



**Board of Developmental
Disabilities Services**

A Human Services Levy-Funded Agency

Northview Annex
8112 N. Main St.
Dayton, OH 45415
(937) 890-0730
www.mcbdds.org

November 2, 2022

Priority Development and Advocacy Committee
Quality of Life Subcommittee
c/o Dayton Chamber of Commerce
8 N. Main St., Suite 100
Dayton, OH 45402

Re: Letter of Support for Robinette Park Inclusive Playground, Splashpad, and Restroom

Dear Quality of Life Subcommittee,

The City of Vandalia and Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities Services (MCBDDS) respectfully seek funding totaling \$400,000 (28.99% of \$1,380,000 project costs) to build an inclusive playground, splashpad, and restroom at Robinette Park. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan indicates a regional need and desire by the community for inclusive parks that enable children and adults of all abilities to develop physically, cognitively, socially and emotionally.

Our recreation team at MCBDDS uses the Vandalia Recreation Center and their park system on a regular basis for our community activities and integration. The project will help to meet the need, for more than 5000 residents of Montgomery County with developmental disabilities, for community integration and exercise in a space that is outside and allows for social distancing.

Significant funding totaling \$980,000 has already been secured by The City of Vandalia, MCBDDS, and many other supportive co-applicants. However, the project cannot move forward without further assistance.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in supporting and prioritizing this worthy quality of life initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dr. Pamela Combs'.

Dr. Pamela Combs
Superintendent

Shalyn Leighner
Preschool and Special Education Supervisor
Vandalia Butler City School District
500 S. Dixie Dr.
Vandalia, OH 45377

October 31, 2022

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**Letter of Support for Robinette Park Inclusive Playground, Splashpad, and Restroom
PDAC Application**

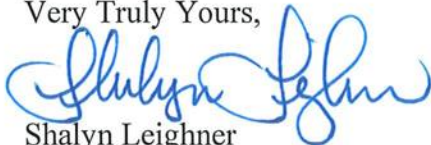
Dear Quality of Life Subcommittee,

The City of Vandalia and the Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities Services are submitting a PDAC application in pursuit of strengthening funding applications for the construction of an inclusive playground, splashpad and restroom at Robinette Park. I volunteer on the City of Vandalia's Playground Advisory Committee. As an educator in the Vandalia Butler City School District, and as a parent of children with and without developmental disabilities, I am writing to attest that this proposal addresses a regional need for inclusive recreational facilities.

I ask that you please prioritize this application because this proposal will make Robinette Park a regional destination and improve quality of life not just in Vandalia, but the entire metropolitan area. This project is well-developed and widely supported in the community as it is the product of the City of Vandalia's recent Parks & Recreation Master Plan. The applicants are requesting \$400,000 or 28.99% of the total project costs of \$1,380,000. The applicants have already secured significant funding for the project, and it is my understand that the project will not be able to move forward without outside assistance in the form of grants or direct appropriations from other political subdivisions.

I whole-heartedly support this proposal and know that it will be well-managed. Thank you for your consideration in prioritizing this worthy quality of life initiative.

Very Truly Yours,



Shalyn Leighner
Preschool and Special Education Supervisor



Vandalia^{ohio}
small city. big opportunity.

333 James E. Bohanan Memorial Drive
Vandalia, OH 45377

call 937.898.5891
fax 937.898.6117

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Letter of Support: Robinette Park Inclusive Playground, Splashpad and Restroom

As a lifelong Vandalia resident, both my childhood and adult life have been positively influenced by the parks and recreational opportunities that were accessible to me in Vandalia. Now, as a member of the Vandalia Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and Parks & Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee, my commitment to enhancing and modernizing our parks and facilities, is only superseded by ensuring that we are providing accessible facilities, services and activities that are inclusive of individuals with all abilities and economic security.

