



Date July 15, 2024

**RATIFICATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND
GRANT APPLICATION BY THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT SEEKING \$145,000
FOR CHEATOM PARK PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department desires as part of the Cheatom Park Playground Improvements Project (“Project”) to remove the existing outdated playground equipment and sand surfacing, and develop a new playground area with equipment that has play value for multiple age groups and abilities, at Cheatom Park, 1100 Day Street, Des Moines, for the enjoyment of the residents of Des Moines at an estimated total cost of \$310,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Project includes removal of the existing equipment and surfacing, restoration of existing area to turf grass, relocation of playground area in park, excavation and grading, installation of concrete playground containment curbing, accessible walkway(s) and playground ramp, paved seating areas (picnic and/or benches), concrete repairs, purchasing new playground equipment, blown-in engineered wood fiber mulch, hydro mulch and seed for restoration, rental equipment need for volunteer playground build, and site amenities (benches, picnic tables, bike racks); and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department desires to receive a grant from the National Park Service (NPS) Land and Water Conservation fund for financial assistance for the Project, and, in order to meet the grant application deadline, submitted a grant application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources on June 14, 2024; and

WHEREAS, said grant application requires that the City Council provide certain authorizations and certifications when making application for the grant, as described below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that:

1. The above-described Project is authorized.
2. The grant application submitted by the Parks and Recreation Department to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to seek Land and Water Conservation Fund financial assistance from the National Park Service in the amount of \$145,000.00, representing forty-seven percent (47%) of the anticipated total Project costs for the above-described Project, is hereby ratified and the Department is authorized to have made such application on behalf of the City of Des Moines.
3. The City will accept the terms and conditions set forth in the NPS Grants-in Aid Manual, which will be a part of the Project Agreement for any grant awarded under the attached proposal/grant application (“proposal”).
4. The City is in complete agreement with the attached proposal and plans to carry out the acquisition and/or development of the Project in the manner described in the proposal and any plans and specifications attached thereto, unless prior approval for any change has been received from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.
5. The City has the ability and intention to finance its share of the cost of the Project and intends for the Project to be operated and maintained at the City’s expense for public outdoor recreational use.
6. No financial assistance has been given or promised under any other federal program or activity with regard to the proposed Project.
7. The City will not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, or natural origin in the use of the property developed pursuant to the proposal, and shall comply with the terms and intent of Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964, P.L. 88-352 (1964), and of the regulations promulgated pursuant to such Act by the Secretary of the Interior contained in 43 CFR 17.
8. The City will maintain adequate financial records on the proposed Project to substantiate claims for cost-sharing.



Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

48

Date July 15, 2024

(Council Communication No. 24-281)

Moved by _____ to adopt.

Second by _____.

Attachment: LWCF grant application.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Glenna K. Frank

Glenna Frank

Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN				
COLEMAN				
GATTO				
MANDELBAUM				
SIMONSON				
VOSS				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED			APPROVED	

CERTIFICATE

I, LAURA BAUMGARTNER, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

Mayor

City Clerk

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND
STATE GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FOR LOCAL PARTICIPATION

Applications for 2024 Cycle Due June 15, 2024



Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Kayla Lyon, Director 2024

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

FORWARD

This booklet can assist grant applicants, planning agencies, and consultants in preparing applications for federal assistance from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. It will not cover all aspects of the LWCF program; but it does attempt to cover the major items of interest and concern to most applicants. Additional information can be found in the LWCF Manual. Any questions concerning the program should be directed to:

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Jessica Flatt
Parks, Forests, and Preserves Bureau
6200 Park Ave Ste 200
Des Moines IA 50321
515-975-8569
Jessica.Flatt@dnr.iowa.gov

The Department of Natural Resources receives Federal financial assistance from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the US Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please contact DNR's Civil Rights Coordinators via email at: civilrights@dnr.iowa.gov or mail at: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 6200 Park Ave Ste 200, Des Moines IA 50321, or the Office of Equal Opportunity, US Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GUIDELINES FOR LOCAL PARTICIPATION

Introduction

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act, signed into law September 4, 1964, provides federal financial assistance to the State of Iowa and its political subdivisions for the purpose of acquisition and/or development of land for outdoor recreation. The LWCF program is administered by the National Park Service (NPS). The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the program at the state level. A summary of State Administrative Rules and Federal General Provisions for the program are included in this application, read carefully before applying.

Funds are provided to the states and passed to political subdivisions in the form of reimbursement grants. Reimbursements are made on eligible expenditures up to 50% of the project cost or the amount of the approved grant, whichever is less.

Control and Tenure of Project Sites

The grant applicant must be an incorporated city or a county conservation board and have physical control of the project site by fee title or a minimum 25-year land management agreement in order for the project to be eligible. Land being acquired by contract purchase will not be eligible for development assistance until the fee title has been obtained. **The applicant is responsible for the maintenance of the site as an outdoor recreation area open to the public in perpetuity.**

Prior to the final billing, a "Notice of Use Restriction" will be required to be recorded with the respective county recorder. The restriction is a legal document which attaches to the title of the project site and halts the sale or conversion of the subject site/property prior to National Park Service review and approval. Upon approval of the National Park Service, a grantee may enter into a "conversion of use" by changing the boundaries, or selling all or a portion of a project site, understanding that the sponsor is responsible for replacing all or the portion of the site with equal or greater value property. The replacement land may not already be used for outdoor recreation.

Section 6(f)(3) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act states: "No property acquired or developed with assistance under this section shall, without the approval of the secretary, be converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses. **Property sold or used for purposes other than outdoor recreation must be replaced with new park land of equal or greater dollar value.** Examples of conversions include:

- The sale or trade of all or a portion of land acquired and/or developed with LWCF assistance.
- The construction of non-outdoor recreational facilities (such as roads/streets, libraries, city halls, fire/police stations, community centers, senior citizen centers) on properties acquired and/or developed with LWCF assistance.

Eligible Projects

- Trails; including hiking, biking, equestrian, paddling, exercise, and nature trails. Can also include trailheads and overlooks.
- Picnic facilities, including open shelters, fire rings, tables, or other facilities.
- Camping facilities including tables, fire rings, and restrooms.
- Acquisition of land specifically for outdoor recreation purposes, including new or additions to existing areas.
- Swimming facilities; including beaches, pools, splash pads, bathhouses and related equipment.
- Winter sports facilities; including ski runs/lifts, outdoor skating rinks, sledding slopes, warming huts, etc.
- Playground equipment and outdoor sports facilities such as ball fields and game courts, golf courses, etc.
- Sport shooting areas for skeet, trap, rifle, pistol, and archery. Note: SLO review of Pittman-Roberson funding must be completed.
- Lake and pond construction for boating, fishing and aesthetic purposes. Note: SLO review of Dingell-Johnson funding must be completed.
- Landscaping and plantings for wildlife food and cover.
- Renovation or redevelopment of existing facilities which have deteriorated or become outdated.
- Support facilities including roads, parking, signs, walkways, utility systems, lighting, restrooms, concession buildings, etc.

(Phased projects are eligible for funding and must be submitted as a new project for scoring each phase.)

Ineligible Projects

- Acquisition or development of areas and facilities to be used primarily for semiprofessional and professional arts and athletics.
- Development of school “athletic plant” facilities.
- Construction of employee residences.
- Development of amusement facilities, convention facilities, and commemorative exhibits.
- Development of nature and geological interpretive facilities which go beyond interpreting the project site and its immediate surrounding area.
- Development of outdoor recreation and support facilities to be used exclusively by people with disabilities.
- Acquisition, restoration, or preservation of historic structures.
- Acquisition, construction or renovation of lodges, motels, and luxury or “nonaustere” cabins.
- Facilities at a zoo for the purpose of housing, caging, displaying or caring for animals.
- Acquisition of museums and sites to be used for museums.
- Mobile recreation units such as playmobiles, skatemobiles, swimmobiles, show wagons, puppet wagons, and porta-bleachers.
- Acquisition of areas and facilities to be used solely for game refuges or fish production purposes.

(No funds will be made available for the operation and maintenance of outdoor recreation areas and facilities.)

Project Scoring and Selection

LWCF applications are reviewed and scored by a five member committee (with at least two alternates) represented by the cities, counties and DNR staff. Details on the scoring criteria can be found in the [LWCF State Administrative Rules, 571-27](#) and in Iowa’s Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) document. The grant scoring criteria includes:

- Description of how project goals align with priorities identified in Iowa’s Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and other applicable recreation or local plans (0-30 points)
- An assessment and description of local need and impact (0-30 points)
- Demonstration of partnerships and local support (0-20 points)
- Impact on underserved communities and accessibility (0-10 points)
- Sustainability of design and future maintenance (0-10 points)
- Bonus points - no prior LWCF assistance at project site (5 points)

Eligible Project Costs and Match Funds

Reimbursements are made only on costs incurred and paid by the grantee during the project period as identified on the grant agreement. The only exception to this is on “pre-agreement planning costs”, which can include site planning, feasibility studies, preliminary design, environmental assessment, preparation of cost estimates, and construction drawings and specifications.

In general, federal funds cannot be utilized as match funds for an LWCF grant project. The only exception to this requirement is if the other federal program states in its rules that it can specifically be utilized as an eligible match for the LWCF program.

The following items are ineligible for reimbursement:

- Incidental costs incurred by the grantee relating to the acquisition of real property, such as appraisals, surveys, recording fees.
- State sales taxes, interest expenses.
- Equipment to be used for the maintenance of recreation areas and facilities.
- Sport equipment such as bats, balls, etc.
- Donated labor, materials, and equipment use, donated real property.
- Force account labor and equipment use
- Cost overruns on an active project are not eligible for grant amendments.

Buy America Domestic Procurement Preference and Waiver Process

As required by Section 70914 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act), P.L. 117-58, on or after May 14, 2022, none of the funds under a federal award that are part of Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States, unless subject to an approved waiver.

For further information on the Buy America preference, please visit www.doi.gov/grants/BuyAmerica. Additional information can also be found at the White House Made in America Office website: www.whitehouse.gov/omb/management/made-in-america/.

Waiver of Retroactivity

In cases involving extreme urgency of land acquisition, where a grant applicant needs to purchase land prior to the grant round, a grant applicant may request a "waiver of retroactivity." Waivers allow acquisitions of real property to take place immediately without jeopardizing a grant applicant's chances for a future grant, but in no way implies or guarantees that a grant will be awarded. Grant applicants must formally request a waiver of retroactivity through the DNR to the National Park Service.

Operation and Maintenance Statement

On a five year basis, grantees will be required to complete and sign/date an Operation and Maintenance Statement and a Post-Completion Inspection Certification Report. Both are required to ensure that property and development for which these federal funds are provided will not be converted to any other use than public outdoor recreation. Projects developed and lands acquired with this program will be held in perpetuity. If a portion or all of the project lands are converted to a use other than outdoor recreation, or a portion or all of the project land is sold or donated, a "conversion in use" has taken place, and those lands will have to be replaced.

Program Income

Any non-recreational income derived from a project site and earned during the project period must be credited to the project on the next reimbursement request following receipt of the income. Nonrecreational income includes the sale of natural products such as timber, gravel, farm crops and rental fees. Income from the sale of buildings acquired with LWCF assistance must be credited or reimbursed no matter when the sale occurs.

Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) review and approval are required on all applications selected for funding. A thorough review and explanation of the property's history is critical for an accurate assessment by the DNR and the National Park Service for a potential determination of no adverse effect. If selected for funding, and depending on past use and potential for historic significance, a historical survey and/or Cultural Resource Management Plan may be required by the SHPO and/or THPO offices. SHPO and tribal office reviews are required as part of Environmental Screening.

An initial archaeological review conducted by a professional archaeologist is required prior to grant application submission. Further guidance on this requirement can be found under the Section 106, Archaeological Desktop Review in the application section in this document.

