

New York City Soccer Initiative FAQ

What is the New York City Soccer Initiative? On July 12, 2016 Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the launch of the New York City Soccer Initiative (Soccer Initiative), a \$3,000,000 first of its kind public-private partnership. The initiative will build and maintain 50 acrylic mini-soccer fields in underserved neighborhoods across the five boroughs over the next five-years as well as integrate afterschool programming for as many as 10,000 New York City youth and young adults. These new soccer fields will be essential in keeping our young New Yorkers safe, active and connected with the community. With this partnership, we are tackling inequality in all its forms – including those in our parks and outdoor spaces.

The Soccer Initiative is supported by the U.S. Soccer Foundation, New York City Football Club, adidas America, Inc. and the Mayor’s Fund to Advance New York City. Each funding partner has committed a capital investment of \$750,000 over five years. In addition to the capital investment, the New York City Football Club will either raise or contribute an additional \$600,000 to create a fund to support the repair and maintenance of the fields.

Currently, the Soccer Initiative is supported by the following City partners: Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Education and the New York City Housing Authority.

Where are the initial 10 sites going to be located?*

1. Cypress Hills Houses
475 Fountain Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11208

6. South Jamaica Houses
10904 160th St, Jamaica, NY 11433

2. Van Siclen Community Middle School/ The UFT Charter School/Achievement First Linden Elementary
800 Van Siclen Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11207

7. Irwin Altman Middle School 172
81-14 257th St, Glen Oaks, NY 11004

3. Millbrook Playground
625 E 135th St, Bronx, NY 10454

8. I.S. 49 Berta A. Dreyfus/ Eagle Academy for Young Men of Staten Island
101 Warren St, Staten Island, NY 10304

4. Harlem Lane Playground
West 151-154 Streets, New York, NY, 10039

9. TBD

5. P.S. 083 Luis Munoz Rivera/ The Bilingual Bicultural School
219 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029

10. TBD

(*Subject to on-site conditions and scheduling requirements)

How were the sites chosen? The Mayor’s Fund, in collaboration with our funding partners, City agencies and with community input, will be selecting field locations in historically under-invested and under-resourced communities. Specific areas of focus consist of neighborhoods included in the [Mayor’s Building Healthy Communities Initiative](#), [Mayor’s Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety](#), [the Parks Department’s Community Parks Initiative](#), or [the Young Men’s Initiative](#). Additionally, specific site selection will be based on considerations of the physical space, environment, geographic distribution and parity, proximity to potential programming partners and existing site conditions.

What is the overall budget? Over the next five years, the Mayor’s Fund will raise and collect \$3 million from the funding partners to invest in the construction and maintenance of the 50 mini-soccer fields across the five boroughs. Each funding partner will provide a capital investment of \$750,000 over five years.

When will the fields be available for play? Fields will begin to open for play as early as summer 2017.

Who is building the soccer the fields? The U.S. Soccer Foundation will design and construct all 50 mini-soccer fields. Depending on the initial conditions of the site, construction is anticipated to take between 4-8 weeks per field.

What does a new field consist of? Each mini-soccer field is a hard court, soccer-specific play space. Each field will be approximately 7,200 square feet in size, with an acrylic overlay surface similar to those utilized for basketball and tennis courts. The mini-soccer field will also include a pair of permanent goals secured into the surface with tamper-proof anchors, as well as fencing to ensure safety of those using the mini-soccer field. Please see below for an example of a mini-soccer field:



What programs will be offered and how many children will be served? All 50 acrylic mini-soccer fields will be open and accessible to the surrounding community for soccer-related programming. In addition to local programming, the New York City Soccer Initiative will utilize the U.S. Soccer Foundation's *Soccer for Success* afterschool program, which provides children in underserved areas across the nation with structured physical activity, nutrition education and mentoring by trained coaches. The U.S. Soccer Foundation, a recipient of an award from the Social Innovation Fund in 2011, has witnessed tremendous social, emotional and health improvements in the lives of *Soccer for Success* participants. An independent evaluation found that participants showed greater Body Mass Index (BMI) improvement and greater aerobic capacity improvement. Other findings revealed that participants showed increased nutritional awareness and choices and improved leadership skills. Approximately 10,000 youth will have access to soccer-related programs over the next five years.