



KIDS AROUND THE WORLD: *A NEW CHAPTER FOR BTX PLAYGROUNDS*

CITY COUNCIL: SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

STAFF PRESENTER: JEN BASHAM, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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HARVEST LOCALLY. BUILD GLOBALLY.

Transforming playgrounds through upcycling and planting them in impoverished communities worldwide ensures that every child has access to play—an essential component for their physical, emotional, and social growth.

1207

Playgrounds Built

51

Built in 2024

87

Countries Served





FROM LAKE ELMO, MN



TO PUNTA ALTA, ECUADOR

Addressing Community Needs, Benefits, and Impact:



- **Addressing Community Needs: *Cost Savings***
 - Reduces costs on equipment disassembly, removal, and disposal.
 - Allows the City to extend and allocate additional dollars to other park improvements and community projects, maximizing budget impact.
 - Cost savings vary depending on the playground being replaced.
- **Impact: *Serves Underprivileged Areas Globally***
 - Allows us to provide playgrounds to children in impoverished communities worldwide.
 - *Opportunity for Volunteerism:* Community members can help with equipment removal (liability waiver required).
- **Benefits: *Recycle and Upcycle Equipment***
 - Promotes environmental sustainability by recycling and repurposing old playground equipment, reducing waste and extending the life of valuable resources.

Program History and Overview

- Program History
 - Established: 1994 (currently celebrating its 30th year)
 - Mission: To provide safe play spaces for children in underprivileged communities worldwide (non-profit).
 - Impact: Served in 87 countries since inception
- Program Overview
 - PLAY Upcycling Program:
 - Goal: To upcycle playground equipment and provide safe and engaging play environments for children in impoverished communities globally.
 - Focus: Reusing and repurposing playground materials to extend their life and reach more communities in need.



1,161 Playgrounds HAVE BEEN BUILT FOR KIDS SINCE OUR FIRST PLAYGROUND WAS INSTALLED IN BROVARY, UKRAINE IN **1994**



74 Playgrounds were built in 21 different countries



594 Volunteers traveled with us to build playgrounds



9,866 Kids gained access to a safe place to play

PLAY

In our 30th year of providing playgrounds for kids in impoverished communities, our generous partners continued to bring splashes of color, sounds of laughter and shouts of joy to what were once barren spaces. Both refurbished and new playgrounds were constructed in a variety of settings: community centers, orphanages, children's hospitals, churches, schools, and more. No matter the setting, the goal was the same - to bless the children, to let them know they are loved, and to let them simply be kids! As often as possible, we worked through the local church, equipping pastors to bless their communities with a place where families can gather, kids can grow, and relationships can be built.



Agreement Term Highlights



PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT REMOVAL AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

This PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT REMOVAL AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made and entered into effective this 3rd day of September, 2024, by and between the city of Burleson (the "City"), a Texas municipal corporation located in the counties of Johnson and Tarrant, and Kids Around The World, Inc. (the "Contractor"), an Illinois not-for-profit corporation. The City and the Contractor are hereafter referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties".

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the City owns certain playground equipment located at Bailey Lake, Bartlett Park, Cedar Ridge Park, Centennial Park, Chisenhall Sports Complex, Cindy Park, Clark Park, Claudia's Playground, Elk Ridge Park, Hajek Park, Hebele Park, Hidden Vistas Park, Meadowcrest Park, Mistletoe Hill Park, Oak Valley Park North, Prairie Timber Park, Robert Joseph Park, Wakefield Heights Park, Warren Park, and Willow Creek Park as more particularly described in Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Equipment"), which is scheduled to be removed and replaced; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that the residual value, if any, of the Equipment is less than the cost to disassemble, remove and dispose of the Equipment; and

WHEREAS, Contractor desires to acquire the Equipment in connection with its charitable program of providing playgrounds in underprivileged locations; and

WHEREAS, Contractor is willing, at its sole cost and expense, to disassemble and remove the Equipment in accordance with the schedule set by the City; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that the Equipment should be replaced as determined by City personnel and the City's standard policies and procedures in determining the useful life of playground equipment; and

WHEREAS, the City is willing to donate the Equipment to Contractor subject to and in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that the donation of the Equipment in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement accomplishes a legitimate public purpose in aiding the City in maintaining its parks; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that this Agreement provides a return benefit to the City for the donation, specifically, that, among other things, the Agreement provides for the disassembly and removal of end-of-life playground equipment at no cost, thereby saving the City money; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that this Agreement provides the City with sufficient controls to ensure the public purpose underlying the donation is carried out and accomplished; and

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the promises and mutual agreements set forth

- **Donation of Equipment:**
 - The equipment is donated "as-is" without any warranties or guarantees regarding its condition or safety. *Kids Around The World, Inc. assumes all risks* associated with the equipment after donation, and the City disclaims all liabilities post-donation.
- **Removal Process:**
 - Kids Around The World, Inc. is responsible for the disassembly and removal of the playground equipment at no cost to the City. *The organization assumes liability* for any accidents or damages during the removal process, adhering to a defined schedule and coordination with city officials.
- **Usage Restrictions:**
 - The equipment cannot be repurposed or resold within the United States. *The organization is responsible for ensuring proper disposal or use overseas.*

Roles and Responsibilities



- **City of Burleson:** The City's role includes providing access to the equipment, coordinating with the removal team, and ensuring that the removal process aligns with city regulations and standards.
- **Kids Around The World, Inc.:** The organization is tasked with the actual disassembly and removal of the equipment, restoring the areas affected by their activities to their original condition, and adhering to all insurance and indemnification requirements as outlined in the agreement.

THE *POWER* OF PLAY

Play is essential for multiple aspects of a child's development. When a playground is introduced into a community a child gains:



Emotional Benefit

of joy, creativity, imagination and hope



Social Opportunity

for increased compassion, sharing and inclusivity



Physical Improvement

through enhanced coordination, agility and overall health

Timeline and Next Steps



- ① • Park Board Agreement Recommendation
 - *Date: September 12*
- ② • Council Agreement Execution
 - *Date: September 23*
- ③ • Playground Removal
 - *Estimated Date: Early October (Week of October 7)*
- ④ • New Playground Installation: Meadowcrest
 - *Estimated Date: Mid to Late October*

Options



Staff recommendation



Deny

Approve Playground Equipment Removal and Indemnification Agreement with Kids Around The World, Inc. for the donation, disassembly, and removal of end-of-life playground equipment at no cost to the City.