

trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc. (Most conversions exceed minor impacts)						
<p>Explain: The Project will expand the recreational uses of Thomas A. Edison Park in order to meet the demand and future growth forecasts for Edison Township. The Project would be constructed almost entirely on two parcels of New Jersey NJDEP Green Acres-encumbered lands on Block 395, Lots 1.23 and 1.01. The Project would expand uses of the current park by adding new sports fields, comfort stations, pedestrian walkways, and additional parking. In addition to active recreation, current visitors utilize the park for more passive recreational activities, such as walking and birding. The loss of open space to accommodate the proposed Athletic Fields and Buildings in Thomas A. Edison Park project, and increased associated foot traffic, would have a slight negative impact on passive recreation and birding opportunities. Therefore, negligible adverse impacts associated with recreational resources are anticipated.</p> <p>As recreational facilities, services, and opportunities will be expanded in response to the needs of Middlesex County residents, students, and those within the local community, the impact to recreational facilities can be viewed as beneficial. All facilities would remain completely open and accessible to the public. Please provide more information to support how the project will meet demand and needs of residents and how that was determined.</p>						
A. IMPACTS TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES	None/NA	Negligible	Minor	Moderate EA/EIS required	Major EA/EIS required	More Data Needed to Determine
16. Accessibility by populations with disabilities.	X					
<p>Explain: All walking trails, buildings, and fields associated with the Project have been designed and would be built to be ADA compliant by all applicable laws; therefore, no adverse impacts to accessibility by populations with disabilities are expected.</p>						
A. IMPACTS TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES	None/NA	Negligible	Minor	Moderate EA/EIS required	Major EA/EIS required	More Data Needed to Determine
17. Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/features	X					
<p>Explain: The Project would result in changes to the visual environment by introducing new visual elements or removing or replacing existing elements. Generally, the Project will result in a reduction of vegetation and grass athletic fields. The replacement of these fields with synthetic and evenly distributed fields will provide the park user with an uninterrupted crisp and clear view of the Athletic Fields and Buildings in Thomas Edison Park. The existing vegetation to the north and south of the Athletic Fields and Buildings in Thomas Edison Park will provide a relatively diverse view of man-made and natural landscape components; thereby, positively impacting the visual quality. The 500-foot diameter natural grass recreational cricket field would be located west of the ten proposed multi-sport synthetic fields. The circular design of this field adds complexity of shapes to the Athletic Fields' and Buildings in Thomas Edison Park design and will enhance the visual quality.</p> <p>Although the Project would result in changes in views throughout the impacted section of Thomas A. Edison Park, these changes would not constitute an adverse impact. No unique visual resources are expected to be adversely affected; however, the loss of grass fields interspersed with trees would impact the observer's visual experience of the area. To mitigate for this impact, a landscaping design plan would be developed to specifically outline the locations and types of permanent tree and shrub plantings. The existing vegetation along with the new landscaping would provide a more diverse view of man-made and natural landscape components; thereby, positively impacting the visual quality.</p> <p>Please provide more information to support how the visual impacts will not adversely impact the observer's visual experience and what criteria and/ or evaluation was used that led to these conclusions.</p>						
A. IMPACTS TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES	None/NA	Negligible	Minor	Moderate EA/EIS required	Major EA/EIS required	More Data Needed to Determine
18. Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic resources, viewsheds, etc.		X				
<p>Explain: The Project area is located within the Edison Facility Historic District (also referred to as the Raritan Arsenal Historic District), which was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1992 (7/15/1992). The period of significance for the historic district is from 1918, when the arsenal was</p>						