



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Council Session

## Item I-1

**#2022-104 - Consideration of Approving Donor Recognition for  
Playground at Ryder Park – Parks & Recreation Department**

Staff Contact: Todd McCoy, Parks & Recreation Director

# Council Agenda Memo

**From:** Todd McCoy, Parks and Recreation Director

**Meeting:** April 12, 2022

**Subject:** Approving Donor Recognition for the New Playground at Ryder Park

**Presenter(s):** Todd McCoy, Parks and Recreation Director

## Background

The City was approached by students and staff from the Central Community College Occupational Therapy Class with the idea of raising funds to building a new community inclusive playground. After much discussion and excitement generated from community leaders, City staff, and the Community Foundation, the decision was made to move forward to raise money for the project proposed at Ryder Park. The location was chosen because Ryder Park is centrally located, has good access to parking and restrooms, and has potential to benefit from future park developments.

The new playground is designed to be handicap accessible and serve children with a wide range of ability levels. The playground is anticipated to cost \$1.1 million and be completely funded with private donations. Part of the fundraising plan is to include a \$250,000 endowment to cover annual cost maintenance of the equipment.

Park bathrooms and parking improvements are not essential or part of the current fundraising plan; however, as fundraising for the playground progresses the City may want to prioritize these updates to complement the new development.

In July of 2021 City Council approved Resolution 2021-186 to add a new playground in Ryder Park.

In January City Council approved Resolution 2022-13 the Agreement with the Central Community College Foundation and the Greater Grand Island Community Foundation to raise funds and construct the playground.

## Discussion

Central Community College Foundation has begun fundraising efforts and is requesting approval to recognize donors of over \$5,000 with signage at the playground site.

Up to three signs will be displayed in the playground. One or possibly two signs will be required to identify the donors of over \$5,000 and two signs at each side of the main playground structure for the naming sponsor. Tom and Sue Pirnie have pledged \$200,000 to become the naming sponsor of the “Pirnie Inclusive Playground” at Ryder Park.

### **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

### **Recommendation**

City Administration recommends that City Council approve naming the proposed playground at Ryder Park “Pirnie Inclusive Playground” and approve onsite sponsor recognition of donations over \$5,000.

### **Sample Motion**

Move to approve donor recognition for the new playground at Ryder Park.

RESOLUTION 2022-104

WHEREAS, the City was approached by students and staff from Central Community College Occupational Therapy Class with the idea of raising funds to build a new community inclusive playground in Ryder Park; and

WHEREAS, City Council approved Resolution 2021-186 to add a new playground in Ryder Park and approved Resolution 2022-13 the agreement with Central Community College Foundation and the Greater Grand Island Community Foundation to raise funds and construct the playground; and

WHEREAS, Central Community College Foundation has begun fundraising efforts and is requesting approval to recognize donors of over \$5,000 with signage at the playground site; and

WHEREAS, Tom and Sue Pirnie have pledged \$200,000 to become the naming sponsor of the “Pirnie Inclusive Playground” at Ryder Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, approve naming the proposed playground at Ryder Park “Pirnie Inclusive Playground” and approve onsite sponsor recognition of donations over \$5,000 with signage.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, April 12, 2022.

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Roger G. Steele, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☒ _____
April 7, 2022	☒ City Attorney