



# STAFF REPORT

**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**Date:** August 15, 2019

**From:** Karen Hager, Management Analyst – (650) 558-7317

**Subject:** Murray Playground Renovation

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Parks & Recreation Commission approve the conceptual design for the Murray Playground renovation as recommended by the Murray Playground Committee.

## **BACKGROUND**

The playground at Murray Field was installed as part of Burlingame Golf Center and Murray Field Project in 2000. After nineteen years, the playground is out of compliance with ADA, the surfacing is worn and no longer meets the ASTM standards for fall safety. In the 2019-20 Budget, City Council approved a Capital Improvement Project for the demolition and redesign of the Murray Playground.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Murray Field user groups include AYSO, Burlingame Soccer Club (BSC), Coyotes Lacrosse, and Mercy High School Lacrosse. These groups, particularly AYSO and BSC have long expressed the need for additional practice space. With the demolition of the Murray playground an opportunity arises to create a practice area while still providing a play area for siblings and/or other children who are visiting Murray Field.

**Conceptual Plan:** Staff contracted John Cahalan, Landscape Architect to design a site plan based on input from the Parks & Recreation staff and the user groups. This conceptual plan shows the shifting of the existing playground to the northeast corner which allows for a 60 x 40 grass practice area which can accommodate under 10 soccer teams to practice (Exhibits A & B).

The demolition, electrical modifications, installation of the new practice area, and preparing the site for the natural play area will be contracted out.

The concept of the play area is to have the Parks Division staff create play elements from natural materials for a unique play experience. These elements would be phased in over time as staff time and funding would allow (Exhibit C).

On July 15, 2019, the conceptual plan was presented to the Murray Playground Committee which included Parks & Recreation Commissioners Stephanie Lee and Emily Matthews. In subsequent meetings, the conceptual plan was also shared with the AYSO Regional Commissioner, Jacquie Haggarty and BSC Executive Director, Dusko Rosic and Operations Manager, Nemanja Colovic. The Murray Playground Committee and user group representatives were supportive of the plan, particularly the additional practice area.

**Timeline:** Assuming that the project's contracting process goes smoothly, the Murray Playground renovation will commence in the late fall, 2019. If no construction delays occur, the base project is anticipated to be completed by early 2020. Once the base project is complete, Parks staff will install the natural play area elements as time permits during the 2020 calendar year. Murray Field user groups will be notified of the project timeline when the contract is issued.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

City Council has authorized funds for the Murray Playground Renovation as part of the City of Burlingame Parks & Trees Capital Improvement Program. The funds cover the estimated construction costs for the existing playground demolition, creating the new practice field, and adding the natural play elements over time.

### **EXHIBITS**

- A. Murray Natural Playground Conceptual Plan
- B. Murray Playground Design Showing Practice Space
- C. Murray Playground Sample Play Features