Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title:	Review and Consideration of Boundless Playground Wheelchair Accessible Equipment Options				
Sponsors:					
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Attachments:	1. Boundless Playground - Wheelchair Accessible Swing Research				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
2/13/2018	1	City Commission Regular Meeting	motion to approve	Pass

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the North Port Commission

FROM: Peter D. Lear, CPA, CGMA, City Manager

TITLE: Review and consideration of Boundless Playground Wheelchair Accessible Equipment Options

Recommended Action

City Commission review Boundless Playground wheelchair accessible equipment options and provide direction.

Background Information

During the 12/5/17 Commission meeting, staff presented a revised conceptual plan for the Boundless Playground at the Garden of Five Senses. While Commission approved the overall plan and proposed equipment, feedback received included direction to investigate options for the addition of security cameras, a drinking fountain, and a wheelchair accessible swing. Additionally, it was understood that grant opportunities for this project would continue to be identified and staff would apply as applicable.

Based on the cost for the recent installation of cameras at Blue Ridge and Highland Ridge Parks, Information Technology has estimated the cost to install cameras at the Boundless Playground at $10,500. Installation of a drinking fountain is estimated at $3,000.

In reference to wheelchair accessible swings, it should be noted that these swings require special consideration when placed into a playground environment. Due to the momentum and weight of the swing in motion, logic dictates that the unit be placed in an isolated area that would keep other children from crossing its path. As such, it is highly recommended that any wheel chair accessible swing be installed in a controlled location (fenced area) with secure access (locking gate) and constant adult supervision.

Based on product research and feedback solicited through the National Recreation & Park Association professional forum, staff identified three wheelchair accessible swing options including the ADA Swing Platform with Frame, the IP15 iSwing, and the Liberty Swing. While each of these options provide a fully accessible swing, the safety precautions result in the unit being separated from the rest of the equipment, and the individual using it does not directly benefit from the interaction and socialization with peers. Taking this into consideration, staff has also identified the Sway Fun Glider as an

alternative option. A memo detailing all four options is attached.

At this time, there are two open grant opportunities which may provide funding assistance for this project. First is the "Meet Me At The Park" grant from National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Priority consideration for this one to one matching grant for up to $30,000 is being given to inclusive play areas. Application is due by March 1, 2018 and awarded grants require the project show significant progress by August 1, 2018, with completion by November 1, 2018. The second grant is offered by KaBoom for up to $15,000. Awarded municipalities must spend a minimum of $24,000 on playground equipment for the project. The grant application deadline is May 4 and the project must be completed within twelve months of award.

Staff believes the data presented is an important consideration in selecting the best option for this project. In order to move forward with conceptual plan revisions and pursue potential grant opportunities, additional direction is requested on the four equipment options provided.

Strategic Plan

Maintained/Upgraded/Expanded City Infrastructure

Financial Impact

Funds for the Boundless Playground project are budgeted in the FY 17-18 Capital Improvement Program under project P17BPG for a total of $500,000.

Procurement

Upon selection of equipment, a revised conceptual plan and proposal will be secured. Pending Commission approval of the conceptual plan, staff will submit a separate agenda item requesting approval for the purchase of the Boundless Playground equipment and amenities at a future City Commission meeting.

Attachments:

1. Boundless Playground - Wheelchair Accessible Swing Research

Prepared by: Sandy Pfundheller

Department Director: Sandy Pfundheller