



Little Toots Park Primed for New Playground

Demo/Concrete Work Starts Next Week Followed by Installation through September

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-August 3, 2022-After supply delays, the new playground is coming to Little Toots Park this fall. The city's contractor will begin removing the existing playground structure to make way for new equipment, as well as trail and landscaping improvements in the park.

"I think our staff was more bummed by the delay than the kids who have been enjoying the current playground," said Parks & Recreation Project Manager Matt Barnard. "Fortunately, all parts have come together and we're ready to get moving on these improvements which will benefit all park users and provide a fun and safe venue for families to bring their children."

Demolition of the existing playground structure is expected to start as early as Monday, August 8 and will be followed by concrete work through the end of August. As the project begins, the playground will be closed, and the site will be secured with fencing for safety.

The next phase of the project sees the new equipment installed. Crews anticipate completing the project by the end of September, pending no major weather issues.

In addition, landscape improvements will include seven new benches installed around the playground for rest and playground viewing. A new concrete walkway will connect to the existing gazebo in the park and a new soft surface trail will replace the deteriorating asphalt trail that leads to the bridge to the library.

With this closure, the community is encouraged to explore other city parks and playgrounds that they may not be as familiar with. The Community Center and Howelsen Hill Beach playgrounds are fun options for all ages and offer a variety of amenities. Whistler Park is also a great option with large playground structure, slides, plenty of swings and public restroom facilities.

Playground manufacturer Little Tikes Commercial provided three different playground options, all offering inclusive play for 2 to 12-year-old children. Community members, including local children, were able to weigh in on their favorite layout options and color schemes via a public survey and the number one choice (pictured) is being installed.

"The existing playground was installed in 1995 and has provided a fun and safe location for youth play and family enjoyment for nearly three decades," continued Barnard. "We believe the new playground will do the same for years to come."

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