Environmental Screening Information

Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) are applicable to the LWCF program. To determine the environmental impact of a proposed project, an applicant will need to provide adequate environmental information by completing the required Project Description and Environmental Screening (A&R) Form section of the application.

The environmental review process may involve producing documents for public review and comment, coordinating compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, and acquiring other federal state and local approvals.

This section assists the project review and selection committee by ensuring the necessary information is included to determine the best projects are funded by:

- developing the project narrative to clearly explain the benefits to the community;
- explaining how the project is in accord with the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP);
- screening the project for potential environmental impacts in order to determine the appropriate NEPA process to conduct: 1) recommendation for a categorical exclusion, 2) production of an environmental assessment, or 3) production of an environmental impact statement. The environmental screening step requires an applicant to follow the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, in conjunction with the NEPA process;
- certifying that any appraisals conducted for the LWCF application meet the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions.

Whenever possible, impacts should be quantified (i.e., number of acres of trees to be removed, cubic yards of fill to be required, number of acres of land to be inundated, whether temporary during construction or permanent impact, etc.).

Applicant Risk Assessment

Federal law requires the State Agency to conduct a risk assessment of each applicant or sub-recipient. The applicant will be required to answer questions regarding the applicant's financial and budgeting practices.

Grant Approval Process

LWCF grants consist of a two-stage approval process.

1. The first process consists of grant review and scoring by the five person LWCF review and selection committee. Any additional information or clarification on individual grant applications will be sent to applicants via email. A grant review meeting open to applicants and the public is then held for discussion and to finalize scoring. Final scores and funding recommendations are then provided to the DNR Director for approval.
2. The second process consists of DNR staff assisting grant applicants to acquire any necessary additional information and work through the required submission materials for award by the National Parks Service (NPS). Once all materials are compiled, NPS will conduct an initial review for each grant to make sure it meets all requirements and to determine if any further information or documentation will be needed prior to the official submission with NPS. After this review has been completed, DNR will complete submission during the next open submission period with NPS. **Work associated with both grant and match funds can not begin until the grant agreement is in place.**

Tentative Grant Application and Funding Timeline

Timeline is subject to change yearly based on NPS review and submission schedules. Grant agreements have historically been in place 12 months to 24 months after the grant application deadline. See Iowa's Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) document for additional timeline details.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Land and Water Conservation Fund

2024 Applications are due by 4:30pm (CST), on June 15, 2024

Send application and attachments electronically to: Jessica.Flatt@dnr.iowa.gov

AND

Mail one (1) original to:

Jessica Flatt

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

6200 Park Ave Ste 200

Des Moines IA 50321

Project and Applicant Information

1. PROJECT

Project Title: Cheatom Park Playground Improvements

Project 911 Address or PLSS: Cheatom Park : 1100 Day Street

City: Des Moines

State: IA

Zip + 4: 50314-1813

2. TYPE OF PROJECT

☐ Acquisition

☒ Development

☐ Combination

of Existing Park Acres: 3.5

Park/Area Entrance Lat/Long: 41.596710 / -93.632278

of Acres to be Acquired: 0

3. APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department

Contact Person: Aaron Graves

Email: afgraves@dmgov.org

Title: Park Planner II

Applicant Mailing Address: 400 Robert D. Ray Drive

Telephone #: 515-248-6355

City & Zip Code: Des Moines, 50309

DUNS #: 07-349-8909

County: Polk

4. DESCRIPTION & COSTS

Project Description: (Maximum of 500 characters summarizing the project and use of LWCF Funds)

If the requested grant funding is awarded, the proposed project at Cheatom Park will include the following improvements: improved location for the playground area for safety and accessibility opportunities; new playground equipment and surfacing suitable for all age groups and abilities; implement concrete playground curbing, accessible walkway(s), seating and picnic areas, and bicycle parking;

Project Costs (Including Required 50% Match):

Federal LWCF Funds Requested: \$ 145,000.00 (47%)

Local Share:

Source: CIP \$ 145,000.00 (47%)

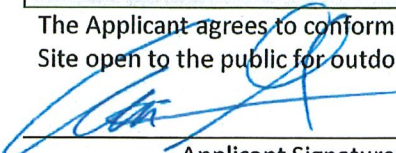
Source: Volunteering \$ 20,000 (6%)

Source: _____ \$ _____

Total Project Cost: \$ \$310,000.00

5. SIGNATURE

The Applicant agrees to conform with the Americans with Disabilities and Civil Rights Acts, as well as keeping the Project Site open to the public for outdoor recreation in perpetuity and completing the 5 Year Post Completion Inspections.

 6/14/24
Applicant Signature and Date

AARON GRAVES PARK PLANNER II
Applicant Name and Title

LWCF Grant Application Checklist
(Return this completed form with the application)

Mandatory

- ☒ Signed letter of resolution from Governing Body that includes resources/support committed to the project
- ☒ Application
- ☒ Budget and budget narrative
- ☒ Project description and environmental screening (A&R) form with contributors' names, titles, agencies, and qualifications
- ☒ Boundary map, location map, site plan and project area photographs
- ☒ Signed Risk Assessment and/or auditor's report
- ☒ Signed Minority Impact Statement
- ☒ Proposed project timeline
- ☒ Required match is secured
- ☒ Project meets priorities outlined in the current Iowa Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).
- ☒ Control and tenure information included (deed, applicable lease, easements, use agreements, parcel data)
- ☒ Project area is owned by public land agency that designates the area to be open to public outdoor recreation in perpetuity.
- ☒ Project area complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- ☒ Response from initial archaeological review conducted by the Office of State Archaeologist (OSA) or a professional archaeologist. This may be substituted with a Phase I archaeological survey report if completed.

Other documents that may be required after project has been approved for funding by DNR

- Agency Coordination and Section 106 Review
- DNR Environmental Review
- Applicable federal permits

GRANT PROJECT OVERVIEW

The scoring criteria for LWCF grants is based on five main scoring criteria: relationship to Iowa SCORP priorities (30 pts.), local need and impact (30 pts.), partnerships and support (20pts.), impact on underserved communities and accessibility (10 pts.), and sustainability of design and future maintenance (10 pts.). Applications are assigned a five point bonus if the local entity has not previously received LWCF assistance on the project site. Please refer to Iowa's OPSP for more details on scoring criteria.

Please keep answers concise. If more space is needed, responses may be continued as an attachment.

1. **Project Abstract Summary.** Describe the project in plain language. Use 4,000 characters or less. Do not include sensitive or proprietary information as this summary may be made available on public websites and/or databases.

Cheatom Park, situated at 1100 Day Street, Des Moines, IA 50314-1813, spans 3.5 acres in the north-central part of the city, with a backdrop of the Downtown skyline and convenient access from Interstate 235. The park offers various amenities, including a futsal mini-pitch court, basketball court, shelter, restrooms, and picnic facilities. However, the outdated playground and location within the park open space, has hindered park usage due to safety concerns and aging equipment. The existing playground is 30 years old and is no longer able to provide the appropriate play value for all age groups. The current playground surfacing is sand and does not have containment curbing or drainage. This surfacing type does not meet current accessibility standards and no curbing creates an issue for maintenance.

To address these issues, the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation is embarking on a playground improvements project which includes relocation of playground area with new modern equipment to be installed. The new location of the playground area will ensure from a safety standpoint that the playground is in sight lines with the park shelter and from roadway. The plan also involves removing the old playground equipment and sand surfacing, grading and seeding to restore the area of the current playground, and redesigning the playground with community input to ensure inclusivity and engagement. The City will also conduct online feedback forms to gather additional community input throughout the design process. Additionally, the project includes installing concrete curbing, accessible walkways, ADA-compliant features, seating/picnic areas, installation of a drain tile system to improve site drainage, and reuse excavated soil onsite. A volunteer build day will facilitate community involvement while minimizing costs, and funding from LWCF is sought to fully realize the project's vision.

This initiative aims to revitalize Cheatom Park, enhancing safety, accessibility, and recreational opportunities for residents, especially in an underserved neighborhood impacted by systemic inequality.

If the requested LWCF funding is awarded to the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation the Cheatom Park Playground Improvements Project can proceed as envisioned. But, if the requested funding isn't awarded the scope and scale of project will need to be value engineered to align with available CIP funding.

2. Describe how the project goals align with priorities identified in Iowa's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). You may also include how the project goals meet priorities as described in other applicable state, regional, or local recreation plans or planning initiatives (30 pts).

See Additional Narrative Attachment for response; Appendix A.

3. Describe how project goals will satisfy local outdoor recreation unmet needs. Assessment of need should include scope of impact (regional/city wide/neighborhood); lack of resources or age/condition of resources; specific needs of user groups; and distance to other recreation opportunities. For acquisition, describe why the parcel is a high priority and will serve current or future needs of the area impacted (30 pts.).

See Additional Narrative Attachment for response; Appendix A.

4. Explain how project partners and cooperators are involved (financial, volunteer, etc) and how local input and participation was solicited during planning (20 pts).

See Additional Narrative Attachment for response; Appendix A.

5. Describe how project goals will impact identified underserved communities. Explain how the project will increase accessibility (10 points).

Cheatom Park Neighborhood has historically been an underserved area due to impacts of systemic inequality (adjacent to a redlined area). Based on a recent TPL ParkServe report, the park serves over 2,621 residents (72% non-white and 63% low-income) within a 10-minute walk to the park. This is especially important at an age when they may not always have access to age-appropriate equipment. The project will also feature paved walkways to ensure accessibility for all residents and playground users.

6. Describe how the design or materials used have long lifespans and/or are low maintenance. Describe how the project will be maintained into the future (responsible agencies/organizations). For acquisitions, describe how the property could impact climate change resilience, connectivity, or future recreational needs (10 points).

This project aims to provide a low-maintenance, high-quality product that will last through its useful life. Playground equipment has a 20-year lifespan before it needs updates for safety and appearance. The selected play equipment will be Game Time, which has 15 year warranty and is a long established vendor with a strong performance and strong customer service. Our department employs a full time Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) that performs compliance checks for all playgrounds on a regular cycle.

7. BONUS: Has this project site received LWCF assistance previously? Use the mapping tool on Iowa's LWCF website to determine if a project area/park has received previous assistance.

This project has not received LWCF assistance previously.

BUDGET SHEET

A budget table and narrative must be included with the application that describes how the LWCF funds will be used and includes sources of match funds for the project. Make sure to specifically identify what item(s) will be funded with LWCF grant funds. For multi-phased projects, only include budgetary information for the phase that the LWCF grant will be included in. **The budget table below is required, along with the budget narrative.** A supplemental, more detailed budget may be included as an attachment.

In general, federal funds cannot be utilized as match funds for an LWCF grant project. The only exception to this requirement is if the other federal program states in its rules that it can specifically be utilized as an eligible match for the LWCF program.

Narrative:

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) would help the Cheatom Park Playground Improvements focus on the importance of outdoor recreation amenities. This would include funding for purchasing the new playground equipment (structures, freestanding elements) for all ages and abilities, the new site furnishings (benches, picnic tables, and bike racks), all necessary site work for proper installation, and drainage improvements. Necessary construction-related items include mobilization, clearing and grubbing, erosion control, grading, excavation, and site restoration and cleaning. Buy American guidelines will be followed.

Cost Classification	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Cost	Source of Funds
Administration/Legal					
Land Acquisition					
Architectural/Engineering					
Site Work	1	LS	9,625	9,625	CIP
Demolition/Removal	1	LS	13,000	13,000	CIP
Construction	1	LS	58,000	58,000	CIP
Equipment					
Miscellaneous					
Contingency					
Playground equipment	1	LS	139,000	139,000	LWCF
Site Furnishings	1	LS	6,000	6,000	LWCF
Paving	1	LS	43,125	43,125	CIP
Playground Footings and Surfacing	1	LS	21,250	21,250	CIP
Volunteering Playground Install	1	LS	20,000		Volunteer Match
Total Project Costs				310,000	
LWCF Request				145,000	(no more than 50% of allowable cost)

Local entities are eligible to receive annual assistance of up to \$250,000 per project.

