



To: Board of Parks and Recreation
From: Mark Heintz – Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: October 15, 2024
Re: Briar Creek Park playground

The Briar Creek Park playground was identified to be replaced in our repair and replacement schedule. \$125,000 was included as a budget figure in the Town's 2023 general obligation bond issue. Proposals were solicited from Sinclair Recreation, which is our local sales rep. for GameTime equipment. Each playground option is priced out through the cooperative purchasing group, Omnia Partners. The Town participates as a member of Omnia Partners and purchasing through this process fulfills the bidding requirement.

We priced out two different equipment options each with the option to have different safety surfacing options, engineered wood fiber (EWF) or poured-in-place (PIP). The playground options are higher than anticipated but I feel we can use some of the funds budgeted for the Community Estates Park site development as we're seeking different options in that subdivision. The proposed costs include removing the current equipment and safety surfacing, supplying the new equipment, freight, and installing the new equipment and chosen safety surfacing. The existing swing frames, spinning chair and shadow play sky runner will remain to be part of the updated playground. The swing will get new seats and hardware.

Option	Safety surfacing	Cost
Option 1	EWF	\$163,625.39
Option 1	PIP	\$419,228.39
Option 2	EWF	\$148,571.41
Option 2	PIP	\$405,174.41

After discussion and input from the local neighborhood, I told them we'd get proposals for both types of safety surfacing to share with the Board when considered. The only difference in each of the above options is the choice of using EWF or PIP. Poured-in-place is a nice surface but much more expensive than the engineered wood fiber. We ran a cost analysis to share with you as this is considered.

~Labor \$60/hour (salary rate/benefits and vehicle use)

~2 hours per visit

~Twice a week for 30 weeks (April-October) each year

~Playground lifespan: 15 years

Adding additional EWF every three years (\$5,000 per time includes material, delivery and installation)

plus 10 years at \$500/year for non-contractor years = \$30,000

$\$60 \times 2 \text{ hours} \times 2 \text{ days} \times 30 \text{ weeks} \times 15 \text{ years} = \$108,000 + \$30,000 \text{ in added EWF over lifespan} = \$138,000.$

The difference in the cost of using EWF and PIP for option #1 at the initial purchase is \$255,603 which is a cost savings of \$117,603 over the lifespan of the playground. This also does not include any repair costs to PIP which is needed from our experience at Community Park.

Staff recommends playground option #1.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the purchase of option #1 playground with the engineered wood fiber using the

Omnia Partners purchasing cooperative for Cobblestones Park at a total cost of \$163,625.39 to be paid from the Town's 2023 G.O. bond.