

**Kedzie Park Project 2021 MNRTF Grant Application**

**Scope items:**

Play Equipment including safety surfacing	\$76,300
Access Pathway 6’ wide or more	\$ 7,800
MNRTF sign	\$ 500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$84,600</b>

**Grant request:** \$50,000

**Township Match:** \$34,600

**\*I. Project Justification and Support:**

Kedzie Kids Park has aging play equipment that minimally supports ADA access. The township seeks to renovate the park by replacing non accessible equipment and surfacing with new, ADA UA compliant structures to better meet the needs of all users. The park is a local, highly utilized neighborhood park, easily accessible via foot or bicycle. It is near a public school bus stop, and parents with other young children frequently wait for the bus at the park. Two local in-home daycare businesses utilize the park for outdoor recreation for its members. Improvements at this park will serve many users.

The project supports township Recreation Plan goals to: “Make a variety of quality recreational environments and opportunities readily accessible to all of its citizens regardless of ability, and thereby contribute to their physical and mental well being” and “To the greatest degree feasible, ensure that recreational land and facilities for local populations are conveniently located relative to population centers, are accessible without reliance on the automobile, and help to protect natural open spaces and resources.” The plan Action, “Improve the access to all parks for persons of all abilities,” is an A priority for the township. The project supports SCORP goals to “Enhance health benefits” by introducing outdoor recreation to children at an early age, encouraging its inclusion into adulthood, and to “Improve recreational access” by providing an accessible park in a neighborhood setting that allows all backgrounds, abilities and means to participate.

An adjacent home to the park houses a child who is wheelchair bound. This family’s input has been sought and incorporated into the play structure elements. Providing accessible equipment within an easy distance will greatly enhance this child’s recreation options and sense of inclusion in activity at the park, and be an additional resource for others.

**\*II. Project Description:**

The renovation includes replacement of an existing play structure with new, UA play equipment that includes a ramp, play activities at multiple levels, a new UA swing, UA surfacing surrounding the pieces,

and a new 6' wide UA access sidewalk from the street. The existing play structure is nearly 30 years old and surrounded by sand.

The new play structure will be placed in the same location as the existing structure to capitalize on shade in the summer and to minimize the impact of construction. The swing will be added with appropriate clear distances in front and behind the swing range to ensure safe play. The existing sand surface will be removed. New resilient safety surfacing will be installed under the play structure and swing, with consideration of maximizing green space while providing improved user access.

Other play equipment at the park includes swings, a digger, a small climber and a small spinner. Supporting amenities include benches, picnic tables, a shade structure and bike rack. Future plans for the park include replacement of other play equipment with accessible equipment and connecting ADA pathways.

The park is a neighborhood park and the focus will remain as a walkable destination. The neighborhood consists of connected subdivisions within walking distance of the park. An easement has been granted by the adjacent homeowner to a footpath that connects the park to the subdivisions to the west, allowing quick, easy access to the park for a broad range of homes. Families currently access the park on foot or bicycle the majority of the time. Street parking is adjacent to the park. Children can exit cars directly into the park, providing safe entry. Once in the park, children do not interact with vehicles. It is fenced on three sides, further reducing conflict and providing perimeter control. Views are open and sightlines to play structures are clear.

A large sign identifies the park. Streets that access the park are not through streets and have very little vehicle traffic. There is low conflict potential between cars, pedestrians and cyclists. The park is available 24 hours, supporting a wide range of habits and schedules. Wayfinding signs direct users to the park. The St. Joseph/Benton Harbor bike route is an on road route that has been mapped out and is currently in use to access Kedzie Park. Drainage occurs naturally within the park allowing rain and snow to filter through the soil into the Hickory Creek Watershed.

Berrien County Road Department maintains the right-of-way from the street to the park boundary. BCRD was contacted and placing a sidewalk in the right of way will be treated like adding a driveway and will only need a ROW permit to install. No easements are required.