GRANT PROJECT TIMELINE

Please refer to the grant funding timeline provided in the OPSP when providing a project timeline. Work cannot begin on the project until NPS has issued an award and a grant agreement is in place. The project timeline and narrative must include project milestones (example: design phases) and measures (examples: playground installed, X miles of paved trail, etc.) that will provide quantifiable progress. Please provide an estimated date when the project will be open to the public. Provide a timeline estimate using the following form (Q=Quarter, Y=Year). Any proposed changes, including extensions or modifications in the project timeline, must be requested in writing and approved in advance by the DNR.

Narrative:

The Cheatom Park Playground Improvements will include design and public input from Q3/Y1. This will include the planning division developing the concepts of the new playground, followed by input meetings with the Neighborhood Association and online questionnaires for feedback. Q4/Y1 will include final approvals, construction documentation preparation, and the necessary council documentation. Q1/Y2 is when the City will approve the construction of the project and complete the bidding process. Q2/Y2 will include all of the necessary pre-construction items. Construction will occur from Q3/Y2, and a volunteer playground build day in Q4/Y2. Then, it will open up to the public. Annual end of year reporting to IDNR will be provided.

PRELIMINARY TIMELINE ESTIMATE

Milestones	Q1/Y1	Q2/Y1	Q3/Y1	Q4/Y1	Q1/Y2	Q2/Y2	Q3/Y2	Q4/Y2	Q1/Y3	Q2/Y3
Design Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Concept/Equip Approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Construction Documentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Council Documentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
City Acceptance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Designate Low Bid	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-Con Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neighborhood Coordination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Order Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Construction Phase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volunteer Build Day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety Check and Inspection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Administrative Close-Out	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open to the Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FEDERAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM

The purpose of this Application and Revision Form (A&R) is to provide descriptive and environmental information about a variety of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) state assistance projects submitted for National Park Service (NPS) review and decision. The completed A&R becomes part of the "federal administrative record" in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The form captures administrative and descriptive details enabling the NPS to understand the project while also providing a resource for the States and/or project sponsors to use while the LWCF project is under development. Upon completion, the form will indicate the resources that could be impacted by the project enabling States and/or project sponsors to more accurately follow an appropriate pathway for NEPA analysis: 1) a recommendation for a Categorical Exclusion (CE), 2) production of an Environmental Assessment (EA), or 3) production of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This form should also be used to document any previously conducted yet still viable environmental analysis if used for this federal project. The completed A&R form must be submitted as part of the State's LWCF project package to NPS.

If needed, use a separate sheet for narrative descriptions and explanations, address each item and question in the order it is presented, and identify each response with its item number such as Section 1-A1, A2; Section 3-B1; Section 6-A1, A29; etc.

Section 1.0 New Project Grant Application

1. How was the cost estimate derived?

The project cost estimate was developed using previous bid line item costs from projects in the Des Moines metro area. Additionally, discussions with vendors and consultants on costs of previously bid/completed projects was used to complete an accurate cost estimate at this project phase.

2. What assurances are there that the costs listed are reasonable?

The City Parks and Recreation staff used real costs from similar projects to ensure that the costs were reasonable. The construction costs for actual projects have been increasing in recent years, so it was necessary to validate real-time costs with vendors.

3. Describe any project elements or costs that will improve site resiliency and facility longevity, if any.

If it hasn't already, the current equipment is reaching the end of its useful life. This project will involve installing new equipment, new surface materials, and a new walkway to access the equipment. These enhancements will ensure that the site remains functional for a long time, providing better equipment and a location that aligns more with the park's open space while addressing residents' concerns. Overall, this project will help ensure the park is primarily used for outdoor recreational activities. Neighborhood input and inclusion assist with creating agency and ownership, which decreases vandalism.

4. Are any eligible pre-award costs being included as part of the grant request?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, indicate the date from when those costs started being incurred, the cost category, and the total amount of the pre-award costs anticipated to be incurred before the grant start date. Note: these should also be represented in the budget narrative.

Section 2.0 Site Based Project Grants**A. Sub-Recipient (Grant Applicant) Information (repeat if needed for Co-Applicants)****Sub-Recipient Agency Name:** Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department**Sub-Recipient Contact Name:** Aaron Graves**Address:** 400 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines, IA 50309**Phone:** 515-248-6355**Email:** agraves@dmgov.org**B. Public Benefits (For All Project Types)**

1. Describe both short- and long-term outdoor recreation benefits that will be achieved as a result of this project.

The Cheatom Park project will create both short-term and long-term outdoor recreation benefits. In the short term, it will provide immediate access to safer and more visible playground facilities, encouraging increased outdoor activity and community engagement. In the long term, it will foster a culture of active living by establishing inclusive spaces for people of all ages and abilities, promoting healthier lifestyles, and enhancing the overall well-being of residents for generations to come.

2. Explain how this project fits as part of any other projects planned for this same site in the next three years.

At this time, there are no other projects planned for this same site in the next three years.

3. Describe the process that led to the development of this project and how the public was involved.

See Additional Narrative Attachment for response; Appendix A

Section 2.1 Acquisition and Combination Grants

Note: Development Only Project may skip Sections 2.1 (A), (B), (C), and (D)

A. Need

1. Why is this acquisition (whether attained via purchase or donation) needed?

N/A

2. Describe the existing resources and features of the site that make it desirable for public outdoor recreation.

N/A

3. Explain how you envision this acquisition contributing to outdoor recreation in the long term.

N/A

B. Acquisition Schedule & Appraisal/Waiver Valuation CertificationParcel Name(s): N/AParcel Size: N/AParcel Value: N/AAnticipated Acquisition Date: N/A☐

A State-certified Review Appraiser has reviewed the appraisal and has determined that it was prepared in conformity with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions

C. Property Information

1. From whom is this property being purchased?

N/A

2. Are any buildings or structures being purchased along with the property?

☐ Yes☒ No

If yes, describe what is planned for those structures and whether the grant funded project includes the value of those structures.

N/A

3. How will the site be made open and accessible for public outdoor recreation use (signage, entries, parking, site improvements, allowable activities, etc.)?

N/A

4. When will access to the site for public outdoor recreation become available?

N/A

5. Describe development planned for the site(s) for the three (3) years following acquisition. As this will impact NHPA and NEPA compliance, focus on what you reasonably expect to accomplish.

N/A

6. If development will be delayed by more than three years from grant close, explain why this acquisition is still a priority for grant funding at this time and what ability the public will have to use the site in the interim.

N/A

7. Is this acquisition an addition to an existing park or other recreation area?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, how will it support and enhance that existing park?

N/A

D. Acquisition Approach

1. Is this property being acquired under threat of condemnation?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, explain:

N/A

2. Was the property listed for public sale?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, explain how the property owner was made aware of the grant sponsor interest in the property.

N/A

3. Does this project involve donated property?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, include evidence that the seller was offered the fair market value of the property as just compensation and willingly chose to donate the property instead. (If the donation is subject to a waiver of retroactivity the evidence must pre-date the donation.)

N/A

Section 2.2 Development and Combination Grants

Note: Acquisition Only Project may skip Sections 2.2 (A) and (B)

A. Grant Elements

1. What new facilities will be constructed as part of this project?

See Additional Narrative Attachment for response.

2. What existing facilities will be renovated or replaced (specify which) as part of this project? Provide the age/original construction date of each facility that will be renovated or replaced.

The current playground area and equipment at Cheatom Park was constructed in 1994. As part of the Cheatom Park project, existing facilities such as playground equipment, playground surfacing, and minor paving will undergo demolition and replacement in a preferred location to improve safety and functionality. Through these upgrades, the project aims to modernize amenities and enhance the overall outdoor experience for the community and visitors of Cheatom Park.

3. What general site improvements (e.g. demolition, site preparation, landscaping, habitat improvements, etc.) will be completed as part of this project?

This project will include the demolition of the existing playground equipment and sand surfacing, grading and seeding of the area. Additionally, the project will include installation of the new playground equipment and play surfacing. Surrounding the new playground area will also be installation of concrete curbing, accessible walkways, and ADA compliant features.

4. What is the anticipated life span of the facilities that will be funded as part of this project?

Twenty years is the standard life span before the system becomes outdated and unattractive for kids to play on. Game Time equipment is commonly included in a warranty of 15 years for its structures.

5. Does the project scope include facilities that also eligible for Dingell-Johnson or Wallop-Breaux Act funding (i.e., boat/fish access)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

6. Does this project involve the new development of a sheltered/enclosed swimming pool or ice-skating rink or the sheltering/enclosure of an existing outdoor pool or rink? ☐ Yes ☒ No

- i. If yes, explain how it was determined that the site meets the cold climatic criteria described in the LWCF manual. Provide a copy of the cold climatic data used to make the eligibility determination with the application (see manual).

N/A

- ii. Explain the nature of the project - is this a new sheltered facility, or construction of the shelter only? If the pool or ice rink already exists, was it LWCF-funded? If yes, what year was it built and how much LWCF assistance was provided?

N/A

- iii. What is the total cost of the sheltered facility and what amount of grant funding will be spent on the actual shelter/enclosure structure itself (if any)?

N/A

- iv. Explain the significantly increased public use that will be made possible by the shelter/enclosure to justify the construction of such a facility.

N/A

B. Design Elements

1. How are access requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) being addressed in this project?

The Cheatom Park project addresses ADA and ABA access requirements by implementing features like ADA-compliant playground equipment, accessible walkways, an ADA ramp for playground access, and accommodating seating/picnic areas. These measures ensure inclusivity and accessibility for all individuals regardless of their abilities, promoting community engagement and enjoyment of park amenities for all.

2. What design elements are included that contribute to preserving environmental resources as part of ensuring a quality outdoor recreation experience for present and future generations?

This project aims to increase outdoor recreation opportunities for individuals. All project elements will be designed and built to comply with state and federal regulations to ensure the safety and sustainability of the project. After completing the Archaeological Phase 1, any environmental concerns that arise will be addressed in the design. Additionally, the project will include necessary drainage tiling to ensure proper drainage throughout the site. No trees will be impacted and the new playground area is cool season turf grass, so no habitat is impacted.

Section 3.0 Site Information

A. Basic Information

1. Will this project create a new public park/recreation area where none previously existed?
If yes, explain. ☐ Yes ☒ No
2. If this is an existing LWCF site, has the park name changed since the last grant?
If yes, please provide the previous site name and/or LWCF project numbers, if known. ☐ Yes ☒ No
3. Is this project located in a floodplain?
If yes, explain and confirm that you have met applicable federal insurance requirements. ☐ Yes ☒ No
4. Is the site contiguous with or connected to any federally owned recreation area?
If yes, explain. ☐ Yes ☒ No
5. Is the site part of a larger management area, such as a greenway or regional recreation area?
If yes, explain. ☐ Yes ☒ No
6. Describe the existing site conditions.
See Additional Narrative Attachment for response.

7. Explain why the site is suitable for the type of outdoor recreation project being submitted.

See Additional Narrative Attachment for response.

8. Does the site include any elements that visually detract from the outdoor recreation experience or that represent a potential public safety hazard? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, explain and describe whether this project will help to address those concerns.

9. What is/will be the applicant's type of ownership and control of the property?

☒ Fee simple ownership. ☐ Less than fee simple. Explain what rights the applicant has and what agency holds the underlying fee simple ownership. ☐ Lease. Include a copy of the lease with the application.

B. Stewardship Consideration

1. Is this a multi-use/multi-management site (i.e. school)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, explain.

i. How often will the public have recreation access to the site?

ii. What kinds of restrictions to public outdoor recreation will occur?

2. Who will manage and operate the site(s)?

The City of Des Moines Parks & Recreation Department will maintain Cheatom Park and operate the site to ensure it continues to meet public needs. The park is open to the public, and as issues arise, the responsibility to complete repairs will fall on the Parks & Recreation Department. The department budgets for vandalism and extreme weather so the full serviceable lifespan of an improvement is achieved.

