

To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Cindy Krieg
Date: March 13, 2025
Agenda Item: Resolution 11 – Series 2025



Request

Council is asked to approve Resolution 11- Series 2025 approving allocation of funds for Little Beach Park improvements, and additional grant seeking opportunities.

Introduction and Analysis

The Town has identified a need for a coordinated vision and framework to guide the future of the Little Beach Park area due to the increasing use and greater intensity of community and recreation activity. In 2021, the Town of Minturn contracted with Zehren & Associates to develop a recreation-based plan for Little Beach Park and the surrounding area. The purpose of the plan is to “establish a long-term vision for the area as the Town’s major recreation hub” and “unify existing facilities and identify appropriate improvements to support community recreation, trails, and open space uses.” The planning process engaged the residents and stakeholders of Minturn through an open house, pop-up events, in-person and virtual meetings, and guided tours of the area and outlined a variety of potential improvements suggested and vetted with members of the public and stakeholders. The plan culminated in recommendations and concept design plans.

The hope is that with the proposed Little Beach Park & Amphitheater improvements, we can ensure that this area continues to serve as an inclusive and accessible hub for recreation, arts, performances, and community events. The \$482,017 budget for the project includes:

- \$147,000 to stabilize the existing timber retaining wall
- \$64,392 to reconstruct the interior access road
- \$18,000 for demolition of existing bathrooms
- \$29,000 for a new multi-use court
- \$178,000 for updating and replacing the playground
- \$45,625 for one new seating area

The project will enable people of all ages and abilities to access and enjoy the park’s wide variety of offerings, enhance the overall user experience, and create greater synergy between uses.

The Town of Minturn has received \$147,000 in funding via a DOLA for phase 1 of the planned Little Beach Park improvements, and continues to seek additional funding for phases 2 and 3.

Phase 1 will consist of stabilizing the existing failing retaining wall on the north end of the park, removal of the playground, and reconstructing the interior access road all the way to the stage / amphitheater area. Additionally, the vault bathroom will be removed and accessible parking will be slated for that area. The DOLA grant is for \$147,000, with \$153,000 being matched by the Town. The Town matching funds are slated to come from the Battle Mountain Funding that was allocated for use of Little Beach Park improvements. To maintain transparency, staff are updating both Town Council and the public that this is the planned use for those funds.

Phase 2 will consist of playground replacement with a new playground (as well as new picnic tables / patio area) in the spring of 2026. The Town is seeking a T-Mobile Hometown Grant (<https://www.t-mobile.com/brand/hometown-grants>) to help offset these costs. If awarded, the T-Mobile grant would fund \$50,000 toward this project with no required match. The remaining cost would be covered by the Town also from the Little Beach Park Battle Mountain Funding. It should be noted that the current equipment does not meet current safety and insurance guidelines.

Phase 3 (date TBD) would consist of enhancements on the south end of the park / amphitheater. Planned improvements to that area include extending both the stage and the lawn seating area, regrading the access path (to make it both ADA accessible with a new ramp, and more pedestrian and bike friendly in general, create a concessions area repurposing the old Myers Barn, and ideally also some new restroom facilities.

There is a planned replacement of the existing basketball court with a new

Community Input

There was significant community input throughout the Little Beach Park Recreation Area public planning process.

Additionally, staff has publicly noticed an invitation to bid for anyone interested in removal and disassembly of the existing playground equipment (the Town will accept bids for the equipment, with the removal cost being covered by the bidder). The other option is demolition, which would be handled by the contractor.

Budget/Staff Impact:

Full project budget noted above.

Strategic Plan Alignment

The Town Council's review and approval of the resolution aligns with the following key strategies:

- Transparency ● Collaboration ● Resourcefulness

Attachments

- Resolution 11 - Series 2025