



To: Niagara Falls City Council
From: Niagara Falls Community Development
Date: June 6, 2018
Re: Letter of Award for Liberty (Lou "Big Lou" Sirianni) Park Playground Installation

It is the administration's recommendation that the installation of Liberty Park AKA Lou "Big Lou" Serianni Park Playground equipment be awarded to Valleyview Enterprise, LLC. **(Base Bid \$162,750)**. Installation of playground equipment was competitively bid, per municipal guidelines, by the City of Niagara Falls Engineering Department. Bids were opened on May 23, 2018.

The following was the result of bids received on May 23, 2018, for the above referenced project:

CONTRACTOR	BASE BID	ALT. #1	ALT. #2
Valleyview Enterprise, LLC	\$162,750	\$28,500	\$8,000
Anadine Design & Dev., LLC	\$174,450	\$6,000	\$7,000
Wayside Nursery, Inc.	\$182,926	\$16,950	\$2,500

The Liberty Park Project will not require any municipal general fund or casino capital fund revenue. Any contingency payments will be funded by CDBG rather than the City of Niagara Falls. Alternate one would replace the surrounding chain link perimeter fence and alternate two would remove and relocate the existing swing set frames within the park. This approval does not necessitate that alternates one and two are executed, but allows the awarded contractor to finish the work, if the budget allows. The existing play structure will be replaced by the new facility but the swings will be left in place. This equipment will not add a new maintenance burden to the Department of Public Works, as there is already a need for maintenance now.

The entire project, including the purchase of equipment and installation, will be funded by United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant funds. A total of **\$200,000** in CDBG funds was allocated to this project via the 2017 Participatory Budgeting Process (PB360). The Niagara Falls City Council approved a \$360,000 CDBG allocation to fund PB360 as part of the 2017 Niagara Falls Community Development Action Plan. The City of Niagara Falls is only the second American city to use participatory budgeting for this purpose, a process in which citizens directly vote on public projects, to allocate CDBG funds.

The proposed playground facility is designed to offer physical activity and fitness opportunities to residents of all ages. Features include safety surfacing, pull up bars, push up bars, vertical ladders, horizontal ladders and a mobility course. In partnership with the Niagara Falls City School District, physical activity sessions will be scheduled throughout the summer months. Niagara Falls Community Development was awarded a New York State Health Foundation to fund programming at Liberty Park in 2018 and 2019. The Niagara Falls City Council passed a resolution in support of this grant and accepted the funding award in 2018.

The Liberty Park Improvement Project will transform a blighted park into a place for the community to come together with physical activity and fitness. The playground set has been in a state of disrepair for years and all other park amenities are aged considerably. The makeup of the community surrounding Liberty Park is largely residential and densely occupied. This project is part of our department's and the City of Niagara Falls' continuing effort to increase and improve youth facilities and services in our community. Improvement at Liberty Park are consistent with the adopted Niagara Falls Parks Master Plan.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract for the installation of this equipment, 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