



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

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COUNCIL COMMITTEE ITEM SUMMARY REPORT

MEETING DATE: APRIL 26, 2022
TO: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
FROM: CHANTELL O'NEAL
AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Wiggly Giggly Playground Update

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW:

On March 28, 2022 City Council gave direction to staff to phase the project into two parts, with replacement of the playground equipment first and then surfacing after. Additional direction included using the \$90,000 ± that has been set aside for the park Capital Improvements, creating a campaign to raise additional funds, and determining what equipment and style will best meet the City's needs.

As Wiggly Giggly is the only City-owned playground available to our community's young children and it is the only playground between Leggett and Caspar, it serves approximately ±2,659 children in the 95437 zip code. Being the only playground for all these kids, makes it a very popular place for gatherings and play dates. The current playground only (phase I) estimate for the cost of replacing the equipment is:

Playground Equipment	\$299,000
Construction Management/ Contingency/ Contracts/ Demolition	\$60,000
<u>Total Cost is</u>	<u>\$359,000</u>
Funds Available	(\$90,000)
Unmet Need	\$269,000

Work completed since the last meeting:

1. Staff has reached out to multiple commercial playground equipment companies and received positive feedback about the best way to proceed with this project; including companies who will prepare the site design options on our behalf and even offer assistance with creating a marketing strategy campaign to bring the idea to life and generate excitement within the community. The commercial playground equipment companies of interest are listed below with links to catalogs for envisioning some playground options, colors, themes, etc. Some of

these websites also feature resources for securing funding and applying for grant funds.

MRC Recreation <https://mrcrec.com/catalogs>

The City received a very expedient response from MRC with several ideas and offers for assistance with the marketing campaign.

Miracle Play Group <https://www.miracleplaygroup.com/catalogs>

The City received a very expedient and excited response from Miracle Playgroup. The member who contacted staff has ties to the Fort Bragg Community and expressed interest in the park's project success.

Ross Recreation Equipment <https://www.rossrec.com/online-catalogs/>

Ross is located out of Santa Rosa and came highly recommended from discussions from grantors. Staff has not received a response from their team at the time of this writing, but will continue to attempt contact.

Landscape Structures <https://www.playlsi.com/en/view-playground-catalogs/>

Staff recently found this organization when visiting a park out of town. They were only contacted the day of writing this memo. This site includes a whole section about grant funding.

2. Staff has also been in contact with Blue Zones of Mendocino, who has offered to host the Wiggly Giggly Park Project at their Blue Economy Symposium event table happening May 21st – May 22nd.
3. The City has also received positive feedback from the Community regarding the plans to raise funds for the equipment replacement. One Community member has expressed interest in assisting with raising the funding.
4. On April 19, we were notified that the State Farm Neighborhood Assist Grant (\$25,000) has made it into the top 200 finalists. The top 100 projects with the highest votes will receive \$25K each to help fund the Park Renovation. This grant was made possible through working with the Adventist Health Communications team who is preparing a write-up and Press Release to push this information out to get public support. The City will also be spreading the word via press release and other means of communications as well **as we need every community member in Mendocino County online voting for this project**. Voting for the Project begins on April 27, 2022 and ends on May 6, 2022. The State Farm Grant can be accessed by viewing this website: <https://www.neighborhoodassist.com/entry/2045173>.

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss next steps for project.

NOTICATIONS:

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