

RESOLUTION NO. 607

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, KS CONCERNING THE CITY'S EXPECTATIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND CAPACITY REGARDING ENHANCEMENTS TO EDDINGTON PARK MADE POSSIBLE BY FUNDING FROM THE PATHWAYS TO A HEALTHY KANSAS GRANT:

WHEREAS, the enhancements to Eddington Park (hereinafter referred to as "project") includes an ADA-compliant concrete sidewalk on the south side of the facility and crushed rock trail around the perimeter of the park accessible to pedestrians and bicyclists;

WHEREAS, the project is funded in part by a Pathways to Healthy Kansas grant, which requires an emphasis and targeted benefit for "populations of focus" outlined by the grantor;

WHEREAS, the populations of focus for the project are children, low income individuals, and disabled individuals;

WHEREAS, Eddington Park is the site of our youth soccer program, which has approximately 200 participants in grades 3-6 with approximately 25% requiring scholarship assistance to afford league fees as of 2020;

WHEREAS, children and families would need to travel approximately 30 minutes by automobile to access communities with similar recreation opportunities;

WHEREAS, there currently is no sidewalk or trail infrastructure at the park, limiting access for disabled individuals and creating safety issues for children and spectators;

WHEREAS, the project connects with the larger trail system in Columbus, running parallel to US Highway 169 and connecting at High School Ave., providing access to the park for children and families throughout Columbus;

WHEREAS, the project creates an additional recreation opportunity in Columbus, which is of the utmost importance given that 41% of Cherokee County residents report free access to exercise and recreation opportunities according to Kansas Health Institute data from 2019;

WHEREAS, the facility will contain signage with a trail map located in the northwest corner of the facility and the plan to promote trail usage will be led by the Pathways Coalition and involve social media from the City and community partners, word-of-mouth at recreation events involving hundreds of local school-aged children, and wayfinding signs;

WHEREAS, Eddington Park has been designated an official City Park, and pursuant to Article 1, Sec. 18-2(d) of the Columbus City Code, all park facilities are designated as smoke, tobacco, and electronic cigarette-free;

WHEREAS, the city shall regularly maintain park grounds and enforce all applicable municipal code violations;

WHEREAS, work on the project shall commence in 2021 and will be maintained by the City for a minimum of 10 years;


NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Governing Body of the City of Columbus, Kansas that we accept funds from the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas to facilitate this project, which materially benefits the populations of focus, and further, the City pledges to maintain this amenity, which enhances our trail system and transportation capacity overall.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Governing Body of the City of Columbus, Kansas, this 1st day of March, 2021.

CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS


Grant Spieth, Mayor

ATTEST:


Cherri Chancellor, City Clerk

