


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	25-125	Meeting:	March 24, 2025
	Agenda Item:	34	Roll Call:	25-0446
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Ratification of the National Park Service (NPS) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant application by the Parks and Recreation Department seeking \$250,000 for Martin Luther King Jr. Park Playground Improvements Project.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend ratification of the NPS LWCF grant application by the Parks and Recreation Department for \$250,000 towards various improvements to Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$250,000 LWCF grant revenue toward an overall pre-engineering estimate of \$575,000

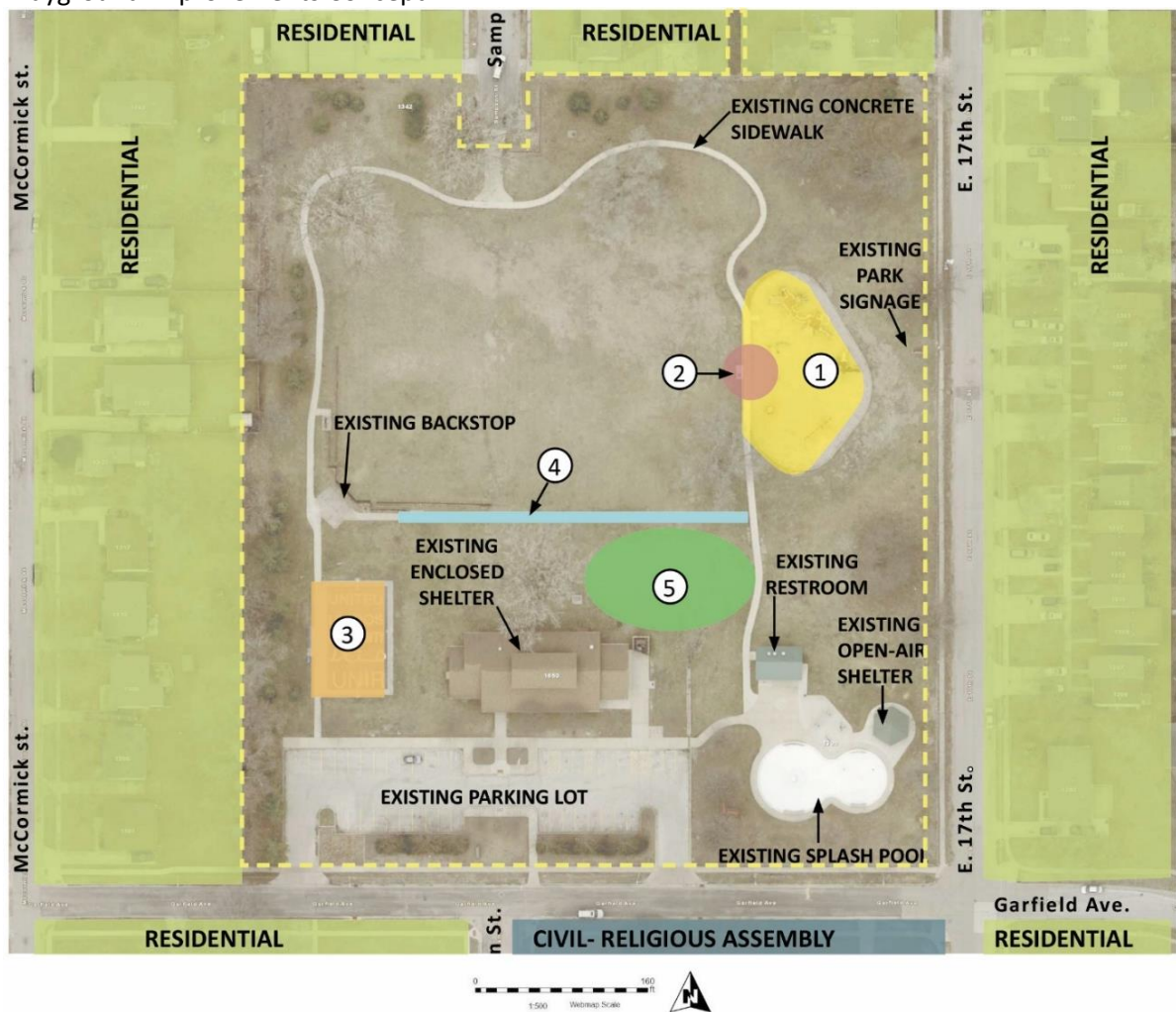
Funding Source: Anticipated \$250,000 in LWCF funding from Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and NPS and remaining funding from: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), PK185, Park Playground Improvements, Page 76, \$325,000 G.O. Bonds Issued

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Located at 1650 Garfield Avenue, near the intersection of Garfield Avenue and E. 17th Street in Des Moines, Iowa, Martin Luther King Jr. Park is a six (6)-acre park added to the parks system in 1971. The current playground was built in 2005, and the basketball court was built in 2010.
- The proposed park improvements may include: Removal of the current playground equipment, surfacing and concrete curb, reseeding the former play area, construction of a new playground with new play equipment, rubber tile safety surfacing and new concrete curb, new grading and drain tile, resurfacing the existing basketball court, new full court basketball court lighting, and additional five (5)-foot wide walkways to form a walking loop.
- Pending grant award and Council approval, construction is anticipated to be completed in spring 2027.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Park serves 2,886 residents within a 10-minute walk. Approximately 19,000 residents are within a five (5)-minute drive of the park and include the following neighborhood associations: Martin Luther King Jr. Park, Capitol East, Capitol Park, Union Park, and ACCENT.

- The NPS LWCF is managed through the IDNR and supports cities with populations of 50,000 or greater seeking up to \$250,000 for the development and/or acquisition of land for natural resources and outdoor recreation. The maximum request of \$250,000 representing 43 percent (43%) of the anticipated total costs for the above-described Project has been submitted and exceeds the minimum requirement of no less than 50 percent (50%) local grant match.
- Upon project completion and receipt of the grant funding reimbursement, the City is required to record notice of the grant agreement with the Polk County Recorder showing the project property in the project boundary map, with a statement that the property has been developed with LWCF assistance and cannot be converted to other than public outdoor recreation use without written approval of the Secretary of Interior.

**Development Plan: Martin Luther King Jr. Park
Playground Improvements Concept**



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

- Anticipated actions include ordering construction, public hearing, receiving and filing bids, designating lowest bidder, approval of contract and bond, partial payments to the contractor, and final acceptance of work.
- Boards and commissions considerations will be completed as the project progresses and will be itemized in the future ordering construction Council Communication.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.