Albany, NY 12238

Dear Ms. Carter:

Thank you for the bringing the proposed recreational enhancements at Brighton Park to our attention and for the sheltered ice-skating rink request. Brighton Park in the Town of Tonawanda is a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) assisted site, project #36-01085. I understand the proposal is to demolish the existing pool and sheltered ice rink, which are beyond their useful life, to be replaced with an enhanced, all-inclusive spray park, a new soccer/rugby field, a pickle ball area, grove, and new sheltered ice rink.

As discussed, states may permit a change from one allowable use to another at LWCF assisted sites, with National Park Service (NPS) approval needed only when the new use would significantly contravene the original plans for the area. I agree with your finding that the change from a swimming pool to a spray park would not constitute a significant change in use. Additionally, after a review of the submitted materials, I've found the proposal for the sheltered ice rink to be consistent with the LWCF sheltering provision and not a conversion; and therefore, agree with your recommendation. LWCF allows for sheltered ice-skating rinks in communities that meet specific cold climatic criteria to protect against cold weather and thereby increase the recreation opportunities.

As always, we appreciate your support of the NPS and the LWCF Program. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (267) 303-3405 or megan_lang@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Megan Lang
Outdoor Recreation Planner / Compliance Manager
State and Local Assistance Programs