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**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**

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**DATE:** February 13, 2023

**TO:** Board of Park Commissioners

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

**RE:      PLAYGROUND SAFETY SURFACING PROJECT**

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**ISSUE**

As part of the 2023 capital plan, in addition to planned improvements at Ben Allison Park, staff proposed re-topping the wear course on play area soft surfacing at Wilder and Marjorie Davis Parks as it surfacing has deteriorated at each of the parks. However, initial bids for the surfacing came in over budget so, as a result, at the January 9, 2023 board meeting, staff recommended the Park Board reject all bids and direct staff to move forward to value engineering (VE) the proposed project. This project addresses the Vision 2020 Plan Theme: Meet Community Need for Parks, Open Space, and Outdoor Amenities.

**DISCUSSION**

***Safety Surfacing***

In addition to the planned improvements at Ben Allison Park, age, use, and UV exposure at Wilder and Marjorie Davis Parks have caused deterioration resulting in edge separations, cracking, and missing surface areas. Standard useful life of this type of surface is 10 to 15 years, however, in 2023 Wilder Park will approach 12 years and Marjorie Davis Park 14 years. Therefore, repairing and/or replacing only the surfacing is advisable in 2023 since the playground equipment at Marjorie Davis Park and Wilder Park will not be due for replacement until 2030 and 2031 respectively. A new wear course would refresh the play area appearance and ensure continued safe and accessible use by park patrons.

***Bid Results & Value Engineering (VE)***

As a result of all bids being rejected on January 9, 2023 due to available budget and in order to realize a reduction in costs on the project, staff revised the plans and specifications to reflect the value engineering options listed below without a significant change to the broader themes or overall designs. Staff then prepared updated plans and specifications based on the VE proposal.

**Value Engineering:**

- Eliminate and add as alternate the leaf inlay patterns at Ben Allison Park.
- Tweak color mixes to include 50% black. This color change significantly lowers the cost per square foot and adds depth to the color blends.
- Work with surfacing experts to develop a more cost effective high-traffic wear course solution.
- Specify Aromatic Binder which provides another per square foot cost savings.

The value engineered drawings and specifications were released for bid on January 13, 2023 and on January 30, 2023, three bids were received with the lowest bid from Innovative Sport Surfacing for \$223,065 (tally sheet attached).

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. Innovative Sports Surfacing completed the safety surfacing project at the Eldridge Park east playground in fall 2022 and staff was satisfied with their work. In addition, a records search was completed with the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) with no violations found.

As illustrated in the chart below, the 2023 capital budget includes \$32,000 for safety surface replacement at Ben Allison Park, \$75,000 for safety surface repair at Wilder Park, and \$60,000 for safety surface repair at Marjorie Davis Park.

<b>Budgeted</b>		<b>Base Bid Received</b>
Ben Allison Safety Surfacing	\$ 32,000	\$ 74,555
Wilder Park Resurfacing	75,000	\$ 92,555
Marjorie Davis Resurfacing	60,000	\$ 55,955
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$167,000</b>	<b><u>\$223,065</u></b>

Value engineering led to an overall estimated cost savings of \$70,500, compared to the original bids opened on December 20, 2022. Two alternates were made available to bidders, the first for the leaf inlays at Ben Allison Park (\$2,500) and the second, a removal and replacement of existing surface course in designated areas at Marjorie Davis Park (\$5,000) due to spider-like cracking. Following staff review, acceptance of the alternates is recommended.

The available funds for the project totals \$167,000 while the recommended bid total is \$223,065. Staff is recommending that the shortfall of \$56,065 in funding for this project be offset with the cost savings from the 2023 Miscellaneous Paving Improvements project to be presented to the Park Board on February 13, 2023, which came in \$75,670 under budget.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Park Commissioners (1) accept Alternate #1 in the amount of \$2,500 and Alternate #2 in the amount of \$5,000; (2) award the bid for the 2023 Playground Safety Surface Project at Ben Allison, Wilder, and Marjorie Davis Parks in the amount of \$230,565 to Innovative Soft Surfacing, Inc.; and (3) authorize the Executive Director to execute said contract accordingly.

Thank you.

Attached: Bid Tally Sheet

# 2023 Playground Safety Surface Project

Bid Opening: January 30, 2023 10:45 am

No.		Bond	Add. 1	Ben Allison Park	Wilder Park	Marjorie Davis Park	Alternate 1	Alternate 2
1	SURFACE AMERICA	X	X	96,961 <sup>00</sup>	98,412 <sup>00</sup>	72,708 <sup>00</sup>	6,747 <sup>00</sup>	14,940 <sup>00</sup>
2	INNOVATIVE	X	X	74,555 <sup>00</sup>	92,555 <sup>00</sup>	55,955 <sup>00</sup>	2,500 <sup>00</sup>	5,000 <sup>00</sup>
3	PERFECT TURF	X	X	92,385 <sup>00</sup>	84,220 <sup>00</sup>	59,235 <sup>00</sup>	7,570 <sup>00</sup>	8,400 <sup>00</sup>
4								
5								

Witness: [Signature] Date: 1/30/23

Asst  
Treasurer: [Signature] Date: 01/30/23