### **\*III. Natural Resource Access and Protection:**

Kedzie Kids Park is a neighborhood park in St. Joseph Charter Township. In 1989, a grass roots effort was made by local citizens to acquire the land that became Kedzie Park. At the time, the property included open land that had several trails through them where children would play. A real estate developer planned to purchase the land and develop it into a residence only Meadow Grove Subdivision. Understanding the importance of local recreation space, resident Cathy Knauf spearheaded a campaign to save the parcel as a park saying, "If there is no land for the children to play... the children will end up in the streets." With outreach and fundraising efforts, the parcel was acquired by the township in June 1990, securing green space and outdoor recreation opportunities for the future. The save the trails committee also used funds to purchase the play equipment at the park.

The park is part of the Hickory Creek watershed area, draining into the nearby Hickory Creek corridor. It provides open green space and several large trees in a developed, suburban setting. Trees support birds and small mammals.

Master Plan Action item 1.1 for the township is the continuation of development of the Hickory Creek Trail with corresponding trailheads and crossings that interconnect with other local communities. A future connection point to the trail at Maiden Lane is 0.7 miles from Kedzie Park, which would connect two recreation types within the township and expand the enjoyment of existing natural resources within the community. Long term plans for the region include developing a non-motorized Berrien County Linear Park trail through Berrien County along Red Arrow Highway. Locally referred to as the Marquette Greenway Trail, this non-motorized trail will be less than 1 ¼ mile from Kedzie Park. Once in place, Kedzie Park will become an expanded recreation option for non-motorized trail users. Bike racks, benches, picnic tables and trash cans are supporting trail amenities at the park. Plans to add a drinking fountain at the park are also being discussed.

#### **\*IV. Other Information:**

Universal design elements: Artificial turf resilient safety surfacing less than 1/2" under play structure and swing. See Forever Lawn Playground Grass example. The play structure will have a ramp and sensory play activity panels at ground level that involve tactile, visual and motor skills that encourage problem solving and strategic thinking. The access sidewalk will be over 6' wide, concrete and flat, exceeding minimum ADA requirement of 3'. There will be direct access from the sidewalk to the play equipment and swing via the safety surfacing. Sidewalk will also access street parking. Input on how to accommodate a wheelchair bound child was received from Cindy Burkhour of Access Recreation Group. She advised the township of elements to consider for the park and the swing was selected based on this input. See meeting minutes in attachments.

Sustainable Design: The selected play equipment will be required to include recycled content. For example, the "Playbooster" example equipment provided contains "permalene panels" which are made with 73% post-consumer content.

The artificial turf will be required to use green content. The example Forever Lawn products with rubber infill are between 60-65% green by weight. They offer a 100% post-consumer recycled non-woven geotextile secondary backing per the company site [here](#).

The artificial turf is a permeable product and will allow rain to drain and filter through the ground rather than be runoff into storm sewers.

Township maintenance includes no pesticides and grass clippings are left to decompose and enrich the soil. Rain and snow filter naturally through the soil.

The concrete walkway can be crushed and recycled into aggregate for use in new concrete or as a backfill or road base once it has outlived its original purpose.

Concrete pavement reflects more light than HMA, reducing heat absorption that can contribute to higher global temperatures.

Acquisition of the park and purchase of its existing equipment was a huge collaborative effort made by the community. See related documents in attachments.



GRAPHIC SCALE



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 20 ft.



95 West Main Street  
Benton Harbor, MI, 49023  
T 268.927.2295  
F 268.927.1017  
abonmarche.com

Battle Creek  
Benton Harbor  
Lafayette  
South Bend  
Valparaiso

Goshen  
Hobart  
South Haven  
Valparaiso

Engineering Architecture Land Surveying

**KEDZIE PARK  
MNRTF GRANT**

**PROPOSED PLAYGROUND  
IMPROVEMENTS**

SHEET TITLE:  
DRAWN BY: **TR**  
DESIGNED BY: **TR**  
PM REVIEW: **JR**  
QA/QC REVIEW: **JR**  
DATE: **2/18/2020**  
SCALE:  
HORZ: AS NOTED  
VERT: NA  
ACI JOB #  
**20-0150**  
SHEET NO.