3. Describe the nature of any rights-of-way, easements, reversionary interests, etc. within the proposed LWCF boundary area. Please provide description of known utilities (above and below ground).

This project will reside in the current Cheatom Park which is dedicated parkland in the City of Des Moines. No additional easements or revisionary interests exist or are planned. A review of the utilities on the City of Des Moines GIS database and on-site visual reviews show no identified utility issues. Sanitary sewer enters the park from south off Day Street to serve the restroom. Storm sewers enter the park from south off Day Street to manage stormwater. Electrical service and cabinets exist on the northeast corner of the park near the intersection of 11th and Laurel Street.

4. Are there any pre-existing or planned indoor facilities on site that would not themselves be eligible for LWCF grant funding? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, describe and explain how/if the structure(s) support public outdoor recreation.
5. Is the proposed LWCF boundary the same as the boundary of the park/recreation area as it exists in its totality? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If no, explain any area proposed for exclusion and why, and ensure it is clearly depicted on the proposed LWCF boundary map.
6. Are there any pre-existing or planned resource management practices (i.e. timber management, grazing, CRP, etc.)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, describe the nature of the practice, the anticipated duration, and how the practice supports outdoor recreation.
7. Are there any pre-existing or planned uses on site that are incompatible with LWCF requirements that should be excluded from the LWCF boundary? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, describe the nature of the use and ensure it is clearly depicted on the proposed LWCF boundary map. Clarify whether the future intent is for the area to become subject to LWCF once the use is terminated, or if the intent is for the use to continue within the park in perpetuity.

C. Environmental Resources Survey

The tables below serve as a record of the environmental resources present at the site, whether the proposed action is likely to have a significantly negative impact on those resources, and whether further information is needed to determine the potential impact. Review the listed resources and identify any resources that may be significantly impacted by the action. **The Environmental Resources Survey should be completed with professional input from resource experts and in consultation with relevant local, state, tribal, and federal governments, as appropriate.**

Table 1 – For each resource indicate if positive impacts or negative impacts are anticipated to result from the action or if further information is needed to determine the potential impact. Consider both direct and indirect impacts associated with each resource. If the project will not have an impact on the identified resource, leave all boxes for that resource blank.

+: indicates positive impacts are anticipated to result from the action

-: indicates negative impacts are anticipated to result from the action

?: indicates further information is needed to determine the potential impact

Site Name: Cheatom Park

	How will the project affect the following resources?	+	-	?
1	Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Circulation and transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Climate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Contamination or hazardous materials even if remediated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Endangered species: (listed or proposed threatened or endangered) including associated habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Environmental justice: minority and low-income populations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Historic or cultural resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Invasive species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Land use plans or policies from other agencies including tribes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Lightscares, especially night sky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Migratory birds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Recreation resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Socioeconomics: changes to tax base or competition with private sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Sound (noise impacts)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Unique ecosystems, such as old growth forests, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Water quality and/or quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Water: coastal barrier resources or coastal zones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Water: marine and/or estuarine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Water: stream flow characteristics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Water: wetlands and floodplains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Other important resources Explain:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Table 2 – This is a list of mandatory impact criteria that preclude the use of a categorical exclusion. If you answer “yes” or “?” for any of the mandatory criteria, you must develop an EA or EIS regardless of the answers in table 1.

Site Name: Cheatom Park

	Will the project:	Y	N	?
1	Have significant negative impacts on public health or safety?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Have significant negative impacts on unique natural resource or geographic characteristics such as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Will the project:	Y	N	?
	unique or unknown environmental risks?			
5	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Have significant adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as determined by NPS?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Have significant negative impacts to species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species? Please utilize the USFWS IPaC Planning Tool for an initial assessment of potential impacts to federally listed endangered and threatened species and habitat if an environmental assessment has not been completed to date. Mitigation efforts may be considered to reduce or alleviate potential impacts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or nonnative invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Have there been any previous NEPA/SEPA documents that are relevant to this project or this specific site? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, attach and summarize findings and include page number references below.

No known NEPA or SEPA work has been completed at this site.

2. Explain any negative or unknown impacts identified in Table 1, or any boxes marked "yes" in Table 2.

None identified.

3. How was the information identified in the tables derived and what sources of data were used to justify the impact selection?

Site Visit to review existing conditions and proposed playground relocation. USFWS IPaC Planning Tool was utilized to determine no critical habitats exist in this project location.

4. Who contributed to filling out the Environmental Resources Survey (include name, title, agency) and what qualifications do they have that provide the necessary resource expertise to determine impact significance?

Samuel J Kessel, Principal Landscape Architect with Bolton & Menk. Mr. Kessel is a licensed Landscape Architect with 19 years of experience. He is licensed in the state of Iowa and Minnesota. He also is LEED AP certified. Project entails relocation of new playground in an existing park to better serve the neighborhood and community surrounding. Landscape Architect's professional accreditation serves as necessary expertise for this project specific playground relocation.

5. List all required federal, state, and local permits/approvals needed for the project and explain their purpose and status. Note: Additional environmental and/or historical assessments, surveys, reports and/or permits may be required after further review of the grant project by Iowa DNR, NPS, the Iowa SHPO or other associated agencies.

See Additional Narrative Attachment for response; Appendix A

D. Cultural and Historic Resources Review

Have there been any previous cultural and/or historic resource surveys completed that included this site within the area of potential effect that was assessed?

- ☒ No - Describe any construction planned as a result of this project that will extend beyond the pre-existing disturbance area (including surface area and depth).
- ☐ Yes - Attach survey and summarize findings and include page number references below.

All planned construction will occur within the park area.

SECTION 106, ARCHAEOLOGICAL INITIAL DESKTOP REVIEW (ATTACH SEPARATELY)

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) review is required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for all projects. The following information is required in order for the DNR and the National Park Service to make a recommendation to SHPO.

SHPO does not accept request for reviews directly from the Applicant. The request for SHPO review and concurrence must come from the authorizing agency, in this case, the National Park Service. If the project is selected for funding, the DNR and National Park Service will use this information to send to the SHPO and tribal offices for review and concurrence.

LWCF Applicants must complete an initial desktop archaeological review and submit the recommendation with their LWCF application. If a Phase I or other archaeological survey has previously been completed for the project area, it will also need to be submitted with the grant application.

The Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) offers free-of-charge initial desktop reviews of projects for LWCF grant applicants. Further recommended in-depth reviews or surveys are on a fee-for-service basis. A list of professional archaeologists in Iowa can be found on the [Association of Iowa Archaeologist](#) website. After a project review, OSA will recommend one of the following:

- A. That no further archaeological work is recommended.
- OR
- B. That a Phase I or other archaeological resource surveys are recommended.

For a desktop review with OSA, please contact Mr. John Doershuk at john-doershuk@uiowa.edu or 319-384-0751.

The following information should be provided when requesting a desktop review:

A. Project Description

Include a project description identifying purpose, acreage, and location. It should include enough detail to fully communicate the action, especially with regard to its potential effects on historic properties. The project description should include any aboveground structures that could be impacted by the project as well as any locations where ground disturbing activities will take place (see Item C).

B. Previous Known Studies

The applicant should include any previous known archaeological studies conducted at the project site.

C. Area of Potential Effect (APE)

In accordance with 36 CFR 800.4(a) (1), the agency shall determine and document the APE. The APE is defined at 36 CFR 800.16(d) as "the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking." In order to sufficiently cover all aspects of the undertaking, APE should include access points and staging areas. If a known historic property is located in the APE, the entire property should be included in the APE.

For acquisition projects, the APE would include any ground-disturbing activities or impacts to aboveground structures that will have to be completed on the property prior to being open to the public.

REQUIRED PROJECT MAPS

Project maps are one of the most important components of the application process. The maps will be used for inspection years after the project has been completed. For this reason, accuracy is crucial. Send a legal description of the boundary with the maps. The State will submit the signed and dated project boundary map to the National Park Service for approval. Please reference the Building Effective Maps for Land and Water Conservation Fund tip sheet to make sure you include all required elements on each map.

Required Maps - Include one original of each of the following:

- LWCF Boundary Map that includes legal description and/or parcel data
- Site Development Map (development projects only)
- Location Map that includes project location within the city and county

RESOLUTION ON ACQUISITION OR DEVELOPMENT FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION

County: _____

WHEREAS, the _____ (City/County) is interested in acquiring lands or developing outdoor recreational facilities on the following described project for the enjoyment of the citizenry of

Site Name: _____ and the State Iowa.

Site Address: _____

Project Title: _____

Total Estimated Cost: \$ _____

Brief Description of Project: _____

See Appendix K

AND, Land and Water Conservation Fund financial assistance is being sought for the acquisition or development of said outdoor recreational facilities,

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the _____ that the project described above be authorized,

AND, be it further resolved that said _____ make application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to seek Land and Water Conservation Fund financial assistance from the National Park Service in the amount of _____ % of the actual cost of the project,

AND, be it further resolved that said _____ certifies to the following:

1. That it will accept the terms and conditions set forth in the NPS Grants-in-Aid Manual and which will be a part of the Project Agreement for any grant awarded under the attached proposal.
2. That it is in complete accord with the attached proposal and that it will carry out the acquisition and/or development in the manner described in the proposal and any plans and specifications attached thereto unless prior approval for any change has been received from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.
3. That it has the ability and intention to finance its share of the cost of the project and that the project will be operated and maintained at the expense of said _____ for public outdoor recreational use.
4. That no financial assistance has been given or promised under any other federal program or activity with regard to the proposed project.
5. That it will not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, or natural origin in the use of any property or failure acquired or developed pursuant to this proposal, and shall comply with the terms and intent of the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, P.L. 88-352 (1964), and of the regulations promulgated pursuant to such Act by the Secretary of the Interior and contained in 43 CFR 17.
6. That it will maintain adequate financial records on the proposed project to substantiate claims for cost-sharing.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly and legally adopted by the

_____ at a legal meeting held on this _____ Day

of _____, 20_____.

(signature)_____
(signature)_____
(title)_____
(title)

APPLICANT RISK ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

2 CFR 200.331 of the Federal Code requires pass-through entities to conduct a risk assessment of each sub-recipient. Please complete and return this section as part of your grant application. If the answer to any question is not yes, please provide a brief explanation of your entity's process. If questions arise while completing the questionnaire please contact the DNR Department Auditor at 515-725-8208.

- A. Was an audit performed in the prior fiscal year? If so, please skip to question 21, provide your information and signature at the bottom of this form and provide a copy of your audit report with your application.

[Yes, the City of Des Moines performs an annual audit. See attached appendix.](#)

- B. If not, please answer all of the following questions and provide your information and signature at the bottom of the form.


1. Are the accounting records maintained on a current basis?
2. Are bank accounts reconciled by an employee who does not sign checks, handle or record cash?
3. Are reconciliations reviewed and approved by a person who is not responsible for receipts and disbursements?
4. Are inventory counts verified by persons independent of those in charge of the inventory records?
5. Are capital assets tested periodically by an individual having no responsibility for the assets?
6. Are capital expenditures authorized by appropriate officials and the governing body?
7. Is a physical inventory taken periodically (at least annually) and reconciled to detailed capital asset records?
8. Is a list of receipts prepared by the mail opener?
9. Is an independent reconciliation of recorded receipts to the initial listing performed?
10. Is a restrictive endorsement placed on each incoming check upon receipt?
11. Are responsibilities for the disbursement/expenditure approval function segregated from those for the voucher preparation and purchasing functions?
12. Are responsibilities for reconciling disbursements/ expenditures with the check/warrant register segregated from those preparing the vouchers?
13. Is final approval for payment made by a different individual than the check/warrant signer?

