
E L M H U R S T P A R K D I S T R I C T
B O A R D O F P A R K C O M M I S S I O N E R S
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 14, 2022

TO: Board of Park Commissioners

FROM: James W. Rogers, Executive Director
Angela Ferrentino, Director of Facilities
Jon Rudey, Landscape Architect

RE: ELDRIDGE PARK EAST PLAYGROUND SAFETY SURFACING PROJECT

ISSUE

According to the District's playground replacement schedule, the Eldridge Park east playground was due for replacement in 2020. However, this project was postponed in 2020 and again in 2021 to conserve spending thus lessen anticipated financial impacts of the pandemic. The Park Board approved the final playground concept plan on January 13, 2020 as budgeted in the 2020 budget. This project addresses the 2022 Strategic Work Plan Theme of Meet community need for parks, open space, and outdoor amenities.

DISCUSSION

The scope of the project includes the material and installation of poured in place permeable rubber safety surfacing and rubber safety tiles in accordance with the Eldridge Park East playground design.

Requests for sealed bids were advertised through a legal notice in the Elmhurst Suburban Life on February 4, 2022 and seven (7) letters of invite/bid packages were sent to playground and landscape contractors throughout the Chicagoland area. The bid opening was held on March 1, 2022 with three (3) bids submitted.

The lowest responsible base bid was received from Innovative Sports Surfacing of Mentor, OH in the amount of \$128,455. Staff completed reference checks for Innovative Sports Surfacing with Valley View School District, Naperville Community Unit School District 203, and Lake Shore Paving – Wright Park and all came back positive as work was reported to have been done on time and within budget. In addition, a records search was completed with the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) with no violations found.

The 2022 budget includes funds for this project utilizing the SRA Fund (\$200,000 to address accessibility improvements) and General Fund (\$275,000) reserves for a total budget of \$475,000. On February 14, 2022, the Park Board approved the purchase of playground equipment and site furnishings in the amount of \$221,612, and earlier tonight (March 14, 2022) staff recommended \$154,925 for the playground installation leaving

\$98,463 available for this project. Staff recommends using \$29,992 of the cost savings realized from the 2022 Courts Plus Cafe Roof project (\$39,263 under budget as approved on January 10, 2022) to cover the shortfall of \$29,992 for the safety surfacing project.

Budgeted for this project: \$475,000	
Purchase of Playground (Joint Purchasing Agreement)	\$ 208,922
Purchase of Site Furnishings	\$ 12,690
Playground Installation and Bid Additives	<u>\$ 154,925</u>
Total	\$ 376,537
Remaining Funds	\$ 98,463
Playground Safety Surfacing Project	\$128,455
Deficit	\$ 29,992

Please note that when this project was previously let for bid in 2020, prior to the pandemic, the total cost was \$478,170 as compared to the current pricing in 2022 of \$504,992. This represents a 5.6% increase over two years which is relatively moderate, especially given the current high rate of inflation. Also, the entirety of the increase is attributable to the cost of the actual playground equipment previously approved for purchase in February. Again this is not surprising given the rising costs of raw materials, particularly steel, used in the manufacturing process.

Construction for the playground surfacing project is scheduled to begin August 15, 2022 with an anticipated completion date of September 2, 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Park Commissioners (1) award the 2022 Eldridge Park East Playground Safety Surfacing project in the amount of \$128,455 to Innovative Sports Surfacing of Mentor, OH; (2) approve the use of \$29,992 realized from prior capital project savings; and (3) authorize the Executive Director to execute said contract accordingly.

Attachment: Bid Tally Sheet
Eldridge Park East Playground Safety Surfacing Exhibit