



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 12-05-2024

REQUESTER: Bethany Grissom, Park Planner

PRESENTER: Bethany Grissom, Park Planner

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE NEW PLAYGROUND DESIGN FOR WILLIAM MORGAN PARK.

BACKGROUND:

In October of 2015, Norman residents passed the Norman Forward Initiative, which funds various projects through a ½ % sales tax increase over 15 years. The Norman Forward Initiative includes a project to improve existing neighborhood parks. The funds for this project are “pay-go,” meaning projects can only be completed once the funds are available. The overall NORMAN FORWARD Neighborhood Park Implementation plan was presented to the Board of Park Commissioners in March 2022 for approval.

DISCUSSION:

On September 21st and September 28th, 2024, RFP Number 2425-22 for the William Morgan Park Playground Project was advertised in the *Norman Transcript*. Requests for proposals were distributed directly to ten playground equipment vendors, five of whom responded with complete proposals.

Parks and Recreation staff carefully evaluated the playground proposals based on how well each met the requested amenities as outlined in the RFP and the overall play value provided by the designs. The winning proposal stood out from the other proposals due to the number and variety of boulder sizes and age groups accommodated. All bidders were asked to maximize the \$230,000 playground budget and design a playground with boulders of various heights so climbers of all ages and skill levels could be accommodated. When the different projects were compared, it was determined that the playground offered by Happy Playgrounds LLC best met the design requirements and had the greatest variety of equipment.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Park Board of Commissioners recommend the Director of Parks and Recreation send the contract to the City Council to award the William Morgan Park Playground project to Happy Playgrounds LLC.