



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

**Supplemental Application**  
**Project Narrative**

\*Indicates required information



**Application Information**

Applicant Legal Name:\* City of York

Project Title:\* Memorial Park Renovations

**\*Project Narrative (Refer to grant program guidelines for specific narrative requirements. Attach additional sheets as needed.)**

Memorial Park is a multi function, regional recreational facility located in the City of York. The park includes a nine field softball complex, four of the fields are lighted, three sand volleyball courts, a batting cage concession, a miniature golf course, an indoor roller skating rink facility, and an indoor twin pad ice skating rink. Hoffman Stadium is the main softball field located in the center of the park. The complex is used heavily by residents of the city and county and also by many patrons from throughout the state and country that come to York for tournaments. The softball fields within the park have begun to show signs of wear and tear and are in need of upgrades. The funds that the City of York is applying for with this grant will be used to renovate Hoffman Stadium within Memorial Park and to add a walking trail to connect to the Broad Street Greenway. The following improvements are planned:

- Install new field lighting on Hoffman Stadium. The lights at this field are from the original construction in the late sixties and are in dire need of replacement.
- Replace fencing, backstop and dugouts as needed.
- Improve to playing field.
- Remove the concrete walls from a portion of the perimeter fence and replace with ornamental metal fencing.
- Improve bleachers, picnic areas, and landscaping within the stadium.
- Install walking path / trail along Edgar Street to connect with the Broad Street Greenway.

1. **Project Benefits** – The renovations to Hoffman Stadium in Memorial Park are direly needed as the field lights and perimeter walls are from the original York White Roses baseball team that played at the stadium in the 1960's. The lights are inefficient and are a nuisance to surrounding neighbors due to glare. There is also concern that the light poles may fall over due to their extended age and condition. The project will upgrade Hoffman Stadium and return it to its rightful place as the hub of Memorial Park for the softball league and all tournaments.

The project is in keeping with York Recreation First, Parks and Recreation Update plan from February 2002 and the Memorial Park Master Plan from October 2007. Copies of both plans have previously been submitted to DCNR. Public participation occurred during the planning process for both plans. With the Memorial Park Master Plan interviews were held with major user groups and nearby neighborhood associations and three public meetings were conducted to provide input into the plan.

The benefits from this project include a renovated stadium that will showcase all of Memorial Park and include new energy efficient lighting and green picnic areas with native plantings. The construction of the walking trail along Edgar Street will link to the Broad Street Greenway and provide a safe walking route for students going to the Hannah Penn Middle School and Goode Elementary School in the City.

**2. Project Site Compatibility / Green and Sustainable Projects** – The project is located in Memorial Park in the southeast section of the City of York. Memorial Park is a 74-acre recreation park that has been in place for over sixty five years. There are no negative impacts from this project. Memorial Park is open to the public for use at all times.

Positive impacts from the project will include the removal of old, inefficient field lights that are a nuisance to surrounding neighbors due to glare. The lights will be replaced with state of the art, energy efficient lighting that reduce the spill of light off the playing field. In addition the City plans to utilize “green” recycled products for the picnic areas and to install native plantings with the new landscaping. The project will also remove sections of the old concrete perimeter wall and open the stadium up with the installation of ornamental fencing. The walking trail that will be installed along Edgar Street will connect to the Broad Street Greenway and will be constructed of compacted stone similar to the York County Heritage Rail Trail. The stone is permeable and prevents additional storm water run off and erosion.

**3. Project Schedule / Timeline** - The City of York plans to follow this timeline assuming the grant award is made late 2009.

January – February 2010 – Execute contract with DCNR

January – March 2010 - Complete engineering and design services for project

April 2010 – Complete construction plans and specifications for the project.

May 2010 – Let project for bid.

June 2010 – Award project and begin construction

June – November 2010 - Construction

November 2010 – Complete construction and close out project.

**4. Partnerships** – In addition to the York City Bureau of Recreation and Parks that will be the lead agency on this project, the City will partner with the following groups on the renovation of Memorial Park:

York County Convention and Visitors Bureau – countywide visitors bureau providing financial support for the project.

ASA of Pennsylvania – state softball organization providing tournaments and support for the project.

The Bob Hoffman Foundation – private, non-profit foundation.

## **5. DCNR’s Action Plan / Keystone Principles -**

### Promote Statewide Land Conservation

The renovations to Memorial Park will preserve 74 acres of open space within the City of York. In the York Recreation First Plan it was noted that the City of York has approximately 7.3 acres of parkland per thousand residents. This is below the prevailing standard of 10 acres per thousand and makes it all the more vital for York to retain and improve our existing parks.

## Build and Maintain Sustainable and Attractive Communities

Memorial Park is the most heavily used park within the City of York's park system. It is a regional park and a regional asset benefiting the City of York and the York region of southcentral Pennsylvania. The renovations to Memorial Park will in all cases possible utilize "green" and recycled products. The replacement of the field lighting will be a major step in reducing the use of electricity as new energy efficient lighting will be installed. The old lights also had a major issue with light spilling off the field and creating glare for neighboring residents in some cases several blocks from the stadium. The new lighting will eliminate this problem and keep the light directed onto the playing surface. The City will also look at using recycled products for the installation of all site amenities such as picnic areas and benches. We will also investigate the latest materials to replace the concrete walls of the perimeter fence with new ornamental fencing. Removal of the concrete will also be beneficial to the environment as well as more aesthetically pleasing. Renovating Memorial Park is critically important to York City and the surround region and will benefit users of the facility that are estimated at nearly 400,000 per year. This project is another piece of the puzzle to make York a great place to work and play.