

## **Community Playground at Marine Drive Apartments Selected For City Of Buffalo “Love Your Block Award”**

Mayor Byron W. Brown and the City of Buffalo’s Division of Citizen Services have selected Marine Drive Apartments’ community playground project for a Love Your Block mini-grant. The Marine Drive project was among 22 winners of funding for beautification and revitalization projects in neighborhoods across the City of Buffalo.

“I congratulate all the winners of the Love Your Block mini-grants,” said Mayor Brown. “Through the Love Your Block program, we continue to build an equitable and inclusive city of opportunity by bringing people together, while encouraging community engagement and volunteerism to further improve and beautify our diverse neighborhoods, one block at a time.”

Love Your Block is a program in which volunteer-led community groups compete for a chance to win cash grants up to \$1,000, as well as project planning assistance, to beautify and transform a public space in Buffalo.

The Marine Drive project received the maximum grant of \$1,000, which will be matched by \$1,000 in materials and labor from the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority. The playground upgrades, which include new swings, as well as decorative stones and additional landscaping throughout the Marine Drive property are expected to be completed in the next month.

BMHA Executive Director Gillian D. Brown, joined Marine Drive residents Chuck Picone, Joe Bonds and Emily Harris, for the Love Your Block award ceremony in the Mayor’s Office on October 21, 2019.

This marks the sixth season of resident-driven beautification efforts at Marine Drive. The BMHA’s Employment and Training Coordinator, David F. Granville, worked with the residents to submit the successful grant application.

The Erie Regional Housing Development Corporation/The Belle Center also received a Love Your Block grant which will be used to install energy-efficient porch lighting for eligible residents of the BMHA’s Lakeview Homes.