14. Are all disbursements/expenditures required to be supported by invoices or other documentation?
15. Does the person reviewing the claims have sufficient knowledge of federal and state grant requirements, laws and regulations to determine cost allowability?
16. Are supporting documents for claims effectively canceled at the time of approving the payment to prevent their reuse?
17. Are controls maintained over the supply of unused and voided checks/warrants?
18. Are salaries approved by the governing body for full-time and part-time employees?
19. Are time sheets used and approved by appropriate personnel?
20. Are financial reports reviewed and approved at appropriate levels of management?
21. Is management committed to providing proper stewardship for property acquired with federal awards?
Yes
22. Are accurate records maintained for all acquisitions and dispositions of property acquired with federal awards?
Yes
23. Is a physical inventory of equipment periodically taken and compared to property records?
Yes
24. Are procedures established to ensure the federal awarding agency is appropriately reimbursed for dispositions of property acquired with federal awards?
Yes
25. If requested, could a certification from the donor be obtained or other procedures be performed to identify whether matching contributions are from non-federal sources?
Yes
26. Have procedures been established to verify vendors providing goods and services under the award have not been suspended or debarred by the federal government?
Yes

Completed by: Jessica Butler

Title: Senior Budget Analyst

Phone Number: 515-283-4170

Signature: 

Date: June 18, 2024

Email: jbutler@dmgov.org

MINORITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to 2008 Iowa Acts, HF 2393, Iowa Code Section 8.11, all grant applications submitted to the State of Iowa which are due beginning January 1, 2009 shall include a Minority Impact Statement. This is the state's mechanism to require grant applicants to consider the potential impact of the grant project's proposed programs or policies on minority groups. **Please choose the statement(s) that pertains to this grant application. Complete all the information requested for the chosen statement(s).**

- ☐ The proposed grant project programs or policies could have a disproportionate or unique **positive** impact on minority persons. Describe the positive impact expected from this project

Indicate which group is impacted:

☐ Women

☐ Persons with a Disability

☐ Blacks

☐ Latinos

☐ Asians

☐ Pacific Islanders

☐ American Indians

☐ Alaskan Native Americans

☐ Other

- ☐ The proposed grant project programs or policies could have a disproportionate or unique **negative** impact on minority persons. Describe the negative impact expected from this project

Present the rationale for the existence of the proposed program or policy.

Provide evidence of consultation of representatives of the minority groups impacted.

Indicate which group is impacted:

☐ Women

☐ Persons with a Disability

☐ Blacks

☐ Latinos

☐ Asians

☐ Pacific Islanders

☐ American Indians

☐ Alaskan Native Americans

☐ Other

- ☒ The proposed grant project programs or policies are **not expected to have** a disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons.

Present the rationale for determining no impact.

Cheatom Park is not expected to have a disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons.

I hereby certify that the information on this form is complete and accurate, to the best of my knowledge:

Name: Aaron Graves

Title: Parks Planner II

Definitions

"Minority Persons", as defined in Iowa Code Section 8.11, mean individuals who are women, persons with a disability, Blacks, Latinos, Asians or Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaskan Native Americans.

"Disability", as defined in Iowa Code Section 15.102, subsection 5, paragraph "b", subparagraph (1):

b. As used in this subsection:

- (1) "Disability" means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual, a record of physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual, or being regarded as an individual with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual.

"Disability" does not include any of the following:

- (a) Homosexuality or bisexuality.
- (b) Transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, gender identity disorders not resulting from physical impairments or other sexual behavior disorders.
- (c) Compulsive gambling, kleptomania, or pyromania.
- (d) Psychoactive substance abuse disorders resulting from current illegal use of drugs.

"State Agency", as defined in Iowa Code Section 8.11, means a department, board, bureau, commission, or other agency or authority of the State of Iowa.

Cheatom Park Playground Improvements Appendix



- **APPENDIX A** - Additional Narrative
- **APPENDIX B** - Boundary Map
- **APPENDIX C** - Location Map (County)
- **APPENDIX D** - Location Map (City)
- **APPENDIX E** - Site Plan
- **APPENDIX F** - Site Photos
- **APPENDIX G** - Initial Desktop Review
- **APPENDIX H** - Letters of Support
- **APPENDIX I** - Project Budget
- **Appendix J** - City of Des Moines 2023 Audit
- **Appendix K** - Resolution Extension

Prepared June 10, 2024

Grantee: _____

Aaron Graves

Application Page 8

Grant Project Overview

2. Describe how the project goals align with priorities identified in Iowa's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). You may also include how the project goals meet priorities as described in other applicable state, regional, or local plans or planning initiatives (30 pts).

The improved Cheatom Park will provide opportunities to promote and grow outdoor recreation in an underserved neighborhood. Cheatom is located within a low-income area with a minority population of 72%. As a cost savings and sustainability measure the playground equipment, site amenities, and vegetation will be installed by volunteers within the community.

This project will uniquely contribute to the SCORP goals as follows:

Priority 1, Goal 1: *Increase availability and access to outdoor recreation opportunities and amenities for Iowans and future Iowans.*

The relocation of the Cheatom Park playground serves as one aspect of a broader effort to increase availability and access to outdoor recreation opportunities and amenities for Iowans, both present and future. By addressing visibility, accessibility, and safety concerns through the relocation, the project ensures that residents can enjoy the park's playground revitalization in a secure and inviting environment.

Enhancing the playground's accessibility promotes active lifestyles and improving overall well-being for children within this underserved community. The relocation of the playground not only addresses existing safety and accessibility issues but also signifies a dedication to creating an environment promoting an active lifestyle at an early age and where individuals of all ages and abilities can engage in outdoor activities.

Furthermore, by strategically placing the playground in a more visible and accessible location, the project maximizes its impact on the community, ensuring that it remains a valued resource for generations to come. This proactive approach to enhancing outdoor recreation opportunities demonstrates a commitment to the health and happiness of current and future generations of Iowans.

Priority 1, Goal 2: *Embrace diversity, equity and inclusion to improve access at all levels of need to enhance connection to the outdoors.*

Cheatom Park Neighborhood has historically been an underserved area due to impacts of systemic inequality (adjacent to a redlined area). Based on a recent TPL ParkServe report, the park serves over 2,621 residents (72% non-white and 63% low-income) within a 10-minute walk to the park.

The inclusion of two distinct sections within the Cheatom Park playground, catering to both 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds, exemplifies a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in outdoor recreational spaces. This unique feature addresses a significant gap in

accessibility by providing age-appropriate play options for very young children, a demographic often overlooked in traditional playground designs.

By embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion, the project ensures that children of all ages and abilities have the opportunity to connect with the outdoors and engage in active play. This approach not only fosters a sense of belonging and accessibility but also promotes social interaction and developmental growth among children from diverse backgrounds.

Furthermore, the provision of inclusive playground features, such as accessible walkways and equipment, ensures that children with disabilities can participate fully in outdoor play activities, reinforcing the principle of equity in recreational opportunities.

Through the intentional design of inclusive spaces like the Cheatom Park playground, communities can enhance connections to the outdoors for individuals at all levels of need, fostering a sense of belonging and well-being for everyone.

Priority 1, Goal 4: Increase lowan's level of physical activity through outdoor recreation activities (active and passive) to improve Iowa's goals for public health and wellness and provide the education and resources necessary for their participation.

The combination of passive and active recreation activities will derive several significant benefits to the nearby neighborhood and the greater city. The Cheatom Park project aims to boost lowans' physical activity levels by offering a range of outdoor recreation options. Through amenities like playgrounds and picnic areas, the park encourages active and passive engagement for individuals and families alike. By ensuring accessibility and inclusivity, the project enables participation from all members of the community, regardless of ability. The improvements will also provide economic benefits through increased property values and city tax base while also reducing transportation costs by providing close-to-home recreation opportunities.

Providing new playground equipment acts as a catalyst to increasing lowan's level of physical activity by providing opportunities to children at a young age and increases physical activity in the long run by promoting active recreation at a young age.

Collaborations with local businesses and organizations can further enhance opportunities for outdoor recreation. By providing resources such as equipment rentals or fitness programs, the project makes it easier for residents to engage in physical activity. By prioritizing diverse activities and accessibility, the Cheatom Park project aligns with Iowa's goals for public health and wellness, promoting a culture of active living throughout the community.

Priority 2, Goal 1: Invest in growing our communication systems to be credible, accurate and practical and make it convenient for lowans and future lowans to find and plan for outdoor recreation experiences.

The Des Moines' Parks and Recreation Department markets itself through key messaging and goals that every park in our system follows. Not only do we have a branding identity of primary park signage, we continually look at marketing ourselves as an added benefit to

anyone living in Des Moines. We offer a wide variety of outdoor recreational activities and Cheatom is no different. By offering updated amenities it strengthens our message as an entity worth keeping and protecting the natural assets that the City of Des Moines has to offer. Our network of parkland and natural resources are key assets for Des Moines residence and an economic driver for future development. Cheatom Park will be yet another asset that will continually be sought after the surrounding communities growth and becoming an economic catalyst for the surrounding developments.

The City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department continues to improve and drive their marketing success through a variety of different internet platforms. Cheatom Park implementations and project completion date will continue to be updated directly to the public through the following platforms:

- Over 130,000 Facebook Page Views during peak social media season
- Over 55,000 Facebook Page Visits during peak social media season
- Nearly 10,000 Facebook Followers
- Nearly 3,000 Twitter Followers
- Nearly 2,000 Instagram Followers
- Nearly 2,000 YouTube views

Priority 2, Goal 2: Develop partnerships with businesses, industry and recreation-affiliated user groups to stay relevant in the changing dynamics of outdoor recreation.]

To stay relevant in the evolving landscape of outdoor recreation, it's imperative to cultivate partnerships with businesses, industry stakeholders, and recreation-affiliated user groups. For the Cheatom Park project, leveraging collaborations with entities like GameTime, a renowned provider of playground equipment, presents a prime opportunity to improve the quality and appeal of recreational facilities.

By teaming up with GameTime, the project gains access to cutting-edge playground equipment known for its durability, safety features, and innovative designs. This partnership not only ensures the delivery of high-quality amenities but also fosters a sense of credibility and trust among park visitors, enhancing their overall experience.

Furthermore, involving volunteers in the construction of the playground creates a sense of community ownership and engagement. By tapping into the enthusiasm and expertise of local volunteers, the project not only reduces costs but also strengthens community bonds and instills a sense of pride in the finished product.

By fostering strategic partnerships with businesses, industry stakeholders, and user groups, the Cheatom Park project can adapt to changing trends in outdoor recreation, enhance its offerings, and ultimately create a vibrant and inclusive recreational destination that resonates with the community's needs and aspirations.

Application Page 8

- 3. Describe how project goals will satisfy local outdoor recreation unmet needs. Assessment of need should include scope of impact (regional/city wide/neighborhood); lack of resources or age/condition of resources; specific needs of**

user groups; and distance to other recreation opportunities. For acquisition, describe why the parcel is a high priority and will serve current or future needs of the area impacted (30 pts.).

The proposed project in Cheatom Park is poised to address several unmet needs within the local outdoor recreation landscape, catering to various user groups and enhancing the overall community experience. Here's a breakdown of how the project goals align with these needs:

Scope of Impact: As a neighborhood park, Cheatom Park's impact focuses directly on the community it serves by updating and improving recreation opportunities close to home. This promotes activities that are close enough to walk to in the community and acts as the heart of the community by providing volunteer opportunities for stewardship and ownership. This project's impact also extends beyond the immediate neighborhood to benefit the entire City of Des Moines. Cheatom Park serves as a vital recreational hub for residents from all corners of the city. By revitalizing the park's amenities, the project will draw visitors from across Des Moines, promoting community engagement and healthy outdoor activities on a citywide scale.

