



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

AGENDA SECTION	WORK SESSION
MEETING DATE	JULY 6, 2026

ITEM:	Sullivan Lake Park Playground Design Concepts (20 Minutes)		
Presenting Item: John W. Stutzman, Parks and Recreation Director			
DEPARTMENT: Park and Recreation		BY/DATE: John W. Stutzman, June 30, 2026	
CORE CITY STRATEGIES: <i>(please indicate areas that apply by adding an "X" in front of the selected text below)</i>			
☐ Community that Grows with Purpose and Equity		☒ Engaged, Effective and Forward-Thinking	
☒ High Quality Public Spaces		☐ Resilient and Prosperous Economy	
☒ Safe, Accessible and Built for Everyone		☒ Inclusive and Connected Community	

BACKGROUND

The City is progressing with the replacement of the playground at Sullivan Lake Park, with the goal of completing installation before the end of 2026. Staff is working with Flagship Recreation, a partner of Landscape Structures, to develop playground concepts that provide engaging, accessible, and inclusive play opportunities for users of all ages and abilities.

Once the playground design is finalized, staff intends to utilize the State of Minnesota's Cooperative Purchasing Venture (CPV) for the playground equipment and installation services. Using the competitively awarded state contract will streamline the process, ensure compliance with the City's purchasing requirements, and help maintain the project's schedule for installation later this year.

The playground equipment, site work, and installation are anticipated to be approximately \$450,000, with 50% of the project funded through a DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant awarded in 2025 for the Sullivan Lake Park playground project. Additional park improvements, including updated park paths, lighting, a drinking fountain, and relocation of the portable toilets with a new enclosure, are planned to occur in coordination with and following completion of the Sullivan Lake Park lift station project anticipated in 2027.

PROJECT STATUS

The preliminary playground concepts were reviewed by Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Engineering staff before being presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission on June 24. During that meeting, the Commission provided feedback regarding preferred play features, accessibility, site layout, and overall design. Staff has shared the feedback with Flagship Recreation, which is preparing a revised concept incorporating comments received from staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Included with this agenda item are the original two playground concepts for Council's reference while the revised concept is being developed. The updated concept will be presented during a public engagement meeting on Tuesday, July 14, at City Hall to gather additional community feedback prior to finalizing the playground design. Community feedback will be used to refine the concept before staff moves forward with

procurement and installation. Staff's current schedule anticipates seeking City Council approval of the purchase order for the playground equipment and installation at the July 27 City Council meeting, pending completion of the design and public engagement process.

Requested Council Action/ Discussion Topics / Key Questions
No action needed. For City Council review and discussion only.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- a) Sullivan Lake Park Playground Concept Option 1
- b) Sullivan Lake Park Playground Concept Option 2