

Advisory Committee of Council Staff Report



To Accessibility Advisory Committee
Date Tuesday, April 15, 2025
Subject **Exhibition Park Zipline Play Feature Project**

Recommendation

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive the information provided regarding the Exhibition Park Zipline Play Feature Project.
 2. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee share their recommendations regarding the entry to and accessibility of this addition to Exhibition Park, and its connection with the existing play area outlined in the report.
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Executive Summary

Purpose of Report

To inform the AAC of the Exhibition Park Zipline project, including identifying the existing conditions of the site area, the play equipment selected, and the expected outcomes as they related to accessibility and inclusion.

Key Findings

The selected play feature is a Little Tikes brand 'Unlimited Play Rail-Rider – Accessible' by Playpower Canada. One of the two tracks will include an accessible seat. The proposed play safety surface is rubber tile. This feature will increase the overall accessibility of Exhibition Park playground.

Strategic Plan Alignment

The project will align with the Strategic Plan objective 7: Grow and care for our community spaces and places. This project focuses on supporting a community-initiated project and ensuring that this feature in Exhibition Park is easy to access and enjoy.

Financial Implications

The budget for this project is being funded by community donation and the City's capital budget.

Report

This project was initiated by a family in Guelph who did community fundraising prior to approaching Parks with this project idea. The site location and the type of play equipment was selected because the park is a place of significance for the family and in memorial for two of their children who enjoyed playing at Exhibition Park and zip lines.

The City of Guelph does not currently have rail rider play equipment. This feature will be the first of its kind in the city and will expand the City's playground offerings. The Rail-rider play equipment will include both an accessible seat and a standard disk seat. The accessible seat is the same as the accessible seat on many of the City's existing swing sets. The seat has been rated and tested for ASTM up to 750 lbs. The clearance from the play surface to the bottom of the accessible seat is approximately 406mm (16").

The new double rail-rider will improve the overall accessibility of Exhibition Park playground. Additionally, as a community level park, this amenity will serve the greater Guelph community and will be a destination for residents beyond the local neighbourhood.

Figure 1: Exhibition Park context map.



Figure 2: Exhibition Park site location existing conditions.



Figure 3:Exhibition Park site locations existing conditions, east side.



Figure 4:Exhibition Park site location existing conditions, west side.



Figure 5: Concept image of double rail rider play feature.



This project will develop play equipment and play spaces that comply with the following:

- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
- The City of Guelph's Facility Accessibility Design Manual (FADM)

An accessible route to the play equipment from the existing trail network will be provided and will include space for any users lining up for a turn on the equipment. Rubber playground surfacing within the play space will be used.

Final orientation of the play structure will take into consideration the impacts to any mature trees to be preserved in the area.

This project will be undertaken in 2025 including detailed design and construction.

Financial Implications

The budget for this project is being funded by community donation, and the City's capital budget.

Final construction cost will be determined through the tender process.

Consultations

Any recommendations from the Accessibility Advisory Committee will be taken into consideration during the detailed design phase of the project. The family that initiated and is donating funds to this project will also provide feedback on the design.

Attachments

Attachment-1 Presentation Slide PDF

Departmental Approval

