



## **Staff Report**

**RE:** Vlasis Playground Site Furnishings

**Department/Program:** Parks and Recreation

**Explanation:**

Site furnishings for the Vlasis Park Playground were included in the 2025 operating budget at \$14,200.

The increase is due to several factors. Costs are increasing due to inflation/tariffs as we've seen for several years. In addition, this proposal is for a more durable line of furnishings that should last longer than what was originally proposed. Also, feedback from the Parks and Recreation Citizen's Advisory Committee. They've asked us to start creating more of an identity and sense of place in Ballwin parks by using consistent site furnishings across locations.

With that in mind, staff took a look at the benches installed at Ferris Park in 2020 and feel they're a good fit for what the committee is suggesting—durable, good-looking, and a step in the right direction.

The quote from Fry & Associates to purchase similar furnishings to Ferris Park came in at \$28,998.75. The purchase would be made through a purchasing cooperative, which handles the bidding process for cities like ours.

Because of savings from the New Ballwin Tennis Court project, we're still able to move forward with this purchase and stay within the Parks operating budget.

**Recommendation:**

Approve the purchase of 4 tables, 5 benches and 3 trash receptacles from Fry & Associates utilizing the Greenbush Cooperative Purchasing Program.

**Submitted By:** Chris Conway, CPRP, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Date:** April 14, 2025