



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: JUNE 18, 2024**

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT **WARDS: 1, 2, 3, 5 & 7**

SUBJECT: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT - APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER TO ROBERTSON INDUSTRIES, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,291,948 TO REPAIR PLAYGROUND RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING FOR SEVEN PARK SITES UTILIZING OMNIA COOPERATIVE CONTRACT NO. R230202

ISSUE:

Approve Purchase Order to Robertson Industries, Inc. under OMNIA Cooperative Purchasing Agreement No. R230202 in the amount of \$1,291,948 for playground rubber safety surfacing for seven park sites.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the Purchase Order to Robertson Industries, Inc. under OMNIA Cooperative Purchasing Agreement No. R230202 in the amount of \$1,291,948 to repair playground rubber safety surfacing for seven park sites; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute the purchase orders with Robertson Industries, Inc. including making minor and non-substantive changes.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act to facilitate the recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Rescue Plan Act established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, which provides a combined \$350 billion in assistance to eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to assist in the economic and health recovery by providing resources to address impacts resulting from the crisis.

BACKGROUND:

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) established the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to provide resources to support communities that are struggling with the impacts resulting

from the COVID-19 pandemic. The US Department of the Treasury (Treasury) first released the Interim Final Rule providing eligibility guidance as well as regularly updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). The Interim Final Rule provided initial guidance and served to help communities develop proposals for funding.

On November 9, 2021, the City Council approved the ARPA funding Expenditure Category Plan for the first allocation in the amount of \$36,767,594 following the Interim Final Rule guidelines. Additionally, the City Council directed staff to return with an itemized list for parks infrastructure needs during the second allocation of funding for consideration. The Final Rule was issued on January 6, 2022, and became effective on April 1, 2022.

On February 7, 2023, the City Council approved the ARPA expenditure plan for the second allocation of grant funds in the amount of \$36,767,594 and reallocated \$1,600,000 from the first plan to the Park Maintenance Project funding. These approvals allocated \$10 million for Parks Deferred Maintenance Projects and increased the Bordwell Gymnasium allocation by \$3 million to a total of \$8 million. The approval of the ARPA funding allows the City to make an initial investment towards addressing the City's deteriorating park infrastructure priority needs, including the replacement of HVAC systems, renovations of parking lots, flooring replacements and playground renovations equitably throughout all wards.

On June 21, 2023, the Parks and Recreation Commission received an update on the ARPA funding received and the planned projects.

DISCUSSION:

American Rescue Plan Act Expenditure Plan

The American Rescue Plan Act established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (Fiscal Recovery Funds) to aid eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. These funds may be used to respond to pandemic response needs including mitigation and prevention, support to communities and populations most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and fill revenue shortfalls. The City of Riverside received Fiscal Recovery Funds in two installments for a total amount of \$73,535,189. The city received the first allocation for \$36,767,594 in June 2021 and the second allocation for \$36,767,594 in June 2022.

Investing in our Community's Health and Wellbeing

Good health and well-being in a City is directly impacted by the health of a City's park system, and a healthy park system requires a reliable but moderated funding stream to replace deteriorating infrastructure. Parks enhance the quality of life because Parks Make Life Better.

As reported by the National Recreation Park Association, "The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has shed an even bigger light on the essential role of local parks and recreation. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, park and recreation professionals swiftly mobilized to keep parks, trails and green spaces open to support physical and mental health, while delivering vital services and programs to support the community. Park and recreation professionals are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic — and will continue to be in the months and years to come."

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCSD) is responsible for programming, planning, development, operation, and maintenance of the City's public

recreational resources, including 60 park properties, almost 3,000 acres of park land and approximately 350,000 square feet of building facilities. The City invested over \$100 million in renovating and building new park facilities in the Riverside Renaissance (2007-2012). Now, over a decade later, there is a wave of increased maintenance costs as a result of park infrastructure being used beyond its intended lifecycle. Fortunately, the City Council voiced their concern, support, and commitment last year by approving funding in the ARPA Expenditure Plan and future allocations through Measure Z to address the park deferred maintenance needs.

1. ARPA FUNDING:

- a. *The First ARPA Expenditure Plan* allocated an initial \$5,000,000 for the Bordwell Gymnasium Project, and \$1,800,000 for Tim Strack (formerly El Dorado) Park Improvements. Both projects are located in underserved communities. Additionally, City Council directed staff to return with an itemized list for Park's infrastructure needs during the second allocation of funding for consideration; and,
- b. *The Second ARPA Expenditure Plan* allocated an additional \$3 million for the Bordwell Gymnasium Project and \$10 million for Park Deferred Maintenance Projects. These priority park projects focused on addressing safety concerns, compliance, and improving public health. This is an initial critical investment in restoring park infrastructure, with an initial cost estimate exceeding \$12 million. These priority deferred maintenance items include playground replacement, playground surfacing replacements, HVAC replacement, parking lot renovations, and flooring renovations that are distributed equitably throughout all wards.

