



WILDWOOD

June 15, 2021

The Honorable City Council
City of Wildwood, Missouri
16860 Main Street
Wildwood, Missouri 63040

Re: Development of a Hard Court Play Area in an Existing City Park Property (Wards One and Six)

Council Members:

The issue of a hard court play area to be located in one (1) of the City's park facilities was identified at the start of 2021 by the Planning and Parks Committee of City Council. This type of facility was one (1) of a group of seven (7) small projects the Committee offered for consideration for possible construction or development in 2021 and 2022. After the Planning and Parks Committee approved the list, the report was then forwarded to City Council for its receipt and filing.

The report was submitted to the City Council at the end of February 2021 and then was followed by a discussion of the hard court play area by the Administration and Public Works Committee at its May 8, 2021 meeting. At this meeting, its Members discussed the desire of many residents for such a facility and that they would like to pursue such this year. The discussion focused on an appropriate location, funding, and other items relating to the same. The members of the Administration and Public Works Committee made a motion, with such seconded, to endorse the pursuit of the hard court play area and forwarded this endorsement to the Planning and Parks Committee for its consideration and study for implementation. This vote was 7 to 1. With that action, the Department of Planning and Parks provided this information to the Planning and Parks Committee at its May meeting.

To proceed forward in response to the Administration and Public Works Committee's request, the Department did prepare such a report for the May 2021 meeting of Planning and Parks Committee meeting. In this report, the Committee Members noted its earlier action this year in January 2021 regarding the seven (7) item project list, along with the most recent action of the Administration and Public Works Committee on the need for hard court play area, then identified the planned conversation by it that was to occur at this meeting. The conversation that did occur focused on several considerations regarding the development of a hard court play area for Wildwood residents and included the following items:

1. The location of such a facility is the key component of its use and success. Given certain design and engineering considerations of these facilities, along with noise and lighting, a hard court play area may be best be placed in Community Park or Glencoe City Park. However, expenditure of any funds for a project in Community Park may require a vote of the residents, per the Charter.
2. The development of a design and engineered plan for the selected location will require the engagement of a firm for this purpose. The Committee will need the authorize such to proceed forward with this effort and present a recommendation to the City Council.
3. The consideration of funding for the purpose of this work. This discussion can follow at a future meeting, once a location is determined and a plan is in development, so cost estimates can be developed and reviewed by the Committee Members.

Next Steps for Consideration>>>

The Committee covered each of these three (3) items and the content of these conversations can be summarized as follows:

1. The location of such a facility is the key component of its use and success. Given certain design and engineering considerations of these facilities, along with noise and lighting, a hard court play area may be best be placed in Community Park or Glencoe City Park. However, expenditure of any funds for a project in Community Park may require a vote of the residents, per the Charter.
 - a. The Committee supports the use of Community Park for this hard court play area, but recognized a Charter provision relating to the maximum cost of any project might eliminate it from consideration. In that regard, the Committee Members asked the City Administrator and the Department of Planning and Parks to discuss this matter with the City Attorney and he offered advice in this regard that would appear to at least allow the Committee to potentially consider the use of Community Park. As part of its discussion at the June meeting, the Committee remained supportive of Community Park as the location for the consideration of the development of a hard court play area. The Committee specifically identified the area within Community Park that is located at the southernmost portion of it.
2. The development of a design and engineered plan for the selected location will require the engagement of a firm for this purpose. The Committee will need to authorize such to proceed forward with this effort and present a recommendation to the City Council.
 - a. At the June Committee meeting, the Committee directed the Department of Planning and Parks to compile a list of firms and key components of a hard court play area for the Committee's consideration at its July meeting. These firms, with their pertinent experience, will be identified, and those components that will be considered for this hard court play area for the future.

3. The consideration of funding for the purpose of this work. This discussion can follow at a future meeting, once a location is determined and a plan is in development, so cost estimates can be developed and reviewed by the Committee Members.
 - a. The mid-year budget adjustment process will begin in August, which would allow this project to be considered for potential funding in 2021, or otherwise be offered for consideration in Fiscal Year 2022.

The Committee would note offering of such a facility will serve many people and provide a missing feature in the City's park system, which appears to have broad support in the overall community.

Summary of Committee Action>>>

In reviewing the three (3) identified items, the Committee Members discussed the seemingly high interest in having a hard court play area in the City's system of parks. The Members endorsed the next step in the consideration of this type of facility, which is for the Department of Planning and Parks to compile a list of firms and key components of a hard court play area for the Committee's consideration at its July meeting. The Committee also identified a preferred location to study within Community Park, specifically at the southernmost portion of it. Lastly, the Members also identified the preference to incorporate a shade structure for consideration, as part of the design of this type of facility.

Contact Information and Questions>>>

If any of the Council Members have questions or comments regarding this process, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning at (636) 458-0440. This item has been placed under 'For Action' on tonight's Work Session Agenda. Therefore, a short presentation is planned in this regard. Thank you for your review of this information and the requested direction the Committee is seeking on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,
CITY OF WILDWOOD

Don Bartoni, Chair*
Planning and Parks Committee

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
Administration and Public Works Committee Members
Economic Development Committee Members
Steve Cross, City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works
Travis Newberry, Senior Planner

* The Department of Planning and Parks developed this report, in conjunction with the Planning and Parks Committee. Content reflects the Committee's consideration of this subject and not necessarily an individual's position or opinion