

Who is HSPC?

Established in the fall of 2004, **Hoboken Southwest Parks Coalition** is a group of residents dedicated to creating a contiguous 6+ acre park in the southwest area of Hoboken to service the recreational needs of all ages. We support smart development which encompasses a balance for residential needs, businesses, and recreational parks and open space. We want to make our neighborhood a better place to live and play for everyone.

What has HSPC accomplished?

“SW6: A Greener, Greater Hoboken”

In September 2007, HSPC unveiled *SW6: A Greener, Greater Hoboken*. This innovative 60-page action plan was authored by the Executive and Advisory Boards of HSPC. SW6 is anchored by a 6-acre park in the southwest, but the plan also includes flood mitigation, environmentally sound LEED development requirements, and retail amenities to make the southwest a destination neighborhood for all Hoboken residents.

Application for County Funds

HSPC, on behalf of the City of Hoboken, applied two years in a row for county grants. HSPC spent several months compiling research and completing the lengthy application for the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund. Both times, the County Planning Board applauded HSPC's innovative SW6 plan, stating that this is how they like to see a municipality and its residents work together to create a great plan. Unfortunately, the first application in 2008 was denied funding because the City had not completed the land appraisals. In 2009, the board said HSPC really “did its homework” and recommended that Hudson County award \$500,000 for land acquisition to Hoboken based on the HSPC application. Unfortunately, then the County Executive vetoed our grant.

In 2010, the City of Hoboken put in its own application for county funds but the county board did not recommend an award.

SW6 Workshops & Community Outreach

Since 2007, HSPC has held informational workshops for members of the City Council, county, state and federal government officials to educate them about SW6. We have also held several neighborhood workshops. **Please contact us if your organization would like HSPC to make a presentation about SW6.**

Accolades

In 2007, the Board of Trustees of the Quality of Life Coalition selected HSPC as the recipient for its **2007 Environmental Award** for *SW6: A Greener, Greater Hoboken*.

What exactly has the City done to effort the SW Park?

Over the last three years, the City has taken very little action. The land appraisals were finally completed in March 2009 because council members Nino Giacchi and Beth Mason pushed to get them completed in time for HSPC's application to the Hudson County Planning Board. Mason also put the **Resolution for the SW Study** on the city's agenda in October 2009, yet the City did not take action for a whole year, and even now, the **study** has not been completed.

What does the City of Hoboken need to do now to move the SW Park effort forward?

- Finish the SW Redevelopment Study which is years overdue
- Re-route Paterson Avenue as promised in the Hoboken Master Plan
- Negotiate for parkland acquisition as promised by elected officials almost three years ago
- Research and aggressively seek out alternative funding sources for land acquisition and the development of the park
- Be innovative and think outside of the box instead of following the same recipe that has proven to be disastrous for Hoboken's open space needs
- Use Hoboken's Open Space Trust Fund to buy parkland now

How can I participate in HSPC's efforts?

Stay informed by joining the HSPC e-mail list to receive important information about the SW Redevelopment and the SW Park, including notices of city meetings. Sign up to receive e-mail alerts at our website www.HobokenSPC.org

Speak out at council, zoning, and planning board meetings, and future public meetings regarding the SW Redevelopment.

