



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 26, 2024
TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager **Approved Electronically**
FROM: Nathan Ullyot, Parks and Recreation Director
SUBJECT: Response to public comment on slide conditions at July 24th Council Meeting

Public comment was given by resident Connie Silveira providing an update on slide conditions in several parks in Liston Park, Wilkinson Park, and Pickett Park.

Liston Park – Liston Park's slide replacement is complete as she mentioned with gratitude and the repair had the desired impact of activating the space again.

Pickett Park – Staff is aware of the damage to the Pickett Park slide and has ordered a replacement. Sadly, this replacement may not make it in time to be installed for this season but will be installed as soon as possible ahead of next spring.

Wilkinson Park – Staff met with Ms. Silveira after the meeting to ensure she was aware that a significant investment is coming forward in this fiscal year including a full playground replacement and a dog park. Because of this impending improvement, the slide replacement will not occur prior to the full playground replacement. Staff will look at alternatives to reduce the blighted look that plywood can bring to a playground.

Failure of equipment happens through wear and tear and sadly, through vandalism. Weather conditions also play a role, but with the increased capacity in the River/Park Ranger program, Rangers will begin performing playground inspections to identify impending failures to slides and equipment prior to failure so an order can be placed. Replacements for slides must be fabricated and take a significant amount of time to be manufactured and delivered once ordered. If inspection can identify problems early enough, we can reduce down time.

Staff are in regular conversation with Ms. Silveira and are grateful for her advocacy and support in identifying issues.