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To: Honorable Mayor Whitfield and Members of the City Council

From: Danny Roberts, City Manager

Date: March 12, 2026

Subject: Bids for Toddler Park renovation for ADA

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the City Council continue discussion on the Toddler Park renovation due to the overall cost of the proposed remodel. Goodwyn Mills Cawood (GMC) has provided a value-engineering option intended to reduce project costs while maintaining ADA accessibility and core design intent. Council direction is needed on whether to proceed, modify scope, or explore additional funding strategies.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

- Lowest responsive bid: \$715,065 (includes 5% contingency).
- Funding sources available or identified:
 1. 2019 Walton County SPLOST (321-6200)
 2. 2017 Gwinnett County SPLOST (320-6200)
 3. Walton County Health Foundation Grant: \$40,000
 4. General Fund (as needed to close any remaining gap)

Even with these sources, the project cost exceeds earlier expectations, and staff recommends evaluating other options before committing funds.



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BACKGROUND: Toddler Park was purchased by the City in 2001. In 2005, playground equipment was installed at a cost of \$40,000, supported in part by a \$10,000 donation from the Loganville Woman’s Club.

Over the past several years, the need for upgrades—particularly ADA accessibility improvements—has been discussed. At that time, grant funding was limited, and the project was deferred.

With renewed interest in ADA compliance, safety, and modernization, the City initiated a renovation bid process. While the project received competitive attention, the bid amounts were higher than anticipated, prompting the need for further review and potential scope adjustments.

Discussion:

- Whether to proceed with the lowest bid as submitted.
- Whether to adopt one or more of GMC’s value-engineering options to reduce cost.
- Whether to allocate additional General Fund dollars or seek supplemental grant opportunities.
- Whether to relocate to Destination Park to use Gwinnett SPLOST funds.