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KOSCIUSZKO BRIDGE PROJECT SGT. DOUGHERTY PLAYGROUND: CONCEPTUAL PLANS

This memorandum provides a summary of the mitigation measures proposed for Sgt. Dougherty Playground, which will be impacted by NYSDOT's Kosciuszko Bridge Project.

Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 and subsequent amendments require that there be mitigation or replacement for any impacts to parkland caused by a transportation improvement project. The resulting facility must provide an overall net benefit to the property and community.

Each of the Kosciuszko Bridge Project's five Build Alternatives requires the acquisition of a portion of Sgt. Dougherty Playground in Brooklyn. NYSDOT is proposing to mitigate these impacts by creating additional parkland and by improving the existing park. The current size of Sgt. Dougherty Playground is .75 acre. The conceptual plan for all alternatives except BR-5 would increase the size of the playground to 1.91 acres. Alternative BR-5 would increase the acreage to 1.78 acres. Conceptual plans of the expanded park proposals and suggested features are attached for your review.

Both plans include active and passive recreational elements and the development of new parkland on both sides of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway. Potential active elements are new basketball and handball courts, new play equipment (including water play areas), and a skate park. Passive elements could include new seating, additional shade trees and the preservation of existing trees, where possible. A dog run and a comfort station are among the features already suggested by members of the community.

Please note that the plans represent preliminary concepts and are intended to initiate discussion. The project team is seeking your input at this early stage of design. We encourage you to forward any comments, questions or suggestions to Robert Adams, NYSDOT Project Manager, at (718) 482-4683 or kosciuszko@dot.state.ny.us or to Helen Neuhaus, Helen Neuhaus & Associates, at (212) 532-4175 or hna@hna1977.com.