
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: September 25, 2023

TO: Board of Park Commissioners

FROM: James W. Rogers, Executive Director
Daniel Payne, Assistant Director/Director of Parks

RE: PAVER AND RETAINING WALL PROJECT

ISSUE

Due to settling bricks and other environmental conditions, the paver walkway in Wilder Park and retaining wall outside of Courts Plus require repairs and replacement essential to maintaining functional and accessible parks and facilities.

DISCUSSION

The paver walkway in the southwest end of Wilder Park provides access to the park, Conservatory, and Formal Gardens. The walkway is heavily used by park patrons, students walking to school, and garden wedding parties. There is significant settling of the subsurface leading to uneven surfacing throughout the area resulting in trip hazards. The retaining wall at the northeast end of Courts Plus has been deteriorating causing some leaning. The retaining wall holds the large landscape bed at the perimeter of the building. As the wall continues to tilt, it is beginning to push against the handrail for the neighboring walkway. To address these issues in the most efficient and effective manner, the paver project requires the removal and replacement of the paver walkway and repairs to sagging pavers in the adjacent gardens. The project bid includes the removal and replacement of the retaining wall at Courts Plus.

The two projects, pavers and retaining wall, were presented individually in the 2023 Capital Plan, but due to the similarities of the work required for both locations, staff elected to make the primary bid for the Wilder Park paver repairs and replacement and included the retaining wall at Courts Plus as Alternate #2. The goal was to secure optimal pricing and to complete both projects under one contract.

Bid specifications were developed and requests for sealed bids were advertised through a legal notice in the Elmhurst Suburban Life on July 28, 2023. Fifteen bid packets for the project were picked up by or emailed to contractors. On August 9, 2023, a mandatory pre-bid meeting was held with five contractors attending. On August 25, 2023, a public bid opening was held and four contractors submitted sealed bids. Funding for the paver and retaining wall project are available in the amount of \$60,000 in the Capital Improvement Fund. The project timeline is October 30, 2023 through December 1, 2023.

GC Designs, Inc. submitted the lowest responsible bid for the projects. A scope review was conducted with the contractor on September 14, 2023 and positive references for similar work were received from two general contractors and one municipality. A records search was completed with the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) with no violations found. GC Designs' base bid totaled \$54,530.25. Alternate #1 was for upgraded concrete paver restraints totaling \$2,602.50 and Alternate #2 was for the retaining wall construction totaling \$15,750.00. Staff is recommending rejecting Alternate #1 and accepting Alternate #2, bringing the total cost of the project to \$70,280.25. Despite being over budget, staff is recommending pursuing the project and offsetting the deficiency of \$10,280.25 from the contingency fund.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Park Commissioners (1) award the Paving and Retaining Wall Project to GC Designs, Inc. in the amount of \$54,530.25, (2) reject Alternate #1, (3) award Alternate #2 to GC Designs, Inc. in the amount of \$15,750, and (4) authorize the Executive Director to execute said contract accordingly.



Thank you.

Attachments: Bid Tally Sheet

2023 Paver and Retaining Wall Project

BID OPENING: August 25, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

COMPANY	BOND	ADDENDUM #1	ADDENDUM #2	BID PRICE	ADDITIVE #1	ADDITIVE #2
Addlawn Landscaping, Inc.	✓	✓	✓	190,600 ⁰⁰	-	18,964 ⁵⁰
GC Design, Inc.	✓	✓	✓	54,530 ²⁵	2,602 ⁵⁰	15,750 ⁰⁰
Innovation Landscapes	✓	✓	✓	148,310 ⁰⁰	5,205 ⁰⁰	23,835 ⁰⁰
Misfits Construction						
Semper Fi Land, Inc.	✓	✓	✓	425,394 ⁸⁰	15,615 ⁰⁰	44,430 ⁰⁰

 8-25-23
 WITNESS DATE
 08/25/2023
 ASSISTANT TREASURER DATE