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deppressoffice@dep.nyc.gov, (718) 595-6600

Department of Environmental Protection and FC Harlem Lions Partner to Bring New Youth Soccer Field to West Harlem



Renderings of the New Field and Photos are Available on DEP's Flickr page

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on Tuesday joined with the FC Harlem Lions, a Harlem-based non-profit youth development soccer organization, and Chelsea FC stars Ashley Cole and Michael Essien to announce plans for a new covered soccer field to be built on DEP property adjacent to the North River Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The \$2.5 million field is expected to be constructed of synthetic turf and enclosed with a galvanized steel tensile fabric structure that is open air at its base and at its southern end. The field will be located between the elevated Henry Hudson Parkway and Amtrak's railroad tracks to the east. The West 145th Street Bridge, which provides access to Riverbank State Park, runs overhead directly to the south of the site. The new field will operate in addition to an open-air field FC Harlem Lions currently operate one block south of the proposed site.


"FC Harlem Lions has been a great partner of DEP's in activating underutilized space surrounding the North River Wastewater Treatment Plant through their strong community-based programming," said **DEP Commissioner Vincent Sapienza**. "We are looking forward to partnering with them to provide a new recreational amenity in Harlem."

"FC Harlem with the support of our Football Development Partner, Chelsea Football Club Foundation and commercial partners Delta Airlines, Yokohama Tires and Chase, are proud to expand upon our existing partnership with DEP to provide this covered soccer pitch in West Harlem," said **Executive Director of FC Harlem Irv Smalls**. "The development of this recreational facility from an unconventional space creates more opportunities for disadvantaged youth in the community and NYC to improve their healthy lifestyle outcomes."

More Information

NYC Department of Environmental Protection
Public Affairs

59-17 Junction Boulevard
19th Floor
Flushing, NY 11373
(718) 595-6600

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