



To: Niagara Falls City Council
From: Seth Piccirillo, Director of Community Development and Code Enforcement
Date: 3/21/18
Re: Grant Acceptance – New York State Health Foundation
(Hyde Park and Liberty Park)

In February 2018, the Niagara Falls Community Development Department applied for a \$120,000 competitive grant from the New York State Health Foundation to partially fund the Hyde Park Inclusionary Play Project installation and youth programming at both Hyde Park and Liberty (“Big Lou” Sirianni) Park. The funding will be allocated, as follows:

\$50,000 – Installation of Hyde Park Inclusionary Play Playground
\$70,000 – Summer youth programming at Hyde and Liberty Parks

The City of Niagara Falls will partner with the Niagara Falls City School District, EMPOWER and the community at large, to plan summer events focused on community health, free play and the creation of opportunities for children/families with special mobility and behavioral needs. These two parks will act as educational satellites for events and activities, open to all city residents. While this grant focuses on two specific parks, this program is part of a city-wide strategy of park investment and youth-centric activities.

The grant also provides the opportunity to partner with neighborhood liaisons and execute a Niagara Falls City School District STEAM and physical education curriculums in the summer months. This project does not require any new or additional local matching dollars, as we leveraged the Community Development Block Grant investments at both parks, guided by the 2017 Participatory Budgeting (PB 360) Process.

The New York State Health Foundation seeks to improve the health of all New Yorkers by making grants, informing health care policy and practice, spreading effective programs that work to improve the health system, serving as a convener of health leaders across the State, and providing technical assistance to our grantees and partners. Our grant proposal was consistent with the foundation’s mission and provides another opportunity for the Niagara Falls Community Development Department to add value to local neighborhoods without reliance of general fund or casino fund dollars.

Will the Niagara Falls City Council approve grant acceptance via this council agenda item, and allow the City of Niagara Falls to execute a grant agreement in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Paul Dyster, Mayor

Nick Melson, City Administrator

Seth Piccirillo, Director
Niagara Falls Community Development

Kennedy Scott Tompkins Voccio Touma