Investing in our City's park infrastructure is an investment in our future and will play a key role of creating and maintaining resilient recreational resources and a health community.

Playground Rubber Surfacing Repairs

The PRCSD is committed to maintaining playgrounds at park sites to promote safety and recreational opportunities for children. Playgrounds are highly valued in the City of Riverside and often serve as the heart of a public neighborhood park and help Make Life Better. This investment will revitalize the parks and create a positive gathering space for new parents, grandparents, and children to build a strong community.

The PRCSD team evaluated city playgrounds and developed a list of seven parks with the most needed rubber surfacing repairs, and staff is excited to proceed with these repairs to make the play lots more welcoming and safer to use. Completion of the projects are anticipated to be as early as Summer 2024, with the last play lot being completed by early 2025.

Purchasing

PRCSD received proposals to repair playground rubber safety surfacing for the seven sites, at a cost totaling \$1,291,948, through an OMNIA cooperative agreement with Robertson Industries, Inc.

OMNIA is a national service cooperative created to provide government procurement resources and solutions to members in government, education, and nonprofit sectors. To meet competitive bidding requirements of government entities OMNIA performs its own competitive bidding process for various services and supplies. OMNIA issues a Request for Proposal that is advertised across various publications. Vendors bid on contracts with OMNIA, offering discounts and taking advantage of economies of scale. OMNIA has over 90,000 agencies who obtain

services and supplies through their discounted agreements. As the City of Riverside is a member of OMNIA, Robertson Industries, Inc is able to provide the best overall government pricing in accordance with Cooperative Agreement Number R230202 that currently expires on June 30, 2026. Purchasing has reviewed the cooperative agreement and found that it fulfills all City of Riverside Purchasing requirements. As such, Purchasing has informed PRCSO that they are able to utilize the cooperative and repair the rubber safety surfacing at a discounted rate.

City Staff is requesting to purchase playground rubber safety surfacing repairs through the OMNIA Partners Tennessee Cooperative pricing under Contract No. R230202, which is in accordance with Purchasing Resolution No. 24101, Section 602 (f) which states Competitive Procurement through the Informal Procurement and Formal Procurement process shall not be required in the following circumstance: “When Cooperative Purchasing is available and undertaken or when Goods can be obtained through Federal, State and/or other public entity pricing contracts or price agreements.”

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommendation in this report is in compliance with Purchasing Resolution 24101 Section 602 (f).

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

The repairs and replacement of playground rubber surfacing contributes to **Strategic Priority 1 – Arts, Culture and Recreation**, which aims to provide diverse community experiences and personal enrichment opportunities for people of all ages.

This purchase supports **Goal 1.3**, Improve parks, recreational amenities, open space, and trail development, and fulfill critical lifecycle and facility maintenance needs and **Goal 1.4** to prioritize safety at parks, trails, arts, cultural and recreational facilities.

The item aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – Repair of playground resilient safety surfacing promotes safety at parks and benefits the city’s diverse populations and contributes to the overall public good.
2. **Equity** – With the increasing costs of recreational activities, playgrounds provide access to recreational opportunities to all and there is no cost for use.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – Procurement of resilient safety surfacing repair is discounted through a cooperative agreement and funded through ARPA funds.
4. **Innovation** – Repair of playground resilient safety surfacing ensures the PRCSO continues to meet the community’s needs.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – Repairing resilient playground safety surfacing ensures the public will continue to have safe access to the playgrounds.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact of this action is \$1,291,948. Sufficient funding for the project is budgeted and available in the Grants & Restricted Programs Fund, Citywide Park Improvement Project

account 9279500-440120. The breakdown for the cost to repair playground rubber surfacing for each park is provided below.

Park Location	Amount
Andulka Park	\$230,235.00
Fairmount Park	\$188,300.00
Highland Park	\$203,521.00
La Sierra Park	\$318,959.50
Mountain View Park	\$100,986.50
Shamel Park	\$104,244.00
Villegas Park	\$145,702.00
Total	\$1,291,948.00

Prepared by: Ali Borujerdi, Park Project Manager
 Approved by: Pamela M. Galera, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director
 Certified as to availability of funds: Kristie Thomas, Finance Director/Assistant Chief Financial Officer
 Approved by: Kris Martinez, Assistant City Manager
 Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. OMNIA Partners Contract No. R230202 Executive Summary
2. Robertson Recreational Surfaces Proposals