**1 of 1**

NO.	REVISION DESCRIPTION:	BY:	DATE:



# Kedzie Park

St Joseph Township Pending Approval • 01.27.2021





# Kedzie Park

St Joseph Township Pending Approval • 01.27.2021





Expression Swing Universal features the same adult swing seat as our original Expression Swing and includes an adaptive swing seat for children of all abilities (ages 5-12). The patented design positions adult and child face-to-face and eye-to-eye to encourage an emotional bond during play (also known as the scientific principle of attunement), and the adaptive seat provides an...

## Features and Benefits:

- Patented face-to-face, eye-to-eye design found in all of our Expression Swing products
- Comfortable adult swing seat that encourages parents and adult caregivers to participate in play
- Adaptive seat provides additional support for children of all abilities
- Provides opportunities for multigenerational...

Model: 5165  
Age Group: 5 to 12 Years

Limited Lifetime Warranty on uprights, hardware and connections. Visit [gametime.com/warranty](https://www.gametime.com/warranty) for full warranty information



Designing award-winning playgrounds since 1929.



Certified Installer Network - GameTime trained for GameTime playgrounds.



Complies with ASTM standards before it leaves the factory.



This is what kids were meant to play on!



Playground Grass by ForeverLawn is lush, beautiful synthetic grass that is safe to play on, soft to fall on, and cost effective.



Meet the new generation of playground surfaces! Playground Grass by ForeverLawn is a revolutionary synthetic grass that is ASTM 1292 safety rated, is ADA accessible, and has antimicrobial and antistatic protection available.

COMPONENTS	Playground Grass EXTREME	Playground Grass DISCOVERY	Playground Grass ACADEMY	Playground Grass ULTRA
YARN TYPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dual primaries: Polyethylene XP slit film straight and curled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: Polyethylene XP slit film</li> <li>Secondary: Heat set textured nylon monofilament</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: Polyethylene XP slit film</li> <li>Secondary: Heat set textured nylon monofilament</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: Polyethylene XP slit film</li> <li>Secondary: Heat set textured nylon monofilament</li> </ul>
YARN COLOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Field/lime green</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: Field green</li> <li>Secondary: Turf green</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: Field green</li> <li>Secondary: Turf green/tan blend</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: Olive green</li> <li>Secondary: Turf green/tan blend</li> </ul>
YARN COUNT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8,040/1 and 5040/1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: 8,040/1</li> <li>Secondary: 4,200/8</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: 5,040/1</li> <li>Secondary: 5,040/12</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary: 5,040/1</li> <li>Secondary: 4,200/8</li> </ul>
TUFTING CONSTRUCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dual primaries, same row</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dual yarn, same row</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dual yarn, same row</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dual yarn, same row</li> </ul>
BLADE HEIGHT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-3/8"*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1"*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-7/8"*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-5/8"*</li> </ul>
TUFTING GAUGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3/8"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3/8"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3/8"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3/8"</li> </ul>
FACE WEIGHT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50 oz.*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>58 oz.*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>48 oz.*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>48 oz.*</li> </ul>
TOTAL PRODUCT WEIGHT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 oz.*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>108 oz.*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>98 oz.*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>98 oz.*</li> </ul>
BACKING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-layer backing with geotex laminate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-layer backing with geotex laminate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-layer backing with geotex laminate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-layer backing with geotex laminate</li> </ul>
ANTISTATIC TECHNOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>XStatic™ proprietary, patented antistatic technology</li> </ul>
ANTIMICROBIAL PROTECTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AlphaSan®</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AlphaSan®</li> </ul>
SEAMING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Micromechanical bonding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Micromechanical bonding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Micromechanical bonding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Micromechanical bonding</li> </ul>
INFILL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.5 lbs. rubber psf. recommended</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 lbs. sand psf. recommended</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.75 - 1 lb. rubber psf. required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.75 - 1 lb. rubber psf. required</li> </ul>

\*Product heights shown may have a variance of 1/8" and product weights shown may have a variance of 2%.

**FEATURING**

ForeverLawn announces XStatic™, a proprietary, patented antistatic technology, available now in Playground Grass Ultra.

ASTM 1292 safety rated & ADA Accessible





Colors available in Playground Grass Ultra:



Blue



Yellow



Red



Orange



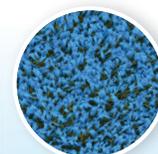
Gold



Green



White



Lagoon Blue