Lack of Resources or Age/Condition of Resources: The existing playground and amenities were installed in 1994 and is past its lifespan. Over time, the playground equipment and amenities in Cheatom Park have aged, diminishing their functionality and safety. The City of Des Moines manages over 7,000 acres and 70 playgrounds city wide. The limited resources allocated to park maintenance and capital improvements has further exacerbated these issues. Opportunities such as volunteer staffing helps with limited City funding and resources. By demolishing and reconstructing the playground, the project will address the dilapidated state of existing resources, ensuring that residents have access to high-quality, safe recreational facilities.

Specific Needs of User Groups: The project aims to cater to the diverse needs of various user groups within the community. The installation of concrete playground containment curbing and accessible walkways will enhance safety and accessibility for children and families of all abilities, including those with disabilities. Additionally, the incorporation of ADA-compliant features, such as ramps, will ensure inclusivity and provide equitable access to recreational opportunities for individuals with mobility challenges.

Distance to Other Recreation Opportunities: Cheatom Park serves as a vital green space within its surrounding neighborhood. However, residents may face challenges accessing alternative recreation opportunities due to active transportation constraints. Such as highway I-235 to the south and Keo Way to the west. By enhancing the park's amenities, the project will reduce reliance on distant recreational facilities, providing nearby residents with convenient access to quality outdoor experiences.

The proposed project in Cheatom Park is strategically designed to address a range of unmet needs within the local outdoor recreation landscape. By improving accessibility, safety, and the overall quality of recreational amenities, the project will positively impact residents on a citywide scale, fostering community cohesion and promoting active, healthy lifestyles for years to come.

Application Page 8**4. Explain how project partners and cooperators are involved (financial, volunteer, etc) and how local input and participation was solicited during planning).**

The City of Des Moines has existing relationships with many volunteer-based organizations involved in building this project. From neighborhood associations, local private industries, Friends of Des Moines Parks, and many more organizations, the City of Des Moines will work with these groups to gather enough volunteers to make this a volunteer-built project once materials have been acquired and the set has been prepped for installation.

City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation staff met with the Cheatom Park Neighborhood Association in 2021 to discuss the project. At this time, the requests, issues, support of the project were noted. Due to capacity concerns, this project was pushed back on the City's timeline for implementation. Since then, Parks and Recreation staff have attended all of the meetings and is aware of the Cheatom Park Neighborhood Association's comments on the project. These comments will continue to be used as the design progresses. Future meetings with the Cheatom Park Neighborhood Association are planned to present project concepts and get additional feedback to develop a final layout for approval by all parties involved.

Additionally, Parks and Recreation staff will develop online feedback forms to allow residents to select equipment styles and color palette options. The feedback forms will be promoted on social media channels, signage placed around the park, and directly reaching out to other local groups to spread the word. All of these steps will ensure the project is properly solicited throughout the area, only helping to gain excitement for the project completion.

Application Page 12**Section 2.0 Site Based Project Grants****B. Public Benefits****3. Describe the process that led to the development of this project and how the public was involved.**

Due to capacity concerns, this project was pushed back on the City's timeline for implementation. Since then, Parks and Recreation staff have attended all of the meetings and is aware of the Cheatom Park Neighborhood Association's comments on the project. These comments will continue to be used as the design progresses. Future meetings with the Cheatom Park Neighborhood Association are planned to present project concepts and get additional feedback to develop a final layout for approval by all parties involved. Additionally, Parks and Recreation staff will develop online feedback forms to allow residents to select equipment styles and color palette options. The feedback forms will be promoted on social media channels, signage placed around the park, and directly reaching out to other local groups to spread the word. All of these steps will ensure the project is properly solicited throughout the area, only helping to gain excitement for the project completion.

Application Page 14**Section 2.2 Development and Combination Grants****A. Grant Elements**

1. What new facilities will be constructed as part of this project?

As part of the Cheatom Park project, several new facilities will be constructed to enhance recreational opportunities for the community. These include:

- **Playground Areas:** Two distinct playground sections will be built to cater to different age groups, providing age-appropriate play options for children aged 2-5 and 5-12 years old.
- **Concrete Playground Containment Curbing:** Installation of concrete curbing around the playground areas to enhance safety and containment of play areas.
- **Accessible Walkways:** Construction of accessible walkways throughout the park to ensure inclusivity and provide easy access for individuals of all abilities.
- **ADA Ramp:** A dedicated ADA ramp will be installed to facilitate accessibility into the playground area for individuals with mobility challenges.
- **Seating/Picnic Areas:** New seating and picnic areas will be constructed to provide spaces for relaxation and socialization within the park.

These new facilities aim to create a welcoming and inclusive outdoor environment that encourages physical activity, social interaction, and community engagement for residents of all ages and abilities.

Application Page 16**Section 3.0 Site Information****A. Basic Information****6. Describe the existing site conditions**

This location is a neighborhood park with large canopy trees and rolling hills. The center of the park is a storm water drainage path for the neighborhood. Active recreation facilities recently updated with basketball and futsal courts. Open air shelter with attached public restroom facility sized accordingly to accommodate extended family gatherings. No off street parking provided.

The existing playground is dated and located near the restroom facility at the top of the hill. Play equipment location is not ADA accessible in terms of access from an adjacent walkway and the play surfacing used is sand and not considered ADA accessible. Sand surface is prone to sprout noxious weeds and evidence of existing weeds exist.

Proposed playground location will be ADA accessible from ROW, sport courts, restrooms, and open air shelter.

Application Page 17**7. Explain why the site is suitable for the type of outdoor recreation project being submitted.**

The new location within Cheatom Park is ideal for the outdoor recreation project, particularly the relocation of the playground, due to several key factors. Firstly, the chosen site offers enhanced visibility and safety, addressing concerns that prompted the relocation. This ensures that families can enjoy recreational activities with peace of mind.

Additionally, the site's proximity to existing park amenities and infrastructure facilitates seamless integration with the surrounding environment. This integration fosters a sense of community and encourages continued engagement with the park's offerings.

Overall, the selected site within Cheatom Park provides an optimal setting for the outdoor recreation project, ensuring safety, accessibility, and community cohesion.

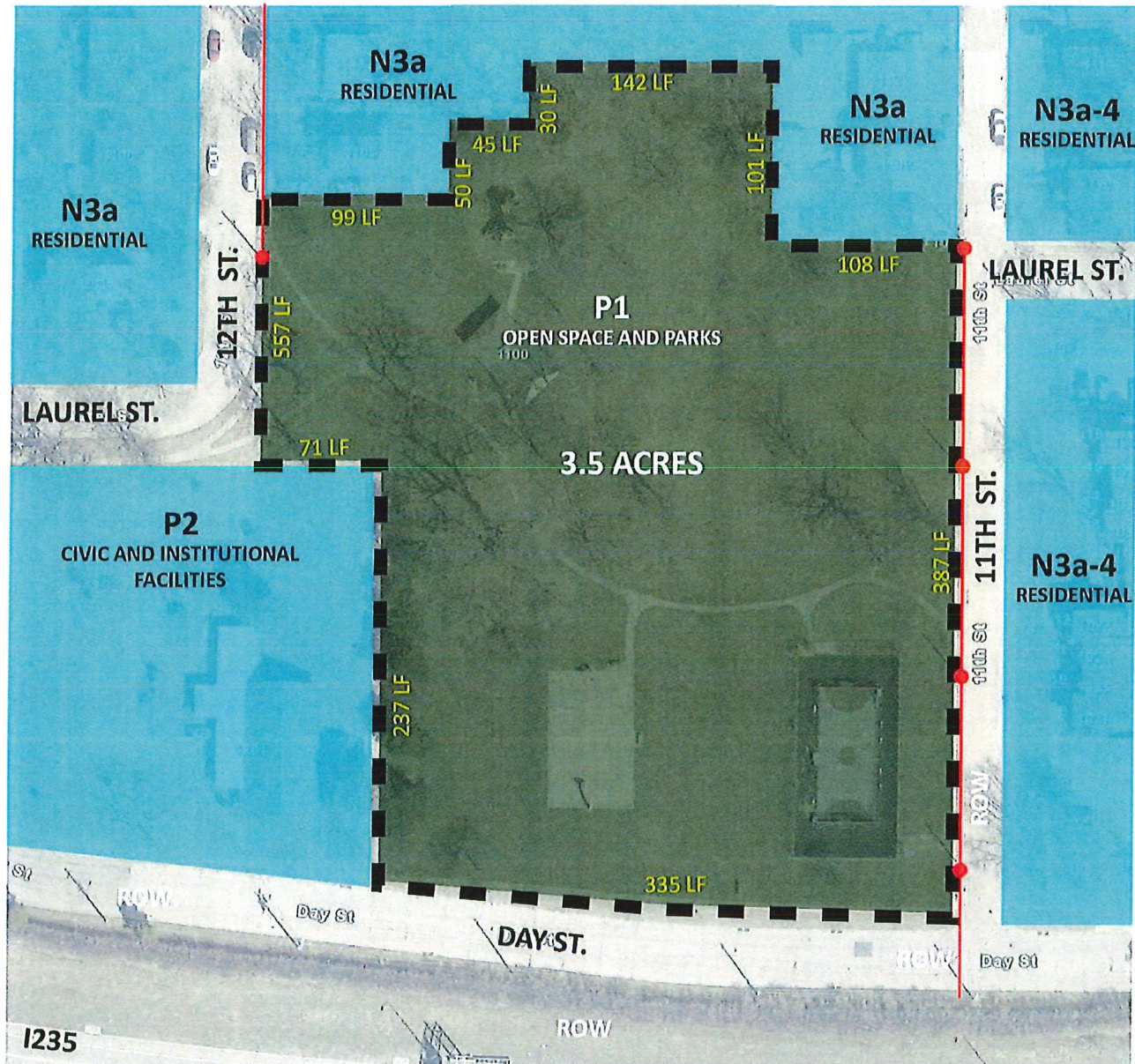
Application Page 21

C. Environmental Resources Survey

- 5. List all required federal, state, and local permits/approvals needed for the project and explain their purpose and status. Note: Additional environmental and/or historical assessments, surveys, reports and/or permits may be required after further review of the grant project by Iowa DNR, NPS, the Iowa SHPO or other associated agencies.**

The permit and approval items listed below are generally in sequential order. None of the items are fully complete at this time.

- 1) SHPO and Environmental Impact review as required if awarded a LWCF grant. These reviews ensure that archeological and environmental issues are carefully considered before proceeding with development
- 2) Grant contract approval. City Council must approve contracts for all grant funding awards to ensure the City can meet their responsibilities.
- 3) Approval to request bids. City Council approval is required in order to request bids. This ensures that projects going out for bid align with City Council goals and priorities.
- 4) Bid process and approval. In the State of Iowa, a competitive low-bid system is required for all Response for Bid (RFB) for government work to ensure fairness and cost-effectiveness.
- 5) Designation of low bid. Once bids are received, City Council approval is required to accept the lowest responsible bid to execute the project. This process enables the City to accept or decline bids based upon the targeted project budget.
- 6) Building and electrical permits for renovated restroom facility, open-air shelter. These permits ensure compliance with all applicable building codes and zoning ordinances. All building permits are the contractor's responsibility and will follow the future anticipated award of a construction contract to implement the project.



