



Montgomery Parks

FOUNDATION
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MEMORANDUM

Date: October 14, 2004

From: Laura Rich, Interim Director, Montgomery Parks Foundation *LR*
Pamela K. Cudahy, President 2004-05, Bethesda-Chevy-Chase Rotary Club

To: Deric P. Berlage, Chairman, Montgomery County Planning Board and Vice Chairman
of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Cc: William Mooney, Enterprise Division

Re: Norwood Playground – Donation of Installed, Accessible Children's Playground
Equipment

The Project. Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 31,000 Rotary clubs located in 166 countries.

In 1985, Rotary launched the PolioPlus program to protect children worldwide from the cruel consequences of polio. In 1988, the World Health Assembly challenged the world to eradicate polio. Since that time, Rotary's efforts and those of partner agencies, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and governments around the world, have achieved a 99% reduction in the number of polio cases worldwide. The Rotarians now hope to celebrate the global eradication of polio in 2005, the organization's centennial year.

As part of this celebration, the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club ("BCC Rotary Club") wants to donate and install new handicapped accessible playground equipment at Norwood Park, located at 4700 Norwood Drive in Bethesda. This project is to be completed by June 2005, so it may be part of the celebration described above. The BCC Rotary Club anticipates that the project will cost between \$50,000 - 60,000. As part of this project, the BCC Rotary Club also intends to create and use commemorative storyboards.

Public Benefit. The BCC Rotary Club believes that this project will be a significant contribution to the community, as it will enhance the public benefits of Norwood Park by providing more inclusive recreational opportunities for all children. Furthermore, the

community will benefit because it allows for The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission ("M-NCPPC") to reallocate the funds it had earmarked for the eventual renovation of Norwood Park. According to Bill Mooney, it is anticipated that these funds will now be used to renovate a playground in a more-needly area. Thus, Montgomery County gets a "double" benefit from this project.

Construction Schedule. The goal will be to have the groundbreaking ceremony for the playground in April 2005 and to complete this project in June 2005. While an ambitious timetable, Bill Mooney and Mike Riley, Chief of the Park Development Division, have been working with the Rotary Club from the start on this project and we believe that this schedule is eminently doable because of the hard work that both they and their staff - have already put in.

Project Funding. Provided that all appropriate approval is obtained, the BCC Rotary Club will work with the Montgomery Parks Foundation to raise the necessary funds for the project. The BCC Rotary Club is committed to directly providing up to \$40,000 for the project and has received commitments for over \$17,000 from other sources, including via a grant from the Montgomery County Department of Recreation and from the Rotary Club of Friendship Heights. It is the BCC Rotary Club's intent to generate support from other Rotary clubs and the community - from whom we are already getting positive feedback about this project - to supplement these contributions.

The Park Development Division will utilize Capital Improvements Program funds to prepare the site by removing the existing outdated equipment and installing drainage, new wood chips and a new perimeter. Park Development staff also is preparing the design for the project and will assist the Montgomery Parks Foundation with the solicitation of bids for the supply and installation of the equipment.

Equipment and Construction Oversight and Future Maintenance. An agreement will be developed among M-NCPPC, the Montgomery Parks Foundation and the BCC Rotary Club for the donation and installation of the accessible children's playground equipment and the expectations and standards for installation, maintenance, upkeep, etc.

Please feel free to contact either of us for more information. Pamela's telephone number is 301-493-0047, ext. 264. We look forward to your support for this project and to hearing from you shortly.

Attachment B
Vicinity Plan

Bradley Boulevard

Norwood Drive

NORWOOD LP

Wisconsin Avenue

Capital Crescent Trail

LITTLE FALLS SVU2



Existing Playground

NORWOOD LP

LITTLE FALLS SVU2

