



**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE  
(VIRTUAL MEETING)**

**March 30, 2022  
5:00 PM  
MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Commissioner Pointer, Commissioner Reid

**Staff Support:** **Marty Stump**, Deputy Director - Planning and Development; **Kristi Evans**, Capital Program Manager, Community & Neighborhood Parks; **Mary Kay Henley**, Planning Administration

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Minutes from the March 16, 2022, meeting were approved as written.

**PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

- Marty reported that at the next CIC meeting a spreadsheet showing the status of all capital projects will be presented. Moving forward this spreadsheet will be presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> CIC meeting of each month.
- Commissioner Reid asked about plans for pickleball courts at STAR Center. Commissioner Pointer said this is a good idea because of its increased popularity and the low use of the existing tennis courts. Both commissioners suggested a memo to the Board that outlines plans for new pickleball courts be drafted.
  - Marty thought this was a good idea and added that staff are working on a study to determine other possible sites. He added that STAR Center has been recommended, but it's a bit more complicated since the school district also uses the courts.
  - It was noted that Vassault and Stewart Heights parks already have pickleball, with Browns Point Park tennis courts currently being reconstructed and to be striped for tennis and pickleball.
  - Commissioner Reid asked if courts are striped for pickleball, can they still be used for tennis. Marty said yes, noting just a slight net height difference and that pickleball striping done in color other than white so as not to be confused with tennis striping.
  - Commissioner Reid asked if we could have pickleball courts next to retirement centers. Kristi noted that Point Defiance Park tennis courts if striped for pickleball would serve nearby retirement center.
  - Commissioner Pointer asked if people rent pickleball equipment from Metro Parks, or do they bring their own. Marty reported that they typically bring their own equipment, but as we expand program opportunities perhaps we could distribute equipment via community centers.

## **ACTION ITEM**

### **South End Recreation & Activity Playground Resurfacing – Contract Award to PlayCreation, Inc Services**

- This resolution authorizes the contract award to PlayCreation, Inc. for the South End Recreation & Activity (SERA) Playground Resurfacing in the amount not to exceed \$278,286.25. This contract covers site preparation, subsurface removal, and installation of new turf material.
- Kristi explained that the existing SERA playground surface consisted of poured-in-place rubber and had weathered to the point of deterioration and currently poses a safety risk in places. Metro Parks researched several alternatives and selected a new turf product called Forever Lawn for installation. It was noted this turf offers longer wear life and should not degrade as does the poured in place rubber.
- PlayCreation was the only bidder for this project. Commissioner Reid asked why only one bidder. Marty reported it's because this is a relatively new surface and there aren't that many vendors right now serving this market. He noted this is a local vendor that has done other turf installations for us. It was reported that MWBE outreach was conducted during the course of project bidding. Commissioner Reid suggested this information be added to the Board presentation.
- Marty presented pictures of other Forever Lawn installations including at Wright Park. He explaining it typically goes right over the existing rubber, however because of the SERA playground deterioration the current rubber needs to be removed prior to installation. This leads to a slightly higher cost. Both commissioners liked the look of the new turf, noting its bright green color and pleasing appearance.
- Commissioner Reid noted he was surprised the current material lasted this long. He asked if there is a scientific study on the new turf that we should present to the public. Kristi said it's not necessary as the crumb material used for this product is different than the crumb rubber used historically for turf athletic fields. Background information can be provided if inquiries come in from community.
- Commissioner Reid suggested we put together a briefing paper on the new turf, including its benefits, testing, etc. Marty agreed to coordinate this effort.
- Commissioner Reid asked if we could replace SERA's sports field with this turf. Kristi said no, this turf is just for playgrounds. Marty added that synthetic turf is possibly planned for SERA fields in the future.
- Commissioner Pointer asked about insurance against damage. Marty noted there is a standard warranty on this product (one year material and workmanship, staff will confirm).
- Kristi reported she will be on vacation during the Board presentation but will do a right up for Debbie to present to the Board.
- This item was accepted for moving forward to the full Board with a recommendation of approval.

**Meeting Adjourned**