



Town of Brunswick, Maine

INCORPORATED 1739

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Town Council

FROM: Sally Costello, Director, Economic and Community Development
Tom Farrell, Director, Parks & Recreation

SUBJECT: **Midcoast Athletic & Recreation Complex (MARC)**
Motion to adopt a Resolution Authorizing Funding to support construction of a Playground (serving children ages 5 years and under)

DATE: October 7, 2024

The LC4 Committee and Town staff have been working on the implementation of Phase I of the Midcoast Athletic and Recreation Center (MARC) since the Town Council's adoption of the Master Plan on June 21, 2022.

Approximately two years later, on June 22, 2024, the Town held the MARC Grand Opening to celebrate the completion of Phase I-Tier-1A, which includes storm drainage infrastructure, a walking path, 8-pickleball courts, and a skatepark.

The next element of the MARC Phase I is a playground located immediately adjacent to the daycare facility and is designed to serve children under 5 years of age who visit the Recreation Center and MARC site. The new playground will fulfill a requirement of the Maine Department of Health & Human Services Child Care Division and provide much needed outdoor playground facilities for the more than 2,000 residents who reside at Brunswick Landing.

The total project cost of the playground is \$335,000, and the proposed sources of funding for the design and construction of the playground project include:

- Recreation Impact Fees - \$210,000
- State & Local Fiscal Recovery funds - \$100,000
- Private funds - \$25,000

On September 18, 2024, Town staff briefed the Recreation Commission on the specifics of the playground ("the Project") and requested the use of \$210,000 of Recreation Impact Fees to fund a portion of the construction; the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Council approve and authorize this source of funding for the playground project. Staff has also confirmed that State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) is an eligible source of funding and proposes that \$100,000 of the remaining balance be used for construction of the Project. Private funds of \$25,000 are being used for the design and permitting of the Project.

The playground project requires a minor modification to approve the 100 percent construction drawings, and an application has been submitted to the Planning and Development Department to begin that process. Construction is anticipated to begin in late Spring 2025 and completed in Summer 2025.

Staff respectfully requests consideration by the Town Council to pass this funding Resolution for construction of the playground in MARC Phase I. Attached are the Resolution, renderings, and a construction budget for your review.