



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 2/22/2022

REQUESTER: Cinthya Allen, Chief Diversity & Equity Officer and ADA Coordinator

PRESENTER: Cinthya Allen, Chief Diversity & Equity Officer and ADA Coordinator

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2122-97:
A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, APPROPRIATING \$350,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE TO UPDATE AND IMPROVE ANDREWS PARK PLAYGROUND TO BRING IT UP TO FULL AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) STANDARDS.

BACKGROUND:

On November 1, 2021, the City of Norman's ADA Technician and Coordinator hosted McIntosh Transforms for a full-day training on ADA compliance, focused on parks and events. Part of the training included a site visit to Andrews Park and its main playground. It was found the main playground could benefit from updates to ensure full ADA accessibility, specifically pertaining to the concrete barrier which encloses the main playground. The barrier prohibits anyone with different accessibility needs to easily access the playground facilities.

On January 20, 2022, City staff presented the City Council Finance Committee with a request to consider appropriations from the General Fund Balance to fund renovations to the Andrews Park Playgrounds to make it fully accessible. Photos were presented to depict the basis for the need and are attached.

DISCUSSION:

On January 20, 2022, the City Council Finance Committee heard and discussed the need for the Andrews Park Playground improvements to bring it up to fully accessible standards. Specific conversation was had pertaining the retaining wall, which is used to hold the mulch. This causes two issues: 1) the retaining wall prevents the space from being fully accessible; and 2) the mulch itself does not provide for an accessible surface. Inquiries were made regarding other Andrews ADA improvements. Inquiries were made to clarify if other Andrews Park ADA improvement plans are already in place. It was confirmed other plans are in place, however, the cement retaining wall and surfacing situations are not currently on any previously-approved plans. This recent finding and recommendation would ensure ADA accessibility once constructed. The City Council Finance Committee Members asked if playground equipment would be replaced to increase accessibility. It was confirmed the playground could be reconstructed entirely to ensure the playground equipment is accessible. The next step will be to identify a vendor who can

provide ADA accessible equipment and perform the work. Once the vendor is identified and a proposal is selected, a contract for installation will come before Council for approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

To make the necessary ADA improvements at Andrews Park, Staff recommends approval of an appropriation in the amount of \$350,000 from the General Fund Balance (10-29000), to ADA Andrews Park, Construction (50794442-46101; Project PR0027).