The proposal before you, submitted jointly by the City of Vandalia and the Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities Services, requests \$400,000, or approximately 29%, of the funding necessary to transform Robinette Park into a community and regional destination for all-inclusive recreation and play. During the City's recent Parks & Recreation Master Plan process, both the need for updated, inclusive play structures and a splashpad were identified and highly desirable throughout the community. This proposed park redevelopment will not only include the installation of an inclusive playground, safety surface and splashpad, but also a multi-use trail, accessible family restroom facilities, benches and picnic tables. Both the City and Montgomery Co. DDS will commit over 50% of the funding for this project and have or are actively pursuing the remaining 20% (\$275,000+) through additional public and private grant funding and donations. Without the requested \$400,000 in funding, it is not likely that this project will be attainable by our community.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this funding request and hope that you will support our community's dedication and regional partnership efforts in providing a safe, free, inclusive park and playground for Vandalia and our neighboring communities.

Best regards,

Corey M. Follick
Councilmember
cmfollick@vandaliaohio.org

Whitney Hague
Steering Committee Member
Vandalia Parks & Recreation Master Plan
50 Farrell Rd.
Vandalia, OH 45377

October 31, 2022

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Quality of Life Subcommittee
c/o Dayton Chamber of Commerce
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**Letter of Support for Robinette Park Inclusive Playground, Splashpad, and Restroom
PDAC Application**

Dear Quality of Life Subcommittee,

The City of Vandalia and the Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities Services is submitting a PDAC application to strengthening funding solicitations for the construction of an inclusive playground, splashpad, and restroom at Robinette Park. I am a lifelong Vandalia resident, parent, and I have volunteered on both the 2020 Vision Vandalia Comprehensive Plan and Parks & Recreation Master Plan steering committees.

I ask that you please prioritize this project because our community and project partners have implemented evidence-based practices to determine that there is a real need for and desire by the community for inclusive park features that enable children and adults of all abilities to develop physically, cognitively, socially, and emotionally. This project meets multiple planning goals for the City and Montgomery County. If the applicants can see the project through – this quality-of-life initiative will improve livability not just in Vandalia – but the entire region.

This project has momentum and support in the community as the applicants have already determined how to fund 70% of the estimated \$1.3 million project. Thank you for considering the request for prioritization of this project and the applicants' pursuit of \$400,000 in additional grant funding or direct appropriations from another political subdivision. I do believe that this project is worth your support and the Quality of Live Subcommittee's prioritization.

Sincerely,



Whitney Hague

McKenzie Schwartz
Vandalia Playground Advisory Committee
730 Deer Creek Dr.
Vandalia, OH 45377

October 31, 2022

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Quality of Life Subcommittee
c/o Dayton Chamber of Commerce
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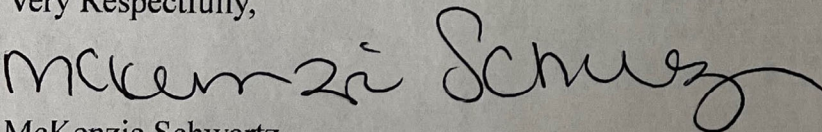
Dear Quality of Life Subcommittee,

I am writing respectfully to ask that you prioritize the application that the City of Vandalia and the Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities Services are submitting to the Priority Development and Advocacy Committee to build an inclusive playground, splashpad and restroom at Robinette Park. I am a lifelong resident of Vandalia, a parent, and I volunteer on the City of Vandalia's Playground Advisory Committee.

There is a definitive need in the region for inclusive playgrounds and recreational opportunities. This application is the result of more than a year of parks and recreation master planning efforts and I believe that this project will benefit the entire Dayton region. The location is ideal for serving families located east of I-75. To date, the Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities Services and the City of Vandalia have secured or have plans to fund nearly 70% of the \$1,380,000 project. The applicants have done well to budget and to obtain contributions from private donors. It is likely that the project will not move forward without an additional \$400,000 in outside funding (i.e., \$150,000 for the inclusive playground and safety surface, and \$250,000 for the accessible splashpad and safety surface).

This is a worthy project for the region, and it should be prioritized. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Very Respectfully,


McKenzie Schwartz

11/2/2022

Whitney Hague
Steering Committee Member
Vandalia Parks & Recreation Master Plan
50 Farrell Rd.
Vandalia, OH 45377

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Sincerely,



Whitney Hague