ELMHURST PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 2020

TO: Board of Park Commissioners

FROM: James W. Rogers, Executive Director

Angela Ferrentino, Director of Facilities Joseph Cogswell, Landscape Architect

RE: ELDRIDGE PARK EAST PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

ISSUE

Following the Park Board's January 13, 2020 approval of the Eldridge Park East Playground Improvement design, requests for sealed bids were advertised. Eldridge Park East Playground received a score of 78 out of 100 on the Vision 2020 Comprehensive and Strategic Plan Park Assessment with the recommendation to upgrade outdated equipment incorporating continued compliance to current safety standards and ADA accessibility requirements. Redevelopment of the park and playground safety surfacing meets the District's Strategic Plan Theme of Parks – Meet community need for parks, open space, and outdoor amenities.

DISCUSSION

The scope of the project includes the removal of the existing playground, removal of the existing wood fibar, removal of pavement not in ADA compliance, installation of a new playground, installation of new pavement, removal of existing turf and installation of prairie seed mix, sealcoating and striping the existing asphalt path and parking lot, and new site furnishings in accordance with the Eldridge Park East playground design. Staff concluded that purchasing the equipment separately in lieu of including it in the bid would reduce costs. Therefore, the majority of the equipment is proposed to be purchased through the U.S. Communities and Sourcewell (formerly National Joint Powers Alliance) joint purchasing agreements. Purchasing through these agreements meets all requirements for competitive bidding procedures.

Requests for sealed bids were advertised through a legal notice in the Elmhurst Suburban Life on February 7, 2020. Sixteen (16) letters of invite/bid packages were sent to playground and landscape contractors throughout the Chicagoland area. Ten (10) bid packages were electronically downloaded and five (5) contractors attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting held on February 14, 2020. The bid opening was held on February 24, 2020. Two (2) bids were received.

The lowest responsible base bid was received from Speedy Gonzalez Landscape, Inc. Chicago, IL, in the total amount of \$175,270. Reference checks were completed with the Chicago Park District and FH Paschen Contractors with positive reviews. In addition, a records search was completed with the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) and Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. with no violations found.

Staff is recommending to accept the bid alternates for a total of \$13,520. The bid alternate scope of work includes mudjacking the existing concrete stairs, core grouting and installing handrails, acid staining the existing concrete banding, painting the existing concrete retaining wall, constructing decorative animal tracks on the new concrete pavement surface, installing boulders, and installing a wayfinding sign.

The total amount budgeted in the Capital Improvement and SRA funds for the Eldridge Park East Playground Improvements and Playground Surfacing Project(s) including the playground redevelopment, and playground safety surfacing is \$480,000. The breakdown of the project costs are as listed below.

Playground Base Bid	\$161,750
Playground Bid Alternate(s)	\$ 13,520
Purchase of Playground (Joint Purchasing Agreement)	\$181,000
Purchase of Site Furnishings	\$ 13,500
Total	\$369,770

Remaining funds of \$110,230 will be utilized to cover the costs of the Eldridge Park East Playground Safety Surfacing Project.

Construction for the project is scheduled to begin June 15, 2020 with an anticipated completion date of September 18, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Park Commissioners (1) award the 2020 Eldridge Park East Playground Improvement Project in the amount of \$161,750 to Speedy Gonzalez Landscape, Inc. of Chicago, IL; (2) accept the bid alternates for \$13,520; (3) authorize the Executive Director to purchase play equipment and site amenities in the amount of \$194,500 utilizing joint purchasing agreements where possible; and (4) authorize the Executive Director to execute said contracts accordingly.

Thank you.

Attachment: Bid Tally Sheet

Eldridge Park East Playground Improvement Bid Alternate Exhibit

