



Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: September 21, 2020

Re: Setting a Public Hearing: Again Street Park Improvements

Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting Council approval of a resolution to set a public hearing for the construction of improvements at Again Street Park. The proposed improvements primarily consist of improving or replacing existing amenities, including the replacement of the playground, swings, and drinking fountain; baseball field improvements; and asphalt overlay and striping of the basketball court. Park staff will also coordinate the installation of an ADA concrete walkway from the basketball court to the perimeter sidewalk adjacent to Pershing Avenue, and the installation of a disc golf basket and two benches in the park. The total project budget is \$100,000 and is one of the projects identified and funded by the 2015 Park Sales Tax. Portions of the project will be bid through the City's Purchasing Department, and the proposed improvements will be completed using a combination of contract and force account labor. Contract labor will be used for the replacement of the playground, basketball court improvements and ADA walkway installation. Park staff will complete all other work. Improvements at the park are scheduled to begin fall 2020, with an anticipated completion date of summer 2021.

Discussion

The 10-acre Again Street Park is located at 1200 Again Street. The park includes a small shelter, playground, basketball court, drinking fountain, outdoor concrete picnic tables and baseball field. The park also includes a 0.4-mile concrete trail that includes 20 pieces of outdoor fitness equipment.

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting Council approval of a resolution to set a public hearing for the construction of improvements at Again Street Park. Park staff is proposing to replace the playground equipment and drinking fountain, complete an asphalt overlay and restriping of the basketball court, install a disc golf basket and two benches, and add a new ADA walkway from the basketball court to the sidewalk on Pershing Avenue.

After reviewing the proposed Again Street Park improvements in the *2013 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*, staff discussed potential improvements to the park that would update existing facilities and continue to allow the park to serve as a key neighborhood park for the west-central area of Columbia. Park staff held an interested parties meeting at the park on August 5, 2020. Park staff met with citizens to discuss the proposed plans and gain feedback about the park and proposed improvements. The public had an additional opportunity to provide comments about the project via an online survey at como.gov from August 4, 2020 to August 17, 2020. All feedback from the public input meetings and online como.gov surveys are included with this Council memo and may also be found online at:



<https://www.como.gov/parksandrec/wp-content/uploads/sites/25/2020/08/IP-meeting-comments-Again-Street-Park-Improvements.pdf>

Park staff introduced the proposed plans for improvements to Again Street Park to the Parks and Recreation Commission on August 20, 2020. After discussion of the project, the commissioners voted to endorse the proposed improvement plans to Again Street Park and recommended that Council approve the plans as presented. After considering all citizen comments and the P&R Commission recommendation, staff believes that the proposed park improvements represent a consensus of park users and staff.

The proposed improvements at Again Street Park will include the following:

1. Contract labor will be used to replace the existing playground structure and swings located in the middle of the park with a new play structure and swings. Park staff will specify a playground to serve 5-12 year olds in the playground bid. The new ADA compliant play structure will meet current ASTM safety guidelines, and park staff will install certified wood fiber mulch throughout the designated playground area. Park staff will leave the existing climbing wall located in the playground area as it was replaced less than five years ago.
2. Contract labor will be used to complete an asphalt overlay and restriping of the full-size basketball court located at the park. The asphalt improvements and striping will bring the court back to like-new condition. Park staff also plans to add two benches on the existing concrete pads on the west edge of the basketball court.
3. Contract labor will be used to install a new 5-foot concrete walkway from the basketball court to the sidewalk adjacent to Pershing Avenue. This ADA connecting walkway will improve access to the basketball court and playground for residents entering the park from households on the west side of the park.
4. Park staff will complete miscellaneous improvement projects at the park as part of the improvement project, including replacement of the existing drinking fountain, installation of a new disc golf basket and baseball field improvements. The installation of a disc golf basket was requested by citizens during the public input meeting at the park and will be placed in the open space to the south of the small shelter. Park staff will complete baseball field improvements to correct existing drainage issues and make necessary fencing repairs.

The \$100,000 improvement project at Again Street Park is funded by the 2015 Park Sales Tax and is included in the City's FY2021 Capital Improvement Program budget. Portions of the project will be bid through the City's Purchasing Department, and the proposed improvements will be completed using a combination of contract and force account labor. Contract labor will be used for the replacement of the playground, basketball court improvements, and ADA walkway installation. All other work will be completed by park staff.



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Construction of the improvements is anticipated to begin fall 2020, and staff anticipates the park improvements will be completed by summer 2021.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The total project cost is \$100,000 and is funded by the 2015 Park Sales Tax.
Long-Term Impact: Park staff does not anticipate any increase in expenses associated with the park improvements. Staff already completes trash removal, general maintenance and mowing at the park.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Social Equity, Tertiary Impact: Public Safety

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities,
Tertiary Impact: Environmental Management

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

Approve the resolution to set a public hearing for the construction of improvements at Again Street Park.