

# Agenda Report

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**DATE:** December 17, 2007

**FROM:** CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR GRANT AND LA PINTORESCA PARKS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$167,937

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the issuance of a purchase order to Landscape Structures, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$167,937 for the purchase of playground equipment for Grant and La Pintoresca Parks. Competitive bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter section 1002(H), contracts with other governmental entities or their contractors for labor, material, supplies or services.

## **BACKGROUND**

Over the last five years, the City has installed Landscape Structures play equipment in 14 playgrounds. The quality of this equipment is outstanding and the customer service has been excellent. Utilization of a standardized type of equipment simplifies maintenance and makes repair of damaged equipment easier. The replacement of the playground equipment at Grant and La Pintoresca Parks was included in the Fiscal Year 2008 Capital Improvement Program. The contract documents that are being prepared for this project specify Landscape Structures play equipment for use at both parks.

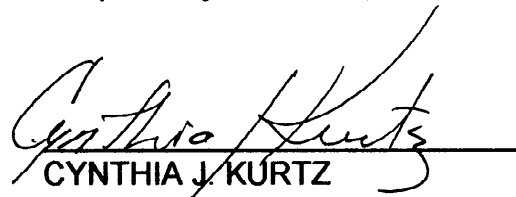
In considering various options for implementation of this project, staff has determined that the use of a "piggyback" contract to purchase the equipment would be both cost effective and more efficient than contracting for the purchase as part of the construction contract. The County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina, recently completed a competitive bidding process and established a buying agreement (Contract number 040377), with Landscape Structures, Inc., to purchase playground equipment. Purchasing the playground equipment using the Mecklenburg County contract would be in the City's best interest because it will enable the City to purchase the equipment at a discount of 6% off

2007 list pricing (total savings \$12,976). If the equipment were purchased by a contractor, the contractor would pay the full list price. The purchase would occur in 2008 and Landscape Structures has indicated that they anticipate a 3% list price increase on January 1, 2008. In addition, there will be no contractor markup if the equipment is purchased directly.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Sufficient funding is available in Capital Improvement Program budget account number 78755, New Playground Equipment and Site Amenities.


Respectfully submitted,

  
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ  
City Manager

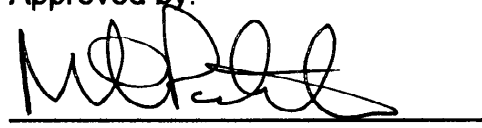
Prepared by:

  
Todd Holmes  
Landscape Architect

Reviewed by:

  
Kathleen Woods, Administrator  
Parks and Natural Resources

Approved by:

  
Martin Pastucha, Director  
Department of Public Works