



Bradford Playground Partnership and Grant Match Discussion

To: Davidson Board of Commissioners
From: Kathryn Spatz, Parks & Recreation Director
Date: May 14, 2019
Re: Bradford Playground Partnership and Grant Match Discussion

1. OVERVIEW

The Bradford Homeowners Association (HOA) currently maintains and operates a playground structure on a parcel adjacent to the River Run athletic field parking lot. The playground structure is in need of replacement. The town and the neighborhood have been in discussions about partnering to create a public park facility at that location.

Approximately a year ago, staff began meeting with the HOA board and Bradford residents to develop a mutually beneficial plan for the parcel as an amenity that would open to all town residents for recreation—the initial phase would include removal of the existing playground and replacing it with a new playground structure.

In late March, staff applied for Playcore/Landscape Structures grant. Staff was notified in mid-April that the Town of Davidson was awarded a grant of \$65,000 if the town and HOA contributes a match. The HOA has committed to contribute \$15,000 immediately, with \$5,000 each for the next two (2) years.

As the town received the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the recreation amenities at Roosevelt Wilson, the \$80,000 that the BOC had been holding in the fund balance is no longer required. Staff suggests that \$50,000 of that \$80,000 be appropriated for the match for the Bradford playground to continue the goal of improving recreation and park amenities throughout our community.

2. RELATED TOWN GOALS

Partnerships: The Town of Davidson will build on existing relationships to strengthen partnerships with strategic organizations and institutions.

The Town of Davidson will increase physical and mental health of Davidson citizens. Improve neighborhood parks.

3. OPTIONS/PROS & CONS

Pros: Would create innovative partnership with HOA to open more public park and recreation space and amenities for all town residents. Would replace aging/unfit playground structure that town youth are using.

Cons: \$50,000 would not be available for other opportunities.

4. FYI or RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the BOC appropriate the \$50,000 match funding at its May 28 meeting.

5. NEXT STEPS