

TO: Board of Commissioners

FROM: Rob Sperl, Director of Parks & Planning  
Steve Hinchee, Superintendent of Planning

THROUGH: Michael Benard, Executive Director

RE: Hawthorne Junction Playground Unitary Surfacing

DATE: February 19, 2025



**SUMMARY:**

As a part of the planned Hawthorne Junction playground replacement, playground safety surfacing must be installed. Staff continue to recommend unitary surfacing for consistency of safety and accessibility. Our bid specifications are written to allow for a variety of surfacing types that will meet the current standards for fall protection and accessibility.

Plans and specifications were prepared by staff and made available to 22 companies. Bids were solicited on January 15, 2025, and they were opened on January 30, 2025. The results were as follows:

<i>Contractor</i>	<i>Surface Material</i>	<i>Base Bid:</i>	<i>Alternate Bid: Ten Year Warranty Cost</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Sq. Ft. Cost</i>
Perfect Turf	Syn. Turf 55	\$69,950	No add cost	\$69,950	\$18.22
Perfect Turf	Syn. Turf 80	\$74,500	No add cost	\$74,500	\$19.40
Perfect Turf	Poured-In-Place	\$72,080	\$9,650	\$81,730	\$21.28

While Perfect Turf was the only bidder to participate in the bid, with 3 options listed above, the pricing received is competitive with recent projects (2022 Kelly Park \$18.82/sf, 2023 Hoffman Park \$19.19/sf & 2024 Play For All \$21.40/ sf). Perfect Turf has performed well on past projects.

Alternate #1 requested an additional cost for a ten-year extended warranty. This is recommended to ensure the surface lasts at least half the expected life cycle of the playground equipment and is done to create a level basis of bid as terms of company warranties can vary.

**PREVIOUS COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTION:**

The purchase of playground equipment from BCI Burke/ Illinois at Play in the amount of \$40,000 was approved at the August 21, 2024 board meeting.

**REVENUE OR FUNDING IMPLICATIONS:**

\$135,000 was budgeted in FY 2024 and \$90,000 was re-budgeted within the current fiscal year (40-800-818-57-5701-0000). Another \$33,750 is budgeted in accessibility funding (40-000-000-12-1224-0000). The projects crew will perform all removals, site work (such as concrete sidewalks and curbs), and installation of the playground equipment.

The anticipated costs are as follows:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	
Equipment – BCI Burke	\$40,000.00	<b>Purchased in 2024</b>
Safety Surfacing	\$69,950.00	<b><i>Proposed</i></b>
Removals	\$11,200.00	Estimated
Site Furniture	\$7,000.00	Estimated
Landscape	\$7,500.00	Estimated
Misc. Site Work	\$15,000.00	Estimated
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$150,650.00</b>	

**STAKEHOLDER PROCESS:**

N/A

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

Contract documents were provided by our legal counsel, and they have provided previous favorable opinions of this bidding process.

**ATTATCHMENTS:**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The synthetic turf surface could be upgraded for an additional \$5,550. However, we have utilized the synthetic turf 55 and have been satisfied with the product.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioner's approve a contract with Perfect Turf for the Hawthorne Junction Playground Surfacing base bid for materials and installation in the amount of \$69,950.