Southold
New York
Your town
Your home
The New York State motto is "Excelsior," or "ever upward."
In other words... always *improving*. 
Southold is always improving.
For example, a recent project completed by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Committee made Southold more wonderful and unique.
Meet the Reichert Family Community Playground.
This playground has improved Southold in three (3) distinct ways.
This new installation has:

1. brought the town further into compliance with accessibility guidelines and areas covered by Department of Justice inquiry;
2. advanced the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act;
3. and made Southold one of the few municipalities with accessible recreation.
1. Accessibility

• The Reichert Family Community Playground is unique because it has features that make it accessible to families who live with disability.
The path and play area surfaces are even, smooth, and level, making it easy for people with mobility or sight impairments to traverse. The material itself is springy and built to make tumbles less dangerous.
And this play car opens to the side, allowing a child wheelchair user to transfer more easily, or any child to find an easier step-up.
1. Accessibility

By including features like these, the Reichert Family Community Playground addresses some of the points in existing Department of Justice guidelines.
The Department of Justice also investigates small towns to assess accessibility for people with disabilities. Unlike towns prodded to action by external assessment, Southold has taken a proactive step toward accessibility.
2. Spirit of Law

This playground also promotes access to civil life and involvement, as envisioned by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
On July 26, 1990, President George H. W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) saying these words, “Let the shameful wall of exclusion finally come tumbling down.”
2. Spirit of Law

By focusing on accessibility, this playground promotes *inclusion* rather than *exclusion*, and *acceptance* over tolerance.
3. Leadership

Finally, Southold has improved its standing among municipalities by offering a unique feature: accessible recreation.

While the interest in accessible playgrounds is rising, few playgrounds are actually accessible.

In a recent effort by National Public Radio to catalog accessible playgrounds, a handful were identified across Long Island, and none east of Brookhaven.
Playgrounds For Everyone

A community-edited guide to accessible playgrounds. So far, we’ve identified 1,848. Help us find more!

On Your Smartphone: Visit npr.org/playgrounds

GOOD JOB,
bringing accessibility home!
And now...
Back to Work

Reichert Park is just one of many examples of projects that improve Southold.

There is so much more that we can do.

Reichert Park was made possible by a team of town officials, committee members, volunteers, and town residents.
Back to Work

With your help, the Town of Southold can do more and do better by completing more projects like the Reichert Playground.

If you think that you or your business can help in future projects, contact:

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