

Anthony Talerico

From: mjenks62 <XXXXXXX>
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 9:28 PM
To: Anthony Talerico
Subject: Request for CBA Funding for a Soccer Wall Ball in Our Community

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Dear Mayor Talerico,

I hope you are doing well.

I am writing to respectfully request consideration of Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) funding for the installation of a soccer wall ball for our community. One possible location would be the area where the old tennis courts were at Meadowbrook School, though any suitable location would be greatly appreciated, including the park across the street from Meadowbrook on Wyckoff Road.

Soccer continues to grow in popularity among children and families in our community, yet we have very few recreational facilities specifically designed to support the game. In fact, there are no dedicated soccer fields readily available for organized play. Instead, players and teams rely on shared spaces that are temporarily set up for soccer activities. As a result, opportunities for players to practice and develop their skills outside of scheduled activities are extremely limited.

A soccer wall would provide a simple, durable, and cost-effective way for players of all ages and skill levels to improve their passing, receiving, shooting, and overall technique. It would create a permanent recreational resource that could be used independently by children, teens, and adults without requiring a full field or organized program.

In addition to supporting youth development, a soccer wall would encourage outdoor activity, physical fitness, and positive community engagement. It would offer a recreational amenity that could be enjoyed year-round by students, families, and residents. Because a soccer wall is relatively inexpensive to construct and maintain, it would be an excellent candidate for CBA funding and would provide lasting value to the community.

Whether located at Meadowbrook School, the park on Wyckoff Road, or another appropriate site, this project would help address a significant gap in our recreational offerings and provide a valuable resource for soccer players for many years to come.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your continued service to our community. I would be grateful for the opportunity to discuss this idea further and help gather community support if needed.

Sincerely,
Michelle Jenks
XXXXXXX

XXX-XXX-XXXX

*Open to Ideas:

For a neighborhood park, a popular design is a 30–40 ft long concrete rebound wall 8 feet high with painted targets and grass or synthetic turf in front, which serves players of all ages while requiring relatively little maintenance.

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July 14, 2026

Ms. Michelle Jenks
64 Wyckoff Road
Eatontown, NJ 07724

Dear Ms. Jenks,

The Community Benefits Advisory Committee is in receipt of your email dated June 9, 2026 where you requested Community Benefit Agreement Funds for the installation of a soccer wall ball. You stated that a popular size is 30-40 feet long and 8 feet high, made of concrete and painted with targets to help individuals practice various soccer skills. The CBA Committee has made an informal decision not to approve significant capital awards without the Administrator or Borough Council making the request. In this case, you also suggested the wall may be well suited on Board of Education property in which case we would like the request to come from the Board of Education.

As discussed when you and I spoke today, the group liked your idea. Unlike baseball and basketball where the playing field, bases and baskets are out all year long, soccer nets are generally removed when not in use. This makes playing and practicing soccer more challenging. Though the Howard Commons Development will be built with a park, including a soccer field, that is several years away. The group spent time discussing how we could support the soccer playing community.

The CBA Committee referred your request to the Recreation Department, and I personally called Superintendent Scott McCue. I asked if the soccer nets could be left out longer on Board of Education property during the year. I also asked Recreation Director Janice Grasso to identify other less permanent pieces of equipment we could leave out so soccer players could enjoy more playing time. I asked you to try and gather some soccer families to see what other suggestions they might have. Considering all of this, we believe some funding would be appropriate from the Community Benefit Agreement Funds, whether from the amount awarded to the Recreation Trust Fund or via another request to the Committee.

Thank you,

Anthony Talerico, Jr.
Mayor