



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 2/22/2022

REQUESTER: James Briggs, Park Development Manager

PRESENTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP-2122-33, CONTRACT K-2122-97 BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND HAPPY PLAYGROUNDS, L.L.C., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000, PERFORMANCE BOND B-2122-69; STATUTORY BOND B-2122-70; AND MAINTENANCE BOND MB-2122-51 FOR THE CHERRY CREEK PARK PLAYGROUND PROJECT; AND RESOLUTION R-2122-91 GRANTING TAX-EXEMPT STATUS.

BACKGROUND:

In October of 2015, Norman citizens passed the Norman Forward Initiative, which funds various projects through a ½ % sales tax increase over 15 years. The Norman Forward Initiative is a project to improve all of the city's neighborhood parks. The funds for this project are "pay-as-you-go," meaning that Parks can only do a few park projects per year as the funds from the sales tax are collected. Knowing this, Park Development staff worked to identify a set of criteria to determine which parks had the most immediate needs to bring them up to the standards we expect in our public parks. The overall NORMAN FORWARD Neighborhood Park Improvement plan was presented to the Board of Park Commissioners in March of 2017 and then to the City Council in May 2017 for approval to spend the first five years of funding. After completing renovation projects at our four most needy parks in the program's first four years, Cherry Creek Park was identified as the next park for playground and park improvements. The Cherry Creek Park improvements include a major playground replacement with synthetic grass safety surfacing, and a new restroom.

DISCUSSION:

On November 12 and 19, 2021, Request for Proposal (RFP) Number 2122-33 for the Cherry Creek Park Playground Project was advertised in the Norman Transcript, Southwest Construction News, e-Plan, i-Square Foot, Bid News, and Dodge Report. Requests for proposals were distributed directly to five playground equipment vendors, three of whom responded with complete proposals.

Parks and Recreation staff evaluated the playground proposals based on their providing the optimum number of diverse play events, overall play area, and age appropriateness for the neighborhood. The play equipment chosen maximized play value for all ages by incorporating multi-level play decks, climbing components, and slides, with heights that range from 3 feet to 8 feet tall. This will allow children of all ages to enjoy the equipment in various ways. The additional stand-alone play components in the playground will include other unique play equipment, which sets it apart from other proposals and makes the playground even more innovative, accommodating an extensive range of ages and abilities on the equipment. All bidders were asked to maximize the \$200,000 playground budget and include accessible features as part of their proposal. When the different projects were compared, it was determined that the playground being offered by Happy Playgrounds, L.L.C., presented the most significant number and variety of play features versus the total price.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1:

It is recommended that Request for Proposal RFP 2122-33 be awarded to Happy Playgrounds L.L.C. in the amount of \$200,000 for the Cherry Creek Park Playground Project. The funding of \$200,000 is available for this project in Norman Forward Neighborhood Park Improvements, Construction (account 51798830-46101; project NFP101).

RECOMMENDATION NO.2:

It is further recommended that City Council approve Contract K-2122-97, Performance Bond B-2122-69, Statutory Bond B-2122-70, and Maintenance Bond MB-2122-51.

RECOMMENDATION NO.3:

It is further recommended that Happy Playgrounds L.L.C. be authorized and appointed as project agent for the Cherry Creek Park Playground Project by Resolution R-2122-91.