

City Council Agenda Item Memo

From: Kristin Zimmerman, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director

Council Meeting: April 16, 2024

Subject: Resolution 24-033: support of application for the Land and Water Conservation Fund 2024 Grant Cycle

Presenter: Kristin Zimmerman, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director

Summary:

Staff recommends approval of this Resolution for support of the Brookings Inclusive Play Project and the grant application for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The initial phase of this project will be a large destination playground, splash pad, and restrooms designed with accessibility in mind.

Background:

The Brookings Inclusive Play Project aims to create accessible and inclusive play spaces for people of all abilities, ensuring every person can participate in play and recreation regardless of their physical or cognitive abilities. This initiative seeks to foster community engagement and promote equity by designing and implementing playgrounds that accommodate diverse needs, foster social inclusion, and enrich children and families' lives throughout the Brookings area.

Throughout the design process groups will be involved such as the Brookings Disability Awareness Committee, parent groups, sports user groups and more.

The project's centerpiece will feature a themed destination playground and splash pad. Other amenities for the park will be added as grant funding and donations are received.

The location of the project is proposed for the Fishback Soccer Complex.

Item Details:

The Brookings Inclusive Play Project at the Fishback Soccer Complex will be a one-of-a-kind play experience designed to meet and exceed all ADA standards. This playground will also qualify the City of Brookings to be a National Demonstration Site and a Play-for-ALL playground.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant requires that the area that is supported through the grants funds remain a public park in perpetuity, for this application the area will be the playground and splashpad areas.

The estimated budget expenses are below. The project will be paid for through \$900,000 in the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Capital Improvement Plan for 2025, grants and donations.

Brookings Inclusive Play Project Budget Estimated Expenditures	
Playground	\$ (1,314,668.64)
Bathrooms	\$ (200,000.00)
Splashpad	\$ (350,000.00)
Mini-Pitch	\$ (250,000.00)
Pavilion	\$ (300,000.00)
Park Amenities	\$ (75,000.00)
Trail Connectivity	\$ (250,000.00)
Contingency	\$ (273,966.86)
Total	\$ (3,013,635.50)

Legal Consideration:

None

Strategic Plan Consideration:

Safe, Inclusive, Connected Community – Makes the facility more accessible to all visitors and residents.

Economic Growth – Destinations like this become an attraction for families spending time near Brookings. Families will often make a "day trip" to visit destination playgrounds and splash pads.

Financial Consideration:

This project will use 2025 Capital Project Funding, Grants, Donations, and TIF funding.

Options and Recommendation:

The City Council has the following options:

1. Approve as presented
2. Amend
3. Deny
4. Move the item to a Study Session
5. Discuss / take no action / table

Staff recommends approval.

Supporting Documentation:

Resolution

Preliminary Playground Renderings