



## PLAYGROUND PROJECT UPDATE

On behalf of the Playground Committee, we would like to share some updates and information on the project. First, we would like to thank everyone who stepped up and answered the call when we were working on the Low to Moderate Income survey. Without the responses received for that initiative, this project could very well have stalled out, and we were excited to complete that portion of the project so that it could proceed.

As of October 31, 2024, the community development block grant for the project was submitted. We have also spoken with North Central Regional Planning Commission and Kansas Department of Health & Environment regarding applying for the waste tire grant for the playground surfacing. That application opens November 15, 2024. Both grants are expected to announce awards in March or April 2025.

The total cash balance as of November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 is \$273,898.43. This is comprised of the \$135,000 committed from the City Council from the Davison bequest, as well as an additional \$4,500 in brick sales and \$134,398.43 from donations and several fundraising events.

There are a couple of pledged donations outstanding, and the committee is continuing to pursue fundraising events and opportunities, as there will be expenses related to the project that will require payment prior to the announcement of the grant awards, and the minimum \$231,300 cash match must remain in the account until the CDBG grant is announced.

A committee is a group of people who come together to work on a project. When you look up the word "community", it is defined as a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. To say our committee and community are supportive of the playground would be an understatement. We are proud to live in a place where we can come together for a common goal and see progress being made toward a solution.

While the committee is beyond excited at the momentum of the project so far, we realize this would not have been possible without the support of the City Council as well our community, citizens, visitors, business partners, and many others. From cash donations, brick purchases, food and other items donated toward a variety of fundraisers, and folks stepping up to hold fundraising activities, the support has been phenomenal.

We are truly humbled, and are extremely hopeful that we are lucky enough to receive the CDBG grant.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrea Alldredge, Claire Lahodny, Taylor Miller, Traci Stigge, Caroline Scoville, Stephanie Kern