Map Prepared June 10, 2024

Grantee:

Aaron Graves

LEGEND

Park 6(f) Boundary

Cheatom Park Zoning P1

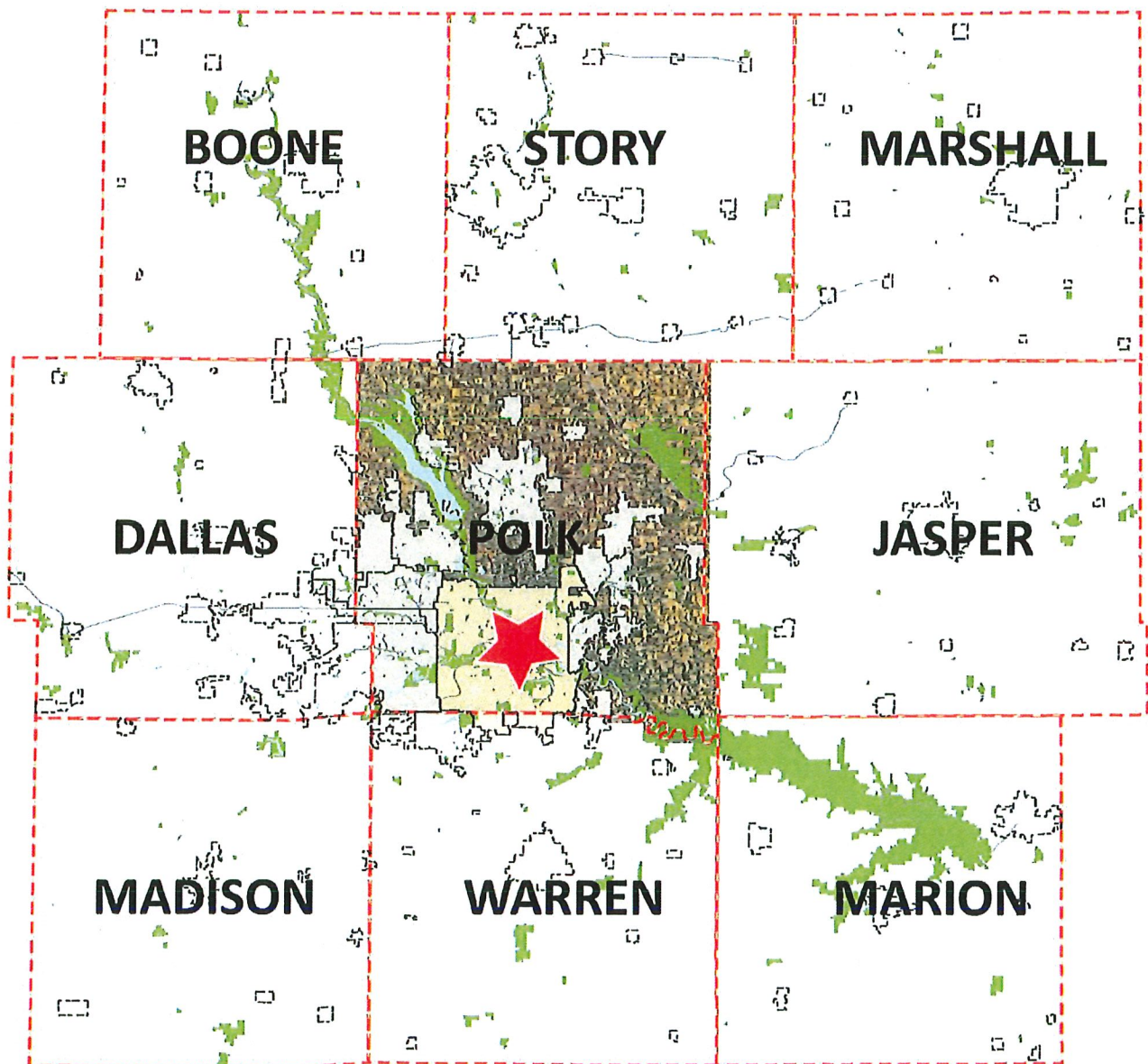
Ex Zoning

Overhead Utility Lines

CHEATOM PARK PARCEL LEGAL DESCRIPTION

LT 29 BLK 2 GRASS ROOTS 1

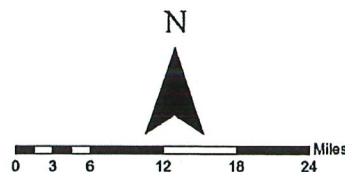
Location Map (County): Cheatom Park Playground Improvements APPENDIX C



Map Prepared June 10, 2024

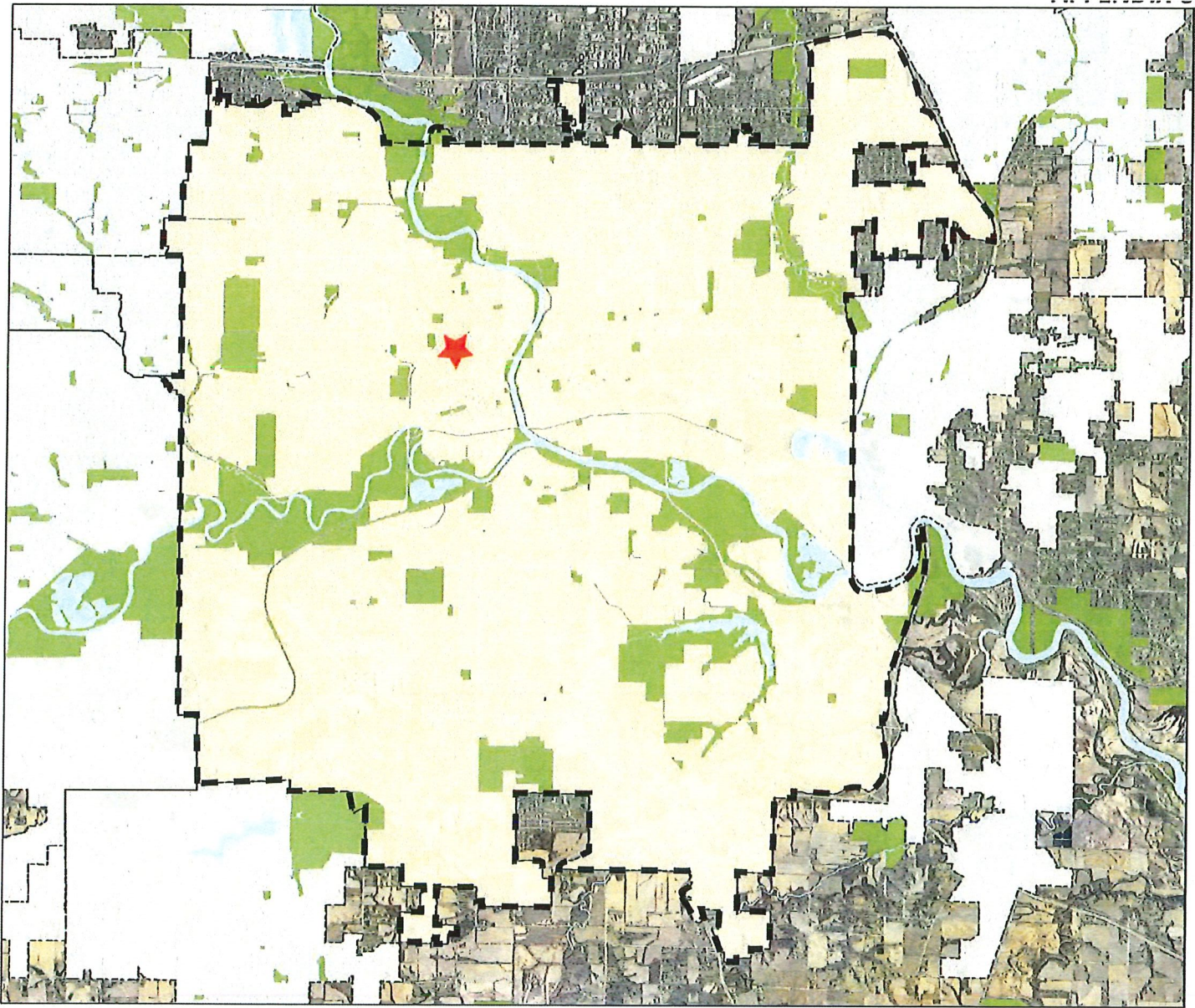
Grantee:


Aaron Graves



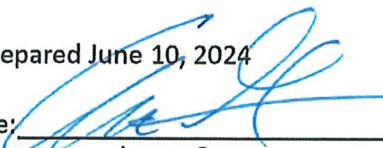
LEGEND

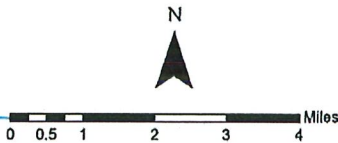
-  County Limits
-  City of Des Moines
-  Public Land
-  Cheatom Park



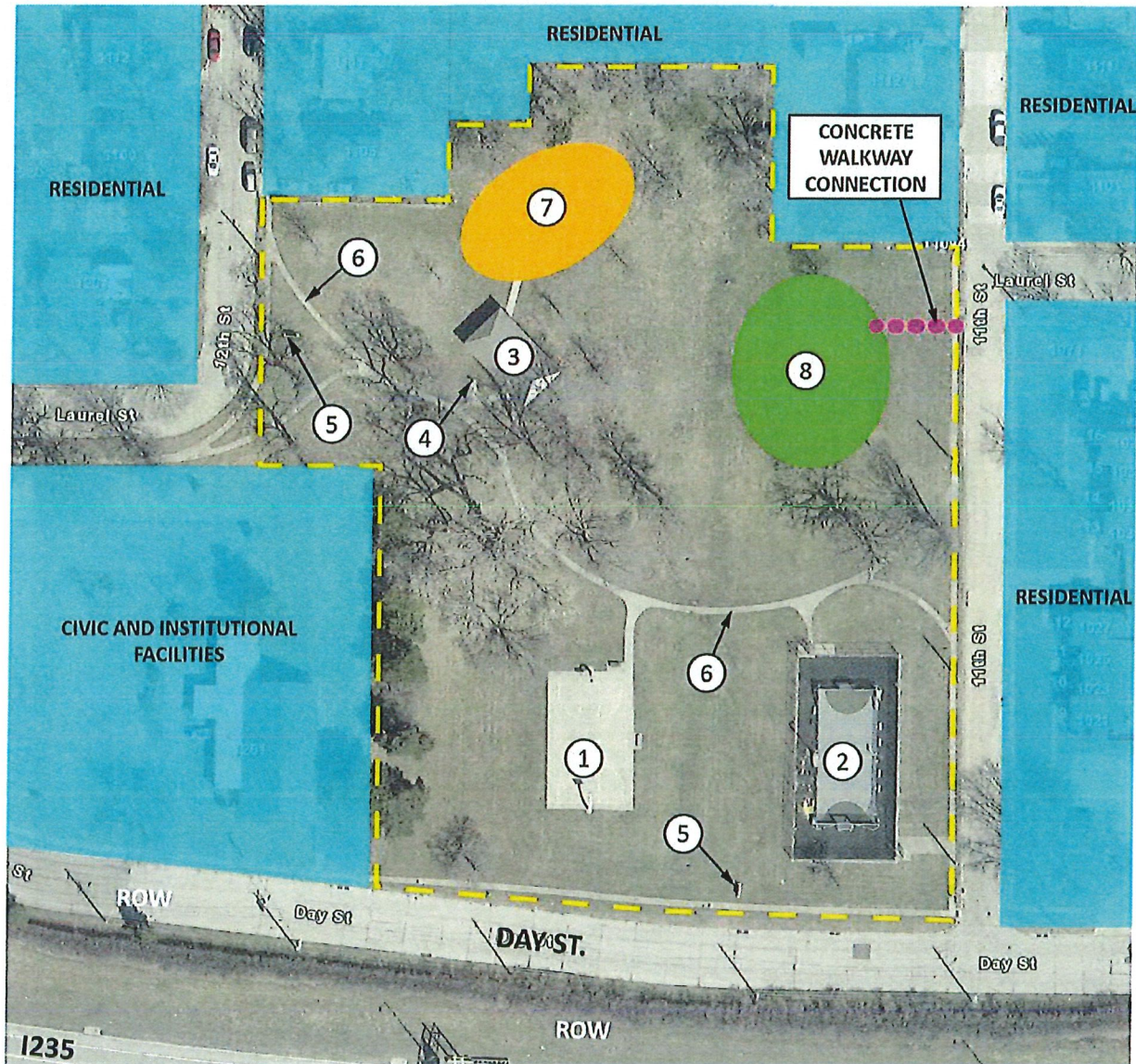
Map Prepared June 10, 2024

Grantee:


