



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Sean M. Ryan

## Senator Sean Ryan, People Inc. Announce Renovation Project For Oxford Square Community Lot

SEAN M. RYAN May 24, 2024

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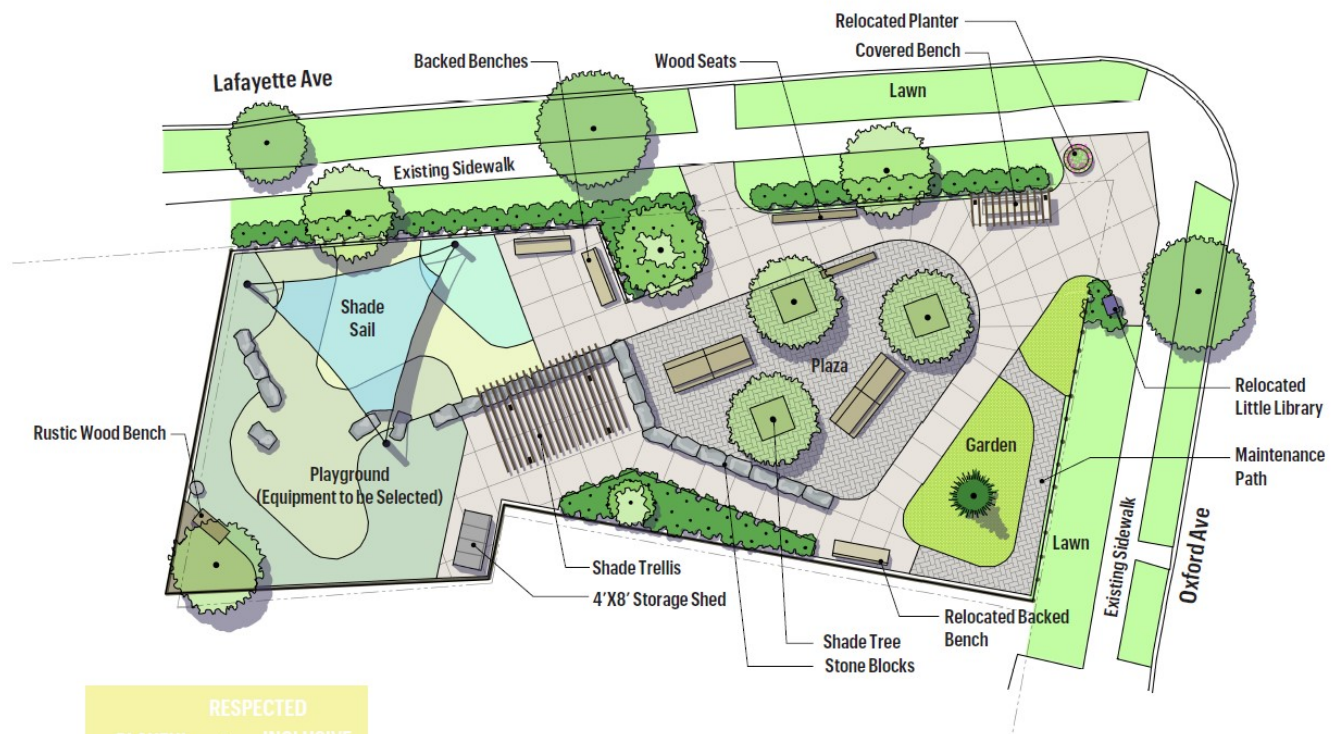
Senator Sean Ryan and Anne McCaffrey, President and CEO of People Inc., join members of the Oxford Square Block Club to announce a design concept for the Oxford Square Community Lot, May 24, 2024

Enhancements to Community Gathering Space Made Possible by State Grant, Additional Financial Support from People Inc. Foundation

**BUFFALO** – Today, May 24, 2024, New York State Senator Sean Ryan and representatives from People Inc. announced plans for an estimated \$600,000 in enhancements to the Oxford Square Community Lot in Buffalo. The renovation of the lot will add new amenities for

visitors of all ages to enjoy in order to create a versatile, multigenerational community gathering space at the corner of Oxford Avenue and Lafayette Avenue on the land adjacent to People Inc.'s Linwood Lafayette Senior Apartments.

The preliminary design for the reimagined lot includes plans for an accessible playground, additional seating, and new shade structures. The design is the culmination of a year of close coordination with the Oxford Square Block Club to gather community feedback and determine which amenities would best benefit the surrounding neighborhood.



DESIGN APPROACH

OXFORD SQUARE COMMUNITY LOT

May 23, 2024

**MNLA**

The project will be funded primarily through a state grant secured by Senator Ryan, which will cover the site preparation costs as well as the cost of the playground and other amenities. The People Inc. Foundation has generously committed an additional \$75,000 to cover expenses that are not covered by the state grant.

**Senator Sean Ryan** said, “Neighborhood gathering spaces are integral to maintaining vibrant communities. Having a dedicated space for neighbors of all ages to interact and pass the time provides a safe recreation option in urban environments and helps build lifelong relationships. The residents of Oxford Square have done a wonderful job maintaining the community lot for well over a decade. The addition of an accessible playground and new areas for visitors to sit and relax will make an important community amenity even more welcoming to all residents.”

**Anne McCaffrey, President and CEO of People Inc.,** said, “People Inc. is committed to doing all we can to uplift and enhance the communities in which we offer housing and other services. Creating safe and accessible areas for people of all ages to enjoy is part of that commitment and at the core of our mission to improve lives. We are grateful for the seamless collaboration with Sen. Ryan and the Oxford Square Block Club and very excited to move forward with these important improvements to the Oxford Square Community Lot.”

**Jenifer Kaminsky, President of Oxford Square Block Club,** said, “For nearly two decades, the Community Lot has been a project of purpose and pride for the Oxford Square Block Club. Our neighbors have committed countless hours, their personal resources and creativity to build this valued space for all of our families. We are honored and incredibly grateful to State Senator Ryan, our ‘forever partners’ People Inc., and our community of advocates for this transformational investment in the families of Oxford Square and our surrounding neighborhoods.”

***About People Inc.***

*People Inc. provides a diverse array of support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families throughout Western New York and Rochester, as well as health care services, senior services, services for the Deaf and hard of hearing, and affordable housing. People Inc. helps people achieve greater degrees of independence and productivity. For more information, go to [people-inc.org](http://people-inc.org).*