



PARKS BOARD AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING SHEET

Meeting Date: May 2, 2023	Department: Police	Presented By: Sergeant Jaclin Ramirez
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AGENDA ITEM:

Adding Communication Boards to city playgrounds, parks, and trails in the City

BACKGROUND:

- ✚ The purpose of a Communication Board is to provide a voice for those with communication challenges, as their way to “speak” and communicate with others
- ✚ It is a structured way to interact and connect for those with, but not limited to, Autism, Down Syndrome, other developmental delays, and those who are hearing or visually impaired
- ✚ The photos on the board come from speech programs which are used as effective forms of communication by Speech language Pathologist/Therapist and, in application programs such as Proloquo2Go. These programs are used by both children and adults
- ✚ The communication board includes English on one side and Spanish on the other. Braille is also added for those with hearing/vision impairments
- ✚ This board will assist first responders and community members during times of need

STAFF/BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approving the item(s) as submitted

EXHIBITS:

ADDITIONAL INFO: Sharma & Associates (company who makes signs) is the company I was referred to by Howard County Autism Society in Maryland. They produced these boards for several schools, parks, and/or playgrounds. I included their quote and will explain further.	FINANCIAL INFO:	
	Cost	\$2,400.00
	Source of Funding	General