

Should this item be pulled from the consent agenda the following motion is suggested:

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

**I MOVE TO** approve Resolution 2016-19 on first and final reading.

Sponsor: Administration

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-19**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA  
AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR A GRANT TO THE LAND AND  
WATER CONSERVATION FUND FOR CRESCENT HARBOR PLAYGROUND  
RENOVATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, administered by Alaska Department of Natural Resources, was created to assist local governments by financing up to 50% of the cost (\$25,000 - \$125,000) for the development of outdoor recreation facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the guiding document for LWCF projects, the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, lists upgrade of existing high-demand recreational facilities, in particular playgrounds, as the highest priority; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly approved “Comprehensive Plan” and “Sitka Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Plan” goals support projects that provide healthy activities that benefit citizens of all ages; and

**WHEREAS**, the Crescent Harbor Playground renovation was a goal of the Sitka Health Summit in 2011 and in 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly listed the project as a State Legislative priority for three years; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and Borough of Sitka Parks Division and Sitka Parks and Recreation Committee have listed the upgrade of playgrounds as a deferred maintenance priority since 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, all children need access to safe playgrounds regardless of their abilities and currently Sitka is lacking a playground that is classified as fully ADA accessible and inclusive to children of all abilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Crescent Harbor Playground renovation project when completed will stimulate active and imaginative play, attract more youth to participate in healthy activity; and

**WHEREAS**, the new playground will be built from sustainable and safe materials that will require minimal maintenance in the years to come; and

**WHEREAS**, Crescent Harbor Playground renovation project is a collaborative, partnership project between the City Parks Division, the citizen Community Playground group, Rotary and



### Background:

- Crescent Harbor Park and Playground were created with a Land and Water Conservation Grant in 1972
- CBS Deferred Maintenance Priority since 2007
  - Last upgrade in 2000, scheduled replacement 2007
- First Tier Goal 2011 Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Playground deferred maintenance projects are the top funding priority Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan, the guiding document for the LWCF program
- Sitka Parks and Recreation Committee Goal since 2008
- Goal Sitka Health Summit 2011 and 2015; third place goal in 2014
- Assembly Legislative Priority for three years
- Community led effort revived in 2014
- Volunteer Steering Committee formed in June 2014
- Site Analysis with SPRC and CBS Division of Parks and Recreation
- Steering Committee activities June 2014 through August 2016
  - Neighbors of Crescent playground contacted with no opposition
  - Signatures and letters of support gathered; Facebook page created
  - Potential project partners contacted; Rotary, SAIL, Community Hospital Foundation, SSSC, US Coast Guard
  - 2 Public Meetings held with unanimous support for Crescent site
  - Approval from Planning Commission, Historical Commission and Parks and Recreation Committee for Crescent
  - Assembly support for the use of one tennis court to expand playground to allow for required ADA accessibility and spacing.
  - Project was awarded \$2,000 by the Health Summit, \$10,000 by MAPP, the South East Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) and \$20,000 by the Crossett Fund for the playground design and construction documents.
  - Southeast Alaska Independent Living offers to be the non-profit umbrella for the playground renovation.
  - Anderson Land Planning hired by RFP process to complete a kid-led design process and develop construction documents in coordination with CBS.
  - In July 2016 the design concept and preliminary construction estimate were completed and currently the fund raising for the project has begun.
  
- At their 6/9/16 meeting, the Sitka Parks and Recreation Committee members passed a motion unanimously supporting the City's LWCF grant application.

Analysis: The National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is one of the last, primary sources of funding for developed recreation projects. Moller Park, Turnaround Skate Park, Kimsham Recreation Complex and Crescent Harbor Park were developed with the use of LWCF funds. Solicitation of projects is no longer done annually and grant funds are limited. The upgrade and replacement of Crescent Playground (an existing LWCF site) is a LWCF-identified high-priority project. When ranked using the program's evaluation criteria, the Crescent Playground has a nearly perfect score.

Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL) is the nonprofit umbrella for the project. Most all of the grants and fundraising is being administered through SAIL. But this grant needs to be administered through the City since only the municipality can apply for the LWCF funds.

Fiscal Note:

The LWCF 50:50 match may come from cash, materials, volunteer hours or in-kind materials that the Playground Committee raises or coordinates. Hours spent by playground committee volunteers count toward match at a rate of almost \$24.00/hr. Contractor volunteer time is at a higher rate. There won't be any trouble raising in-kind match. Contractors have already offered to volunteer to complete site-prep, concrete and asphalt work.

The consultant, Anderson Land Planning, developed a cost estimate to renovate Crescent Playground. The project will be a combination of volunteer contractor built; city labor and equipment; non-cash donations; cash donations by local businesses/organizations and individuals for playground structures and volunteer in-kind labor.

The LWCF grant will help staff and volunteers to leverage additional funds locally and with foundations like Rasmuson and Crossett. This was the process that was used to fund and build the Turnaround Skate Park.

Phase	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Cash: Grants/ Donations	In-Kind: Labor, Non-cash Donations	Total
<i>Design</i>	\$32,000 <i>secured</i>	<i>Crossett Fund, Health Summit, MAPP grants</i>	\$32,000 <i>85% complete</i>		\$32,000
<i>Construction – Site Prep</i>	\$135,000	<i>Local Business-individual in-kind donors; CBS P&amp;R staff</i>		\$135,000 <i>in-kind</i>	\$135,000
<i>Safety Surfacing</i>	\$143,000	<i>LWCF Grant; CBS funding</i>	\$103,000; \$40,000		\$143,000
<i>Construction – Equipment + Contracted Labor + In-kind</i>	\$382,000	<i>Foundation Grants; Local Businesses-Organizations grants; Individual donors;</i>	\$307,000 \$75,000 <i>local fund raising</i>		\$382,000
<i>Play Structure Shipping</i>	\$48,000	<i>Grant (LWCF + other); Donated Shipping</i>	\$22,000 (\$5,000 LWCF, other \$17,000)	\$26,000	48,000
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$708,000</b>		<b>\$547,000</b>	<b>\$161,000</b>	<b>\$708,000</b>