

Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Dec 12, 2023 - Bryan City Council Second Regular Meeting
Category	5. Consent (Automatic Approval) Agenda - This agenda consists of ministerial or "housekeeping" items required by law such as routine bids, contracts, purchases, and resolutions. Items may be removed from the consent agenda for separate consideration at the request of two Councilmembers.
Subject	F. Approval of a proposed grant agreement between the City of Bryan (City or Grantee) and The Darwood Foundation (Foundation or Grantor) for the Grantor to make a commitment of \$2,000,000 for financial support of a signature playground in the Travis Bryan Midtown Park
Type	Action (Consent)
Preferred Date	Dec 12, 2023
Absolute Date	Dec 12, 2023
Fiscal Impact	Yes
Dollar Amount	2,000,000.00

Summary:

Among other amenities, the August 2018 Program Statement (i.e., masterplan) for the future Travis Bryan Midtown Park includes a playground. The Program Statement was the result of months of public input obtained by Burditt Land/Space, as the City's consultants, for the initial design concept for the Midtown Park property.

Over a year ago, representatives of The Darwood Foundation, a foundation supported by Doug and Kara French and Stylecraft, approached the City about a possible signature playground in Midtown Park. Consequently, on September 5, 2023, the Bryan City Council unanimously approved a Design/Build Contract with SpawGlass Construction Corporation, Inc. for the construction of a playground in the Travis Bryan Midtown Park in an amount not to exceed \$4,500,000.

This Council Action Form memorializes the financial commitment, through a Grant Agreement, of a \$2,000,000 gift from The Darwood Foundation for the construction of a Playground in the Travis Bryan Midtown Park. The Grant Agreement also documents requirements of the City of Bryan, including reporting requirements such as:

- a. Report on or before June 1, 2024, on the progress of planning and construction of the Gift,
- b. Report on or before October 31, 2024, on the progress of planning and construction of the Gift, and
- c. A final report one year after the opening of the Gift or no later than February 1, 2025.

The attached proposed Grant Agreement provides additional details.

Staff Analysis and Recommendation:

The Design/Build Agreement for the playground has a cost of \$4,500,000, with \$2,000,000 in funding from The Darwood Foundation and the City providing the remaining amount (\$2,500,000) from the City's General Fund. Without the financial commitment from The Darwood Foundation, the playground likely would have been a future project, instead of one being pursued at this time. Additionally, the financial gift provides funding that can be used to enhance amenities, thereby creating an even more attractive destination and signature playground.

Per Section 3 of the proposed Gift Agreement, the \$2,000,000 gift is to be donated by The Darwood Foundation to the City by December 31, 2023.

Based on the City Council's unanimous action on September 5, 2023, approving the Design/Build Agreement, City staff recommends the City Council approve the proposed Grant Agreement and accepting the generous donation from The Darwood Foundation supported by Doug and Kara French and Stylecraft. The contribution enables a quality of life project to be completed in a more timely manner and in a way that enhances playground amenities.

Options:

1. Approve the proposed Grant Agreement between the City of Bryan (City or Grantee) and The Darwood Foundation (Foundation or Grantor) for the Grantor to make a commitment of \$2,000,000 for financial support of a Playground in the Travis Bryan Midtown Park
2. Modify and then approve the proposed Grant Agreement between the City of Bryan (City or Grantee) and The Darwood Foundation (Foundation or Grantor); this option may require additional negotiations with The Darwood Foundation and consideration at a future City Council meeting
3. Do not approve the proposed Grant Agreement between the City of Bryan (City or Grantee) and The Darwood Foundation (Foundation or Grantor) and provide staff direction

Attachments:

1. Proposed Grant Agreement between the City of Bryan (City or Grantee) and The Darwood Foundation (Foundation or Grantor) for the Grantor to make a commitment of \$2,000,000 for financial support of a Signature Playground in the Travis Bryan Midtown Park

[2023-11-21_City of Bryan_TDF Grant Agreement \(1\).pdf \(186 KB\)](#)