



AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9-1-26

TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: Curtis Hall – Parks Manager

SUBJECT: Seeking approval to execute a contract with Natural Solutions, LLC, for the installation of Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF) throughout various playground locations in the amount of 1000 yards or “not to exceed” \$47,750.

ISSUE

Should the City transition from natural wood chips to a certified EWF product for playground surfacing at playgrounds.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend awarding a contract to Natural Solutions, LLC, for the installation of 3”- 4” of EWF at various playground locations.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

The City currently applies wood chips made by the Department of Public Works to playground play areas. This material decomposes more quickly than other products now available on the market. Industry standards are evolving to support using certified engineered wood fibers, which do not decompose as quickly. City staff solicited bids from known EWF installation contractors in the area and Natural Solutions, LLC, provided the lowest bid meeting City expectations.

FUNDING IMPACT

If approved, this project will be funded by using the “ADA Infrastructure Improvements- City Wide Park Program” account line, of which, \$210,176 remains from the original budgeted amount of \$250,000. Staff will incorporate funding into future years’ budgets approximately \$20,000 annually, to continue with this project, further filling in areas as the existing wood chips decompose.

Attached are quotes provided by each vendor. A summary of contractor provided price quotes are below.

Contractor	Cost of material per/yd installed
Mulch Express	\$53.55/yd
Natural Solutions	\$47.75/yd

IF APPROVED, NEXT STEPS:

Upon approval, staff will coordinate installation with Natural Solutions, LLC, for installation this fall.

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

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