

## City Council – Action Request Form

**Date:** February 10, 2020

**To:** Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

**From:** Tasha Logan Ford, Assistant City Manager  
 William Royston, Recreation & Parks Director  
 Jerry Bates, Purchasing Director

**Council Action Requested:**

Resolution Awarding Contract for Purchase and Installation of Playground Equipment at Bolton Park (Southwest Ward)

**Strategic Focus Area:** Livable Neighborhoods

**Strategic Objective:** Expand Open Space and Recreational Facilities

**Strategic Plan Action Item:** No

**Key Work Item:** Yes



**Summary of Information:**

Playground renovations at Bolton Park is a 2018 G.O. Bond project. Replacing outdated playgrounds with new colorful schemes and modern styles should enhance the visibility and use of these parks by neighborhood families. Bolton Park has long been a trademark accessible playground, but sand is no longer considered fully accessible under current ADA guidelines. Due to the playground at Bolton being developed with a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant, the City of Winston-Salem is required to maintain the playground as a fully accessible playground.

City/County Purchasing advertised the bidding of Bolton Park Playground Renovation in November and the project specifications included the purchase and installation of playground equipment by the general contractor. It is more efficient to have the contractor manage the scheduling and coordination of the playground equipment installation. Poured-in-place (rubber) safety surfacing was bid as an add-alternate. Bids were received on December 12, 2019; however, all bids exceeded the allocated funding for this project.

**Committee Action:**

<b>Committee</b>	<u>Finance 2/10/2020</u>	<b>Action</b>	<u>Approval</u>
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<b>For</b>	<u>Unanimous</u>	<b>Against</b>	<u></u>
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**Remarks:**

The City chose to reject all bids while staff considered possible scope changes in the project to reduce the total cost and keep the new playground fully accessible. One cost reduction option is to purchase the playground equipment through a cooperative purchasing program where the City can buy direct and receive a discount. Recreation and Parks Department has purchased playground equipment separately on other playground renovations to save money and time associated with completing projects within budget and on time.

The City is allowed to make this purchase directly per the exception in North Carolina General Statute 143-129(e)(3), which authorizes “purchases made through a competitive bidding group purchasing program, which is a formally organized program that offers competitively obtained purchasing services at discount prices to two or more public agencies.”

The specified playground equipment is available through OMNIA Partners (formerly U.S. Communities), a national, formally organized, and competitive bidding group purchasing program. Playcore Wisconsin, Inc. d/b/a Gametime of Fort Payne, Alabama, has been awarded a competitive bid contract #2017001134-6 through OMNIA and provides their GameTime equipment through a North Carolina certified distributor and installer, Cunningham Associates, Inc., of Charlotte, North Carolina.

The total cost for the purchase and installation of playground equipment and poured-in-place safety surfacing would be as follows:

Playground Equipment, Tax, Freight	\$308,554.63
Poured-in-Place Safety Surfacing	\$90,304.50
Municipal Discount	(42,423.47)
Installation	<u>43,106.00</u>
Total Cost	\$399,541.66

It is recommended that a contract be awarded to Cunningham Associates, Inc. in the total amount of \$399,541.66 for the purchase and installation of playground equipment and poured-in-place safety surfacing for Bolton Park. The playground renovation will be a two-part project with installation occurring after the site construction improvements are complete.

M/WBE comment: Neither Playcore Wisconsin, Inc. nor Cunningham Associates, Inc. are minority or woman-owned businesses.

Workplace Demographics: See Exhibit A