

## Ortt, Sweden Officials Announce Playground Funds

ROBERT G. ORTT October 3, 2017

ISSUE: DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, PARKS AND RECREATION, LOCAL ASSISTANCE



**Brockport** – State Senator Rob Ortt (R, C, I – North Tonawanda) today announced \$250,000 in state funds to construct a fully accessible playground at Sweden Town Park. Ortt joined community leaders and elected officials at the park to announce the project, which will also include an estimated \$50,000 in sponsor and community contributions.

**State Senator Rob Ortt said:** "This playground will enhance the park, which already serves as a tremendous community asset, and it will open up play and recreation opportunities to children and families with disabilities. I'm privileged to be surrounded by such passionate and dedicated community servants who will work to make this tremendous idea into a reality."

**Sweden Community Recreation Foundation President Wayne Zyra said**: "I'd like to thank Senator Ortt for providing the critical funding to make this happen. And I'd like to thank my partners and colleagues who work so hard for this community and had the vision for this state-of-the-art facility."

**Sweden Town Supervisor Robert Carges said:** "Adding this tremendous playground to Sweden Town Park is one more step we've taken to turn the park into a community gem. It will complement 156 acres of baseball, soccer, and football fieds; skate and dog parks; an ice skating rink, disc golf course, hiking trails, and lodge."

Monroe County Legislator Mike Zale said: "Lack of accessibility can serve as a barrier to children or individuals with disabilities, along with their families. That's why this playground is so important – it gives children of all abilities a space to call their own while improving quality of life for our entire community."

**Sweden Town Board Member Robert Muesebeck said**: "We live in an incredible and inclusive community and this 21<sup>st</sup> century playground will only strengthen that. I'm so happy to be standing alongside. I cannot wait to be back here for what I know will be an incredible groundbreaking."

The playground will measure over 6,000-square-foot and be compliant with federal ADA guidelines and regulations. Features on similar playgrounds include wheelchair accessible rides, swings that offer head and neck support, slides, sensory play centers, and quiet areas for those living with autism.

Ortt secured the capital funds as part of Fiscal Year 2017-18 New York State Budget. The Dormitory Authority of New York State (DASNY) will administer the funds.