



*News From*

# **Maggie Brooks**

## *Monroe County Executive*

**For Immediate Release**

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### **BROOKS DEDICATES PARK IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S 200<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY**

*Irondequoit Bay Park East to be named Abraham Lincoln Park*

In recognition of the 200th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's birth, Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks** today announced that the County has renamed Irondequoit Bay Park East in his honor. The beautiful 182 acre County Park, located on the east shore of Irondequoit Bay in the Town of Penfield, will now officially be known as Abraham Lincoln Park.

*"I am proud to dedicate one of our community's fine parks to the memory of a great President, a great American, and a truly inspiring individual," said Brooks. "Abraham Lincoln's incredible accomplishments as President should serve as an example of hope and resolve for Americans of all ages. During times far more challenging than our own, President Lincoln masterfully led this nation through a period of extreme conflict and turmoil, securing a brighter and more inclusive future for the entire country. Because President Lincoln's contributions continue to impact our lives nearly 150 years after his passing, I am pleased that Abraham Lincoln Park will now stand as a local testament to his life and legacy."*

*"Without question, Abraham Lincoln is one of the greatest Presidents to lead our nation," said County Legislator Dan Quatro (15th LD – Brighton, Penfield, Webster). "The first Republican President, Abraham Lincoln is a source of inspiration for myself and many of my colleagues in the County Legislature, reminding us all of the importance of fair, evenhanded, and effective leadership in government. I am honored that Penfield will now be home to Abraham Lincoln Park, and I encourage all citizens to take a moment to recognize and appreciate President Lincoln's legacy today."*

Although, currently, Irondequoit Bay Park East is mostly undeveloped, an area parks master plan update is underway and the master plan consultant's preliminary recommendations for the park include construction of a new waterfront park lodge with multi-purpose functionality and enhanced waterfront recreational opportunities. The consultant also recommends that a new access point to the park be located at 1559 Empire Boulevard, which would include entry signage, parking, a trailhead, an ADA-accessible nature trail and an ADA-accessible playground. Additionally, the consultant recommends the possible future addition of playing fields on the plateau of the old nursery area on Smith Road, as first recommended in the 1985 Master Plan.

An official unveiling of the new signage for Abraham Lincoln Park will occur in the spring of 2009.

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