



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT • 1140 Terex Road • Hudson, Ohio 44236 • (330) 342-1790

---

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Thomas Sheridan, City Manager  
**From:** Jena Stasik, Community Relations Manager  
**CC:** Greg Hannan, Community Development Director; Katie Behnke, Economic Development Manager  
**Date:** December 5, 2024  
**Subject:** Acceptance of One Time Strategic Community Investment Funds – Inclusive Playground

---

Following Council approval to submit the inclusive playground proposal to the State Capital Budget on November 14, 2023, the City was notified mid-summer 2024 that they were awarded \$680,000 for the State of Ohio One Time Strategic Community Investment Fund as passed within H.B. 2. The City Solicitor's Office has been reviewing the applicable grant documentation and recently completed review and acceptance. There is no match requirement specific to the grant.

### PURPOSE AND EVALUATION

City staff was tasked with seeking funds for the approximately 1.8-million-dollar infrastructure cost of the inclusive playground project. The City was awarded \$680,000 through the State of Ohio One Time Strategic Community Investment Fund and continues to pursue additional grant options. The City continues to work with a private group of residents who have also secured grant funding and private donations to make this project possible.

The playground will be located at a current city-owned property, Middleton Park, and feature a 1-acre site of equipment for all ages and abilities on a specialized turf inside a fenced area.

The project is advancing in two phases: 1) Infrastructure and Site Improvement and 2) Equipment, Surface, and Specialized Turf. The site improvement plan includes removal of existing sidewalks/pavement, excavation (cut and fill), new pavement and marking, signage, bathroom facility, utility storm bio-swale, electric conduits, landscaping, and final grading, seeding and straw. Phase 2 of the project is being organized by a group of private residents called the Hudson Inclusive Playground (HIP) Committee who has committed to raising donations and pursuing funding sources for the equipment, specialized turf, and fencing.

### CONCLUSION

City staff recommends that Council pass this Resolution, affirming acceptance by the City Manager for the One Time Strategic Community Investment Fund in the amount of \$680,000 and allowing retroactive signature on the grant agreement.