



# *Office of the County Executive*

Monroe County, New York

**Adam J. Bello**  
*County Executive*

November 7, 2025

<b>OFFICIAL FILE COPY</b>
No. <u>250344</u>
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County
Committee Assignment
<b>ENV. &amp; PUB. WORKS-L</b>

To The Honorable  
Monroe County Legislature  
407 County Office Building  
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Classification of Action and Determination of Significance Pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act for "AIDS Remembrance Garden Rehabilitation"

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body determine whether the rehabilitation of the AIDS Remembrance Garden at Beikirch Park may have a significant adverse impact on the environment pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA").

This project involves the renovation and rehabilitation of garden, including arboretum redevelopment, resurfacing walkways, and restoring benches and other hardscaping elements.

This project has been preliminarily classified as an Unlisted Action. The SEQRA regulations found at 6 NYCRR Part 617 require that no agency shall carry out or approve an Action until it has complied with the requirements of SEQRA.

**The specific legislative actions required are:**

1. Determine that this project, referred to as "AIDS Remembrance Garden Rehabilitation," is an Unlisted action.
2. Make a determination of significance regarding the improvements pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.7.
3. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to take such actions to comply with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, including without limitation, the execution of documents and the filing, distribution and publication of the documents required under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, and any other actions to implement the intent of this resolution.

This designation will have no impact on the revenues or expenditures of the current Monroe County budget.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Adam Bello", with a large, stylized initial "A".

Adam J. Bello  
Monroe County Executive

# Short Environmental Assessment Form

## Part 1 - Project Information

### Instructions for Completing

**Part 1 – Project Information.** The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

<b>Part 1 – Project and Sponsor Information</b>			
AIDS Remembrance Garden Revitalization			
Name of Action or Project:			
AIDS Remembrance Garden Revitalization			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map):			
Highland Park South 1320 South Ave. Rochester, NY 14620			
Brief Description of Proposed Action:			
<p>The project consists of one site located at Highland Park, the location of the previously constructed AIDS Remembrance Garden. Originally constructed in the 1990s, the Garden is a living gift to the community and an honorarium to those who have been impacted by AIDS. The purpose of the project is the rehabilitation of garden components including, but not limited to, arboretum redevelopment, resurfacing walkways, restoring benches, memorials and other hardscaping associated with the Remembrance Garden.</p>			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor:		Telephone: 585-313-2354	
Monroe County Parks		E-Mail: robertkiley@monroecounty.gov	
Address:			
171 Reservoir RD			
City/PO:		State:	Zip Code:
Rochester		NY	14620
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation?			NO
If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			YES
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other government Agency?			NO
If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval: State Historic Preservation Office. Funding from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York			YES
3. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action?			0.75 acres
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed?			0.25 acres
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor?			40.29 acres
4. Check all land uses that occur on, are adjoining or near the proposed action:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other(Specify):			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parkland			

5. Is the proposed action,	NO	YES	N/A
a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area?	NO	YES	
If Yes, identify: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Are public transportation services available at or near the site of the proposed action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near the site of the proposed action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements?	NO	YES	
If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: N/A _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply?	NO	YES	
If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities?	NO	YES	
If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. a. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____ _____ _____			

14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suburban		
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Is the project site located in the 100-year flood plan?	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes, <div style="margin-left: 40px;">           a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties?             b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)?         </div> If Yes, briefly describe:	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that would result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g., retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain the purpose and size of the impoundment:	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility? If Yes, describe:	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste? If Yes, describe:	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE</b>  Applicant/sponsor/name: <u>Monroe County Parks</u> Date: <u>5/28/2025</u>  Signature: _____ Title: <u>Deputy Director</u>		

Project:

Date:

***Short Environmental Assessment Form***  
***Part 2 - Impact Assessment***

**Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.**

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. public / private water supplies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Agency Use Only [If applicable]**

Project:

Date:

### ***Short Environmental Assessment Form Part 3 Determination of Significance***

For every question in Part 2 that was answered "moderate to large impact may occur", or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

