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Town of Payson
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COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM MEMO

Date: March 27, 2024

To: Mayor and Council

From: Steve Richardson, Parks and Recreation Director

Subject: Splash Pad project update

PURPOSE:

No Action Required. This information is intended to update the Mayor and Council on the Splash Pad project and current timeline.

RECENT BACKGROUND:

Council Direction:

The Splash Pad has been an item at 27 Town Council meetings.

On July 26, 2023, Council directed staff to move forward with the Splash Pad project at Green Valley Park in the location at the north portion of the playground site. This location was chosen to maximize both playground and splash pad features in one location as well as the proximity to park restroom, sidewalk access, required utilities, and parking areas. It was also determined that a flow-through splash pad was a more ideal option than a recirculating system.

SUMMARY:

The Splash Pad project is moving forward with Vortex Aquatics International for the embeds and features, CDM Smith for engineering utility connections, and Competitive Edge Contracting for construction and installation.

Project Goals:

- Provide a well-utilized outdoor aquatics environment
- Create a fun and safe gathering place

- Provide an additional recreational space for youth to cool down in the hot months
- Appease a long-desired town amenity
- Provide a source of community pride
- Add value to existing play area within Green Valley Park
- Incorporate inclusivity into all aspects of the project

Splash Pad Features:

Color Scheme: “Nature 4”

- ACTIVATOR N°3 (push button to start the splash pad)
- SPRAYLINK GEYSER x3 (spray up shoot from ground)
- SPRAYLINK JET x3 (jet upshoot from ground)
- SPRAY LOOP (orange loop w/ sprayers)
- ASTRA N°2 (3 dumping buckets)
- REFRESH N°1 (orange curved pole w/ mister)
- WOLF CANNON (wolf face water cannon)
- BEAR CANNON (bear face water cannon)
- PINE TREE (tall pine tree feature)
- RAIN DIVERTER (valve that automatically engages when raining to divert rainwater into lake rather than into sewer)

Proposed Season & Operating Hours (subject to change based on actual use patterns):

- Season: May 1 – September 30
- Open up to 6 Hours each day
- May & September: 10am-1pm & 3-6pm
- June-August: 10am-4pm
- Closed 1 day each week for cleaning/maintenance (mid-week)

Anticipated Tentative Schedule:

September 20, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract Signed with Vortex Aquatics Structures International
February/March, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Splash Pad embeds and features delivered to Payson Parks and Recreation
April 2, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundbreaking Ceremony
April – May, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation/Construction
May, 18, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target date for Splash Pad Grand Opening (subject to change based on construction timing)

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND FUNDING SOURCE:

The FY24 Budget included \$498,000 for geotechnical, engineering, design, equipment, features, and installation (CIP 1920-12).

A Land and Water Conservation Fund grant was awarded to the Town through Arizona State Parks and Trails (AZSPT) in 2021 for \$207,500, half of the overall anticipated project cost. The grant request was amended in April 2022, to increase the original award to \$249,000. The amendment request increased the reimbursement by \$41,500 to help pay for archaeological monitoring and a project manager.

At the July 26, 2023, Town Council meeting it was not yet known if the Town's requested grant amendment would be approved or if the AZSPT would still reimburse the Town as originally contemplated due to the proposed relocation of the splash pad. Council authorized staff to proceed with splash pad construction so long as the Town's total expenditure did not exceed \$550,000.

AZSPT has begun reimbursing the Town for half of the expenditures made to date, and it is anticipated that AZSPT will reimburse the Town for the full \$249,000.

RECOMMENDATION: N/A. This memo is an update only.