

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Lawrence Township Receives \$415,000 Grant for Eldridge Park Improvements

Lawrence Township, New Jersey – March 7, 2024 – The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJ DOT) has announced a significant grant award of \$415,000 to Lawrence Township for improvements to Eldridge Park. The grant, provided through the Local Transportation Projects Fund Program, aims to address specific focused local transportation issues throughout the state.

The Township of Lawrence plans to utilize the grant to enhance Eldridge Park with a porous paver walkway around the perimeter. This walkway, gently curving to respect the park's mature trees, will serve as an eco-friendly solution to stormwater management by allowing water to infiltrate the ground, serving as a form of green infrastructure.

The project holds multiple benefits for the community. The porous paver walkway will offer pedestrians a safe and enjoyable pathway, reducing reliance on surrounding roadways. Furthermore, connections to playground areas will be established, aligning with the township's efforts to upgrade equipment through separate grants received. These enhancements will provide families with more options to enjoy the park's facilities.

Mayor Patricia Farmer expressed her excitement about the project, stating, "This was a park that I played in as a child, my best friend lived across the street. I have many fond memories on the big slide. We are excited to preserve and enhance it for future generations."

The design phase of the project is expected to commence later this year, with construction anticipated in 2025. Lawrence Township looks forward to collaborating with stakeholders and the community to ensure the successful implementation of these improvements.

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