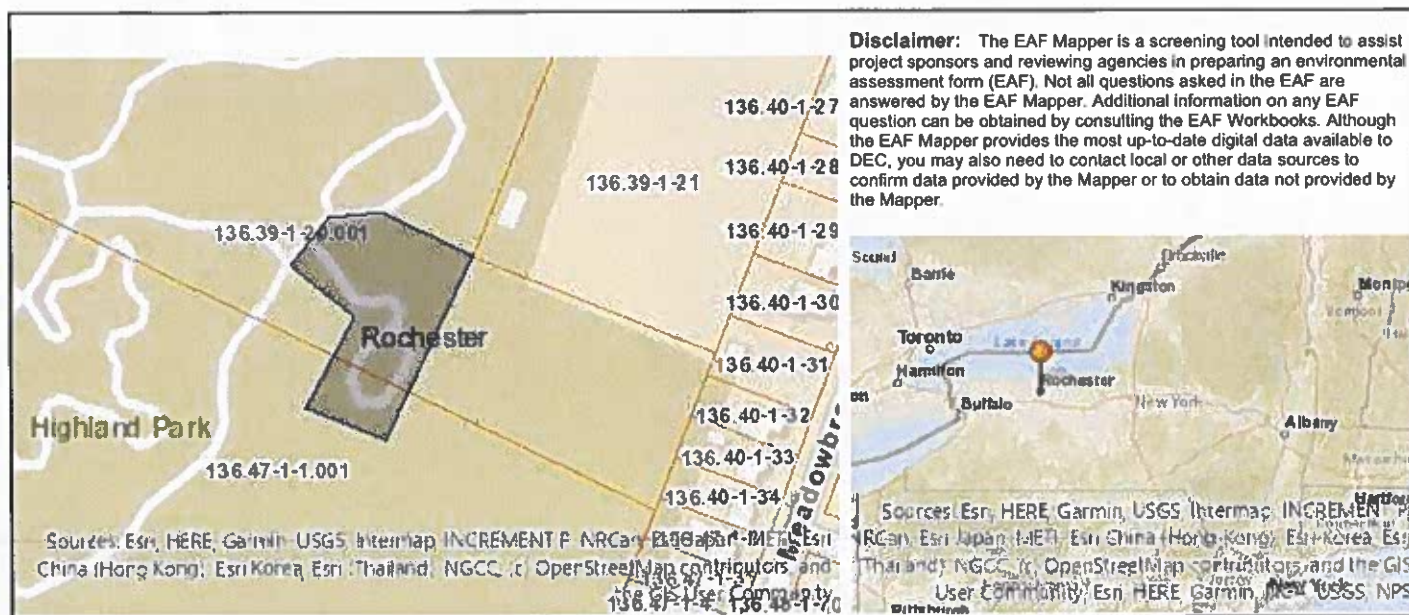
The project consists of one site located at Highland Park, the location of the previously constructed AIDS Remembrance Garden. The purpose of the project is the rehabilitation of existing garden components including, but not limited to, arboretum redevelopment, resurfacing walkways, restoring benches, memorials and other hardscaping associated with the Remembrance Garden. Arboretum redevelopment will focus on the pruning of the existing arboretum specimens as well as the planting of additional specimens and ground covers. enhancements to existing walkways ensuring ADA compliance and connection pathways to others memorials will also occur. Various benches, memorial plaques and other hardscaping / landscaping of existing beds will occur throughout the project site.

The project team will work in close collaboration with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as the existing AIDS Remembrance Garden was constructed in close proximity to the Historic Monroe County Insane Asylum Alms House and Penitentiary Cemetery. The penitentiary was operational from the mid 1800s to 1873 and the burial grounds are presumed to be from that same timeframe. The November 1984 Rochester Museum and Science Center Report will be the basis of the historical documentation of the 301 burial locations, however the project consulting team will produce all documents necessary to SHPO for their review and approval. The project will not seek to exhume or disturb any of the existing burial sites.

<input type="checkbox"/> Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.	
Monroe County <span style="float: right;">_____</span> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Name of Lead Agency</span> <span>Date</span> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Adam J. Bello</span> <span>County Executive</span> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency</span> <span>Title of Responsible Officer</span> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency</span> <span>Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)</span> </div>	

# EAF Mapper Summary Report

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 11:21 AM



Part 1 / Question 7 [Critical Environmental Area]	No
Part 1 / Question 12a [National or State Register of Historic Places or State Eligible Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 12b [Archeological Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 13a [Wetlands or Other Regulated Waterbodies]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
Part 1 / Question 15 [Threatened or Endangered Animal]	No
Part 1 / Question 16 [100 Year Flood Plain]	No
Part 1 / Question 20 [Remediation Site]	No