

City of Brisbane

Agenda Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Caroline Cheung via Clay Holstine, City Manager

DATE: Meeting of October 15, 2012

SUBJECT: Community Park Playground Update

PURPOSE:

Provide the City Council with an update on the status of the playground equipment, and the site preparation work that needs to be done.

BACKGROUND:

On the morning of Tuesday, September 25th, the President of Miracle Playsystems, Kit Stevens, informed staff that a portion of the play equipment, the posts and decks, which were being manufactured by HAGS, a Swedish company, was being held up in customs on the east coast and that there may be a possibility that our scheduled Build Day of Saturday, September 29th, would not be possible. He was extremely apologetic, citing how Miracle Playsystems would pick up the cost of several items which staff had been told the week prior that the City was responsible for paying, as these “materials” were a part of the “community build”. These items consisted of 12 cubic yards of concrete (to fill the post holes) and the off haul of 12 cubic yards of spoils. On Tuesday evening, staff was informed by Miracle Playsystems that the equipment would not be getting out of customs that day, but they were optimistic it would be on Wednesday morning. Nonetheless, a Saturday Build Day for later that week was not going to be feasible. The Council was promptly informed of this news, as were the Community volunteers who had committed to help on Build Day. The following morning, staff received notice from Miracle Playsystems that the equipment had been released from customs and was on its way to Playground Unlimited, their subcontractor, and would arrive the following Wednesday, October 3rd. Staff will schedule a new date for Build Day once confirmation has been given from Miracle Playsystems that the equipment has been received by Playgrounds Unlimited and all parts have been accounted for.

DISCUSSION:

On Wednesday afternoon, a Supervisor from Playgrounds Unlimited came to City Hall to drop off a sample of the poured-in-place rubber surfacing. Due to one of the colors, Royal Blue, being changed slightly by the manufacturer, it was considered to be too close

in color to Sky Blue, the other shade of blue on the rubber surfacing. In order to achieve the design effect which had been approved by the Council, Playgrounds Unlimited proposed mixing the Royal Blue with 50% Black, and the Sky Blue with 20% Black for design flow purposes. This would bring the cost down by \$0.26/square foot, or about \$950. Staff thought that the 50% Royal Blue and 50% Black mixture was too dark, and has indicated to Playgrounds Unlimited that the make-up be 60% Royal Blue and 40% Black.

Before the Supervisor from Playgrounds Unlimited left, staff brought him to the playground site so he could get accustomed with the project area. It proved to be a very worthwhile visit, as immediately, it was noticed that the sand area, which was going to go in the northwest corner of the playbox, had not been excavated. This was due to Miracle Playsystems not including the construction detail for the sand area when sending the rest of the detail for our local contractor, Mike Glynn, who had been awarded the bid for site preparation, to complete. Staff immediately informed Miracle Playsystems of this oversight, and they responded with saying they would cover the cost for this area to be excavated, as well as the concrete mow strip that had been constructed all around the playbox, be removed in that northwest corner.

On Thursday, staff received another call from the President of Miracle Playsystems, indicating that the equipment that had been released from customs on the east coast and which was making its way over to us, was the complete opposite color scheme from what we had ordered (natural tones of tans, browns, and greens like the old play structure had been). This was of course shocking to hear, but Miracle Playsystems assured that Brisbane's equipment would be reproduced in the factory in Sweden and air-freighted to SFO, saving some time and the possibility of it being held in port customs again on the east coast. Staff was told that this would postpone the equipment's arrival by just one week.

The following Monday, October 1st, a sales representative from Miracle Playsystems, David Yosso, met with staff at the playground site. At that meeting, he indicated that the equipment would not be arriving for three weeks, or the week of October 22nd. He also said that the steps leading up to the spiral slide had increased in width, in response to American Standards of Testing and Materials (ASTM) compliance changes as of September 2012. That meant that the playbox would need to be enlarged on the side closest to Old County Road, which is where the spiral slide is located. This would mean jack-hammering away approximately 5 ft. of the existing walkway. Four feet of walkway are required in order to comply with ADA. This will be the case after the 5 ft. are removed, and staff has checked with a building inspector to make sure that brick pavers, which are a part of the walkway around the Community Park walkway, are seen as acceptable by ADA standards. He confirmed that the pavers would be fine, as long as they don't present any grade change greater than 1/2", which they do not. This construction work of enlarging the playbox on one side was also confirmed to be a cost that Miracle Playsystems would cover.

As of the writing of this staff report, the site preparation work has not been scheduled by Miracle Playsystems with Playgrounds Unlimited, but they have indicated trying to have that start on Thursday, October 18th. The playground equipment has not appeared on

Miracle Playsystem's shipping report which they receive every Monday, but it should on the 10/15 report, if the three week estimation still stands.

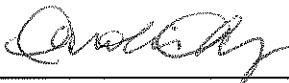
The gold stars, which the Mothers of Brisbane have spearheaded in selling, to raise money for the playground, will be applied to the seat wall after the site preparation work has been completed by Playgrounds Unlimited, and prior to the actual installation of the playground equipment by volunteers, with oversight by Playgrounds Unlimited. Due to the decision of the Facilities Subcommittee to have the stars applied to both sides of the seat wall, approximately 45 family/individual stars are available for purchase. Applying the stars is the last item for Mike Glynn to complete, as part of his bid award. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new playground is being anticipated for early November.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING ISSUES:

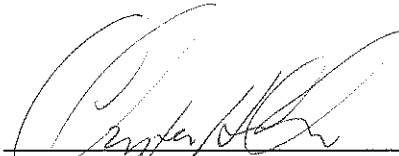
None.

MEASURE OF SUCCESS:

90% of the respondents who answer a future City-wide survey would agree with the statement that the new Community Park Playground is a safe environment for children to play and for families to gather.



Management Analyst
Caroline Cheung



City Manager
Clay Holstine