



## Board of Aldermen Request for Action

**MEETING DATE:** 5/7/2024

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**AGENDA ITEM:** RES 1353 - Emerald Ridge Park and Playground Project Awarded to Athco, LLC.

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### **REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:**

Motion to approve Resolution 1353, awarding the Emerald Ridge Park and Playground Project to Athco, LLC. in an amount not to exceed \$450,000.

### **SUMMARY:**

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan outlines the initial phase of upgrading neighborhood parks, with Diamond Crest and Emerald Ridge Parks being the primary focus in the first three years. The development of Emerald Ridge Park received a budget allocation of \$450,000 from the FY24 parks and stormwater sales tax fund for the design, construction and equipment installation for the project. Located behind Heritage Tractor off South Commercial and Kelly Drive, Emerald Ridge Park has been of focus for the Parks and Recreation Department due to the aging of the play equipment and it was falling apart.

Since January 2023, the Parks and Recreation Committee and staff have pursued funding avenues and engaged with design firms to conceptualize the park's layout and aesthetics. Despite an unsuccessful bid for a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant in July 2023, efforts continued. By September 2023, two design firms, Athco and Kompan, presented initial concepts to the Parks and Recreation Committee, incorporating subsequent feedback into revised designs by October.

A public meeting was held on January 16, 2024, at the Smithville Senior Center to gather community input. The neighborhood got a door hanger notifying them of this meeting. We also posted on Next Door for them and the surrounding subdivisions to join and provide feedback online. Although attendance was modest, valuable insights were collected. There were no comments online. On January 25, 2024, the Parks and Recreation Committee reviewed all comments received, directing specific suggestions to each design firm.

Athco's design received feedback regarding the need for additional equipment catering to 2.5-5-year-olds, more interactive elements, swings, and adjustments to the main structure for enhanced sensory experiences. Meanwhile, Kompan was advised to reconsider the shelter design, incorporate swings, and modify the main structure to include alternative play elements.

Further modifications were discussed at the February meeting, such as considering future shade provision and optimizing paths to minimize costs. On April 23, 2024, both design firms presented their final proposals, deciding in the Parks and Recreation Committee unanimously recommending Athco's design to the Board of Aldermen. The chosen design, construction and equipment installation for the project will not exceed \$450,000 and will be procured through the Greenbush Purchasing Cooperative.

**PREVIOUS ACTION:**

**POLICY OBJECTIVE:**

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**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The FY24 Parks and Stormwater Sales Tax budget includes \$450,000 for the development of Emerald Ridge Park.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Ordinance
- Resolution
- Staff Report
- Other: [Park and Playground Design](#)  
[Design Overview](#)  
[Cost Sheet](#)
- Contract
- Plans
- Minutes

**RESOLUTION 1353**

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING THE EMERALD RIDGE PARK AND  
PLAYGROUND PROJECT TO ATHCO, LLC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT  
TO EXCEED \$450,000**

**WHEREAS**, the improvements to Emerald Ridge Park were included in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Stormwater Sales Tax includes funds for the park and playground project; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Code Section 105.080.C authorizes staff to utilize cooperative purchase agreements; and

**WHEREAS**, the design of the improvements has been reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Committee and neighborhood residents; and

**WHEREAS**, The Parks and Recreation Committee and Staff have made a recommendation to approve the project by Athco, LLC., through the cooperative purchasing agreement with Greenbush Purchasing Cooperative.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF  
THE CITY OF SMITHVILLE, MISSOURI:**

**THAT** staff is hereby authorized and directed to purchase said Park and Playground project from Athco, LLC., not to exceed \$450,000.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Aldermen and **APPROVED** by the Mayor of the City of Smithville, Missouri, on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2024.

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Damien Boley, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Linda Drummond, City Clerk