Aaron Graves



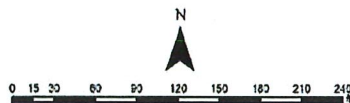
- LEGEND
-  Des Moines City Limits
 -  City of Des Moines
 -  Public Land
 -  Cheatom Park



Map Prepared June 10, 2024

Grantee:

Aaron Graves



LEGEND

- Park 6(f) Boundary
- Ex Zoning

Conceptual Plan Keynotes

- ① Existing Basketball Court
- ② Existing Futsal Court
- ③ Existing Open-air Shelter with Restrooms
- ④ Existing Charcoal Grill
- ⑤ Existing Park Signage
- ⑥ Existing Concrete Walkway
- ⑦ **Existing Playground Area**
 - All existing equipment and sand play surfacing are to be removed
 - The area will be regraded to promote positive site drainage and transitioned to turf
- ⑧ **Proposed Playground Location**

Proposed Playground Location

- New playground equipment for various ages (2-5 yr old and 5-12 yr old) and abilities
- Concrete playground curbing
- Accessible concrete playground ramp and connection to the walkway to adjacent sidewalk along 11th st.
- Blown-In (EWF) Engineered Wood Fiber playground surfacing
- Drain tile system
- Paved area(s) for seating and picnic tables
- Site furnishings and bike racks
- Improvements to adhere to the Buy America guidelines

Site Photos: Cheatom Park Existing Conditions

APPENDIX F



Photos Prepared June 10, 2024

Grantee:

Aaron Graves

Site Photos: Cheatom Park Existing Conditions

APPENDIX F



Photos Prepared June 10, 2024

Grantee: _____


Aaron Graves

Site Photos: Cheatom Park Existing Conditions

APPENDIX F



Photos Prepared June 10, 2024

Grantee: 
Aaron Graves

From: [Doershuk, John F](#)
To: [Graves, Aaron F](#); jessica.flatt@dnr.iowa.gov
Subject: RE: [External] LWCF Grant Application _Initial Desk Top Review -- Cheatom Park
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 9:01:45 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Aaron,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for the details about the proposed Cheatom Park improvements project context in Des Moines. Careful review of the data available through my office, including known archaeological site locations, locations of previously conducted archaeological surveys, soils, General Land Office mapping, and historical and modern aerial photographs (including lidar) clearly demonstrates that the proposed project activities have a very low potential for intersecting with as yet undiscovered buried archaeological deposits of significance. This said, if in the course of project activities unanticipated discovery of apparent archaeological materials occurs (including but not limited to stone or pottery artifacts, burned earth and rocks, large charcoal deposits, etc.), then construction activities must cease within 50 ft of the discovery and staff from the State Historic Preservation Office and Office of the State Archaeologist must be notified and allowed to evaluate and consult with DNR and LWCF staff about next steps.

I'm copying Jessica Flatt with DNR's LWCF program, but you should include the above information in your application submittal.

Sincerely,

John F. Doershuk, PhD
State Archaeologist and Director, Office of the State Archaeologist
Adjunct Professor, Anthropology
700 Clinton St. Building, University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242
Office: 319-384-0751 Mobile: 319-530-9148
<https://archaeology.uiowa.edu>

From: Graves, Aaron F. <AFGraves@dmgov.org>
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 4:29 PM
To: Doershuk, John F <john-doershuk@uiowa.edu>
Cc: Madison Burke <Madison.Burke@bolton-menk.com>
Subject: [External] LWCF Grant Application _Initial Desk Top Review

You don't often get email from afgraves@dmgov.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

John,

I'm currently working on an LWCF Grant application with Madison Burke (Bolton & Menk) for

the playground improvements at Cheatom Park in Des Moines.

Park Address:

1100 Day Street

Des Moines, IA 50314

See attached map showing LWCF Boundary and APE Boundary

Wondering if there is any way we could get an initial review of the park as required for the application submittal. The biggest caveat with this request is that the application is due on the June 15th and we are hopeful to submit everything on Friday to avoid working on Saturday. I am extremely sorry for a short notice request.

Please let me know if this request is even possible on your end (based on your current workload and our deadline) and what all I can and need to send your way to assist with this process.

Thanks,

AARON GRAVES | CITY OF DES MOINES

Park Planner II | Parks and Recreation

(515) 248-6355 | m (515) 868-3417

dmparks.org | 1551 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway | Des Moines, Iowa 50317

Connect with Us: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

June 10, 2024

LWCF Program
6200 Park Ave Ste 200
Des Moines IA 50321

RE: Cheatom Park and Playground Improvements

Dear Land and Water Conservation Program Committee:

I am writing to express the Cheatom Park Neighborhood Association's strong support for funding the Cheatom Park's Playground Improvements. The improvements will create an up-to-date recreational amenity for the park and community. The new playground area will develop into a fun, exciting, and safe space for children of various ages and abilities with new, exciting playground equipment. Cheatom Park needs improvements to its playground, and this opportunity would help with this much-needed improvement.

Cheatom Park is often overlooked when it comes to beautification and upgrades to our area. This project is one step in the right direction to assist us in improving the overall look, feel, and spaces of our neighborhood park. The benefits of this project extend beyond the immediate community, contributing to the overall well-being and development of the City of Des Moines.

I appreciate your time and support in considering this project grant request. The proposed park improvements for Cheatom Park are a great fit for this funding application and should be a top priority. The funding of this application would make it known to our residents, and our entire community, the beauty and benefit provided for a lovely park for our children and families to enjoy for many years to come.

Sincerely,



Debra Carr,
President, Cheatom Park Neighborhood Association
Des Moines, IA



June 10, 2024

LWCF Program
6200 Park Ave Ste 200
Des Moines IA 50321

RE: Cheatom Park and Playground Improvements

Dear Grant Review Committee:

First established in 1993 by a group of citizens as the Des Moines Parks and Recreation Foundation, the Friends of Des Moines Parks is a nonprofit 501c3 that believes in Better Parks for a Brighter Community. On behalf of the entire organization, I am writing to express our strong support for the grant proposal submitted by the City of Des Moines to fund the Cheatom Park and Playground Improvements. As an organization dedicated to creating a healthier and more vibrant Des Moines community for all, this project aligns perfectly with our mission, and we believe it will be profoundly impactful for the neighborhood.

The upgrades intended for this park will provide the neighboring children and families with a new, inclusive recreational amenity that is a safe and engaging space for children of all ages and abilities to play. These park improvements represent an opportunity to provide equitable and diverse amenities that service the entire Cheatom Park Neighborhood and surrounding communities.

The Parks and Recreation Planning Division has been working towards a concept for the playground update for Cheatom Park since the fall of 2023. The project managers engage the neighborhood association, surrounding communities, and other project partners throughout the concept development. Cheatom Park serves an estimated 2,621 residents within a 10-minute walk, according to <https://www.tpl.org/parkserve>. These measures have proven vital in developing a concept that encompasses current park uses, improvement requests, amenity additions, and omissions.

I deeply appreciate your valuable time and thoughtful consideration of our project grant request. The proposed improvements for Cheatom Park align perfectly with the Friends of Des Moines Parks' goals and priorities, and we are truly grateful for your support in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Sarah Lohmeier

Executive Director, Friends of Des Moines Parks
1551 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy
Des Moines, Iowa 50317

Project Budget: Cheatom Park Playground Improvements

APPENDIX I

Cheatom Park Playground Improvements							
Estimated Costs							
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Price	Cost	Source	Notes
	Existing Playground Equipment Removal	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	CIP	
	Existing Sand Play Surfacing Removal	1	LS	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	CIP	
	Mobilization	1	LS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	CIP	
	Construction Survey	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	CIP	
	Orange Construction Safety Fencing	650	LF	\$ 5.00	\$ 3,250.00	CIP	
	Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	CIP	
	Excavation	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	CIP	
	Topsoil, Strip, Salvage, and Respread	1	LS	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	CIP	
	Grading	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	CIP	
	Drain Tile	150	LF	\$ 5.00	\$ 750.00	CIP	
	Playground Curbing	375	LF	\$ 78.00	\$ 29,250.00	CIP	
	Playground Ramp	1	EA	\$ 775.00	\$ 775.00	CIP	
	5" PCC Walkway	80	SqYd	\$ 70.00	\$ 5,600.00	CIP	
	Bench Pad	2	EA	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 2,800.00	CIP	
	Picnic Table Pad	1	EA	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	CIP	
	Concrete Washout	1	LS	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	CIP	
	Playground Equipment	1	LS	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 139,000.00	LWCF	
	Playground Installation	1	LS	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00	CIP	Cost covers potential machinery rental for the Volunteer Playgournd Build Event.
	Blown-In Mulch	250	CuYd	\$ 60.00	\$ 15,000.00	CIP	
	Concrete Footings	1	LS	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	CIP	
	Concrete Pad for Seating Areas	1	LS	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	CIP	
	Site Restoration (final grading)	1	LS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	CIP	
	Seeding and Hydro Mulch	0.75	Acre	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,250.00	CIP	
	Erosion Control Mulching	0.75	Acre	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,875.00	CIP	
	Bike Racks	3	EA	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,800.00	LWCF	
	Picnic Tables	1	EA	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	LWCF	
	Park Benches	3	EA	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 3,300.00	LWCF	
Bid Project Estimated Total					\$ 290,000.00		
City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation					\$ 145,000.00		
Requested LWCF Funding					\$ 145,000.00		
Volunteering Match Value					\$20,000.00		
Project Estimated Total					\$ 310,000.00		

Budget Prepared June 10, 2024

Grantee: 
Aaron Graves

APPENDIX J

CITY OF DES MOINES 2023 AUDIT

APPLICANT RISK ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

a. The City of Des Moines completes an audit for all city related assets. The 2019 Audit for the City of Des Moines can be viewed provided the link below:

[001 ACFR FINAL.pdf \(revize.com\)](#)

From: [Flatt, Jessica](#)
To: [Graves, Aaron F.](#)
Subject: Re: LWCF Grant Questions
Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024 7:51:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Aaron! Yes, that is fine if you turn in your endorsement in July. And yes, the deadline is Saturday June 15 at 4:30pm.
Hope all is well with you!
Let me know if you have additional questions.
Thanks!

On Wed, Jun 5, 2024 at 4:45 PM Graves, Aaron F. <AFGraves@dmgov.org> wrote:

Hello Jessica,

I hope you are doing well.

I wanted to reach out to you about the upcoming LWCF grant application submittal. Part of the application requires the City to go to council as the official endorsement of the project. I am planning to go to City council July 15, 2024 with the completed application to turn in to you by June 15, 2024. Our City council requires the entire application to be submitted with official endorsement, and this timeline gives me the time to complete the application.

I will still be handing in the City's application by June 15th as the application will be completed. However, due to the City council scheduled meeting and the amount of council requests, this was the only available meeting for the official endorsement.

Would you hold the City's application if the official endorsement of the application is not completed by the turn in date? I assume I can get the signed endorsement by July 17, 2024.

I want to apologize in advance for any inconvenience on your end. This was the only available option to receive official endorsement for our application. Please let me know if this will not work.

Lastly, it states that the application is turned in by 4:30 (CST) on June 15th....which is Saturday. Is that the actual turn in deadline or is it required the business day before (Friday)

or after (Monday), just trying to make sure we hit the deadline.

Let me know, thanks and have a great evening.

AARON GRAVES | CITY OF DES MOINES

Park Planner II | Parks and Recreation

(515) 248-6355 | m (515) 868-3417

dmparks.org | 1551 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway | Des Moines, Iowa 50317

Connect with Us: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

--

Jessica Flatt (she/her)

Recreational Grants Manager

Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

6200 Park Ave Ste 200; Des Moines, IA 50321

515-975-8569

jessica.flatt@dnr.iowa.gov

www.iowadnr.gov

