



Staff Report

Community Services – Parks and Trails

Report To: COW_Finance_Admin_Fire_Community_Services
Meeting Date: October 7, 2024
Report Number: CSOPS.24.064
Title: Response to deputation from Ms. Crosskill regarding Bayview Park Playground Project
Prepared by: Nathan Plater,
Acting Manager of Parks and Trails

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report CSOPS.24.064, entitled “Response to deputation of Ms. Crosskill regarding Bayview Park Playground Project”;

AND THAT Council direct staff to include this project in the 2025 budget with funding recommendations to include rubberized play surfacing.

B. Overview

The playground equipment located at Bayview Park is scheduled to be replaced in 2024, \$200,000 has been budgeted for the project with the intent of using engineered wood fiber chips for the protective surfacing. Our panel of residents has indicated that a poured rubber play surface is a much more accessible surface and would like to see it installed over the wood fiber chips.

C. Background

The playground equipment located at Bayview Park is scheduled to be replaced in 2024, \$200,000 has been budgeted for the project with the intent of using engineered wood fiber chips for the protective surfacing. Our panel of residents has indicated that a poured rubber play surface is a much more accessible surface and would like to see it installed over the wood fiber chips.

Working with the playground contractor, they provided 2 original designs to bring forward to a working group of 4 individuals for some public feedback on accessibility. Our first meeting took place May 27th. This is when the group first initiated the conversation about moving to the rubberized surface which was not budgeted for. The playground contractor provided a preliminary estimate of \$140,000 to install the rubberized surface. Quotes from the rubber companies are coming in at a similar price ranging from \$130,000 to \$180,000.

The working group took the initial designs to the Kids Day at Lions Park on June 22nd for more public input into the preferred design and play elements for the playground attachment #1 (see attached original playground design). With the input from the fair as well as ongoing correspondence with the working group we were able to sit down on August 7th and come up with a final list of equipment that takes accessibility of all levels into account and accommodates all users.

D. Analysis

Engineered wood fiber is considered an accessible and protective surface but in practical applications wheelchair users struggle to travel over the surface as well as have issues with small scrapes and rashes from pulling themselves over the surface. The rubberized surface makes for a smooth, long lasting, low maintenance solution for all concerns.

E. Strategic Priorities

1. Communication and Engagement

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders

2. Organizational Excellence

We will continually seek out ways to improve the internal organization of Town Staff and the management of Town assets.

3. Community

We will protect and enhance the community feel and the character of the Town, while ensuring the responsible use of resources and restoration of nature.

4. Quality of Life

We will foster a high quality of life for full-time and part-time residents of all ages and stages, while welcoming visitors.

F. Environmental Impacts

To be considered through final design and construction.

G. Financial Impacts

The final design of the playground (Attachment #2) equipment cost is \$180,266.79 + HST leaving \$19,733.21 in the approved budget for the project.

The additional cost to change the surface from engineered wood fiber to the preferred rubberized play surface is approximately \$140,000.

The additional funding required to complete the project is approximately \$120,000.

H. In Consultation With

Michael Switzer, Deputy Treasurer / Manager of Budgets & Accounting

Vicky Bouwman, Asset Management Specialist

Community members of an informal accessibility group

I. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report has not been the subject of a Public Meeting and/or Public Information Centre. Staff met with local residents to review the playground equipment options and accessibility opportunities for this project.

Any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Nathan Plater, Acting Manager of Parks and Trails nplater@thebluemountains.ca

J. Attached

1. Original playground design
2. Final Playground design

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Plater
Acting Manager of Parks and Trails

Ryan Gibbons
Director Community Services

For more information, please contact:
Nathan Plater, Acting Manager of Parks and Trails
nplater@thebluemountains.ca
519-599-3131 extension 352

Report Approval Details

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Document Title: | CSOPS.24.064 Response to deputation from Ms. Crosskill regarding Bayview Park Playground Project.docx |
| Attachments: | - Attachment-1-Original-Playground-Design.pdf - Attachment-2-Final-Playground-Design.pdf |
| Final Approval Date: | Sep 27, 2024 |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

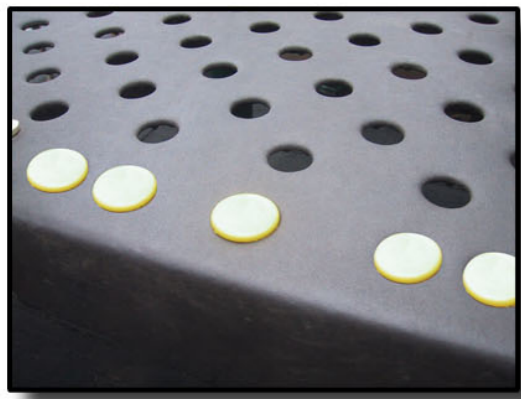
No Signature - Task assigned to Nathan Plater was completed by assistant Katie Love

Nathan Plater - Sep 27, 2024 - 8:59 AM

Ryan Gibbons - Sep 27, 2024 - 10:13 AM



CAN240172A - View 1
Bayview Park Design 2/Rev B
Blue Mountains, ON



Deck Edge Buttons allows increased visibility for users and parents with special needs.

Nu-Edge Birch Tree Canopy

Everyone in the community will enjoy the charm and whimsy of this post-topper! Designed to inspire wonder, leaf-shaped cutouts dapple sunlight onto the playground in a manner similar to real trees while its canopy design provides shade.



The Nu-Edge Climbers gives kids the impression and functionality of a natural tree house with the added bonus of it's authentic texture to complete the experience



***** Current Delivery Time 6-8 Weeks *****

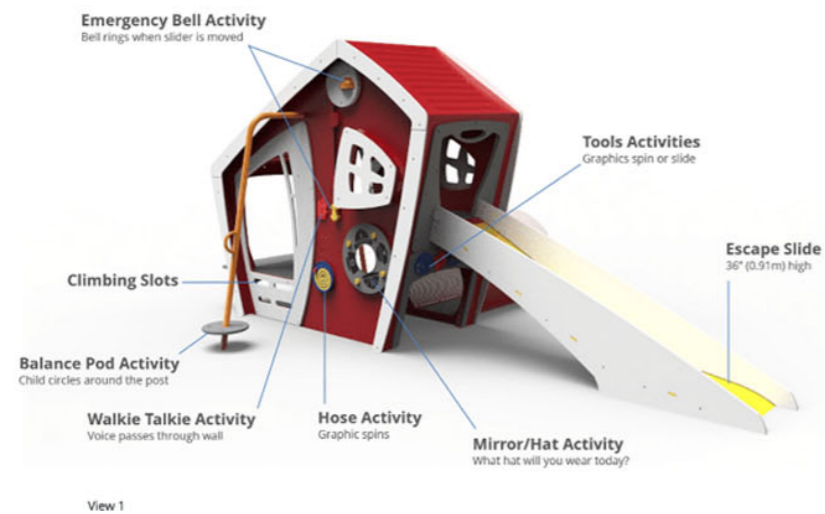




The Tire Climb w/ Risers provides different heights for ease of access for varying levels of ability and a special seat for children with sensory issues.



Revolutions Spinner allows multiple children of all abilities share the joy of motion and includes two seats that are designed to allow ease of transfer from a wheelchair seat



Tot Builders Community Helpers creates a ground level inclusive area with appropriately scaled imagination inspiring play for children of all ages



CAN240104A - View 4
Bayview Park Design 2
Blue Mountains, ON



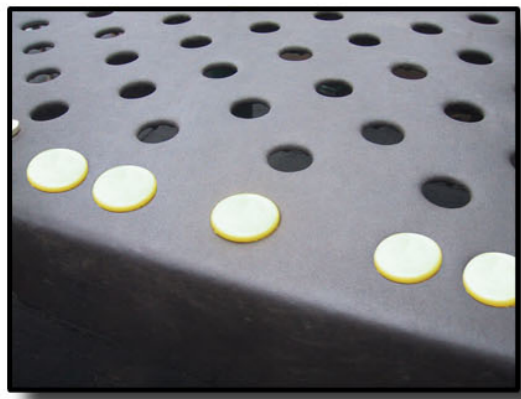
*** Accessible Ramp ***



Unlimited Play Boards
Through our partnership with Unlimited Play—a non-profit organization dedicated to helping communities plan, design, and build inclusive playgrounds—we created the Unlimited Play Communication Board and the Unlimited Play Inclusive Board. We consulted with experts to ensure that these resources facilitate greater and deeper connections between visitors of all ages and ability levels. Single-sided and double-sided (featuring both the Communication and Inclusive Boards) options are available.



CAN240202A - View 1
Bayview Park Design 2/Rev C
Blue Mountains, ON



Deck Edge Buttons allows increased visibility for users and parents with special needs.

Nu-Edge Birch Tree Canopy

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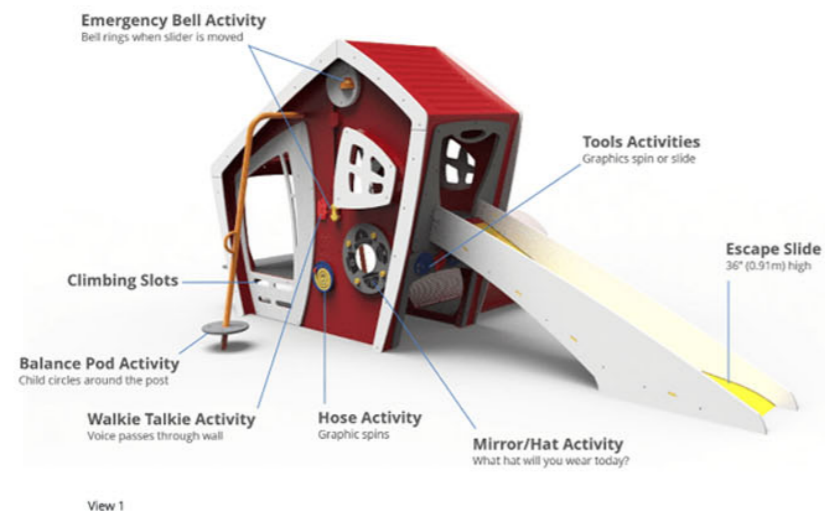
***** Current Delivery Time 6-8 Weeks *****





Revolutions Spinner allows multiple children of all abilities share the joy of motion and includes two seats that are designed to allow ease of transfer from a wheelchair seat

CAN240202A - View 3
Bayview Park Design 2/Rev C
Blue Mountains, ON



Tot Builders Community Helpers creates a ground level inclusive area with appropriately scaled imagination inspiring play for children of all ages



CAN240202A - View 4
Bayview Park Design 2/Rev C
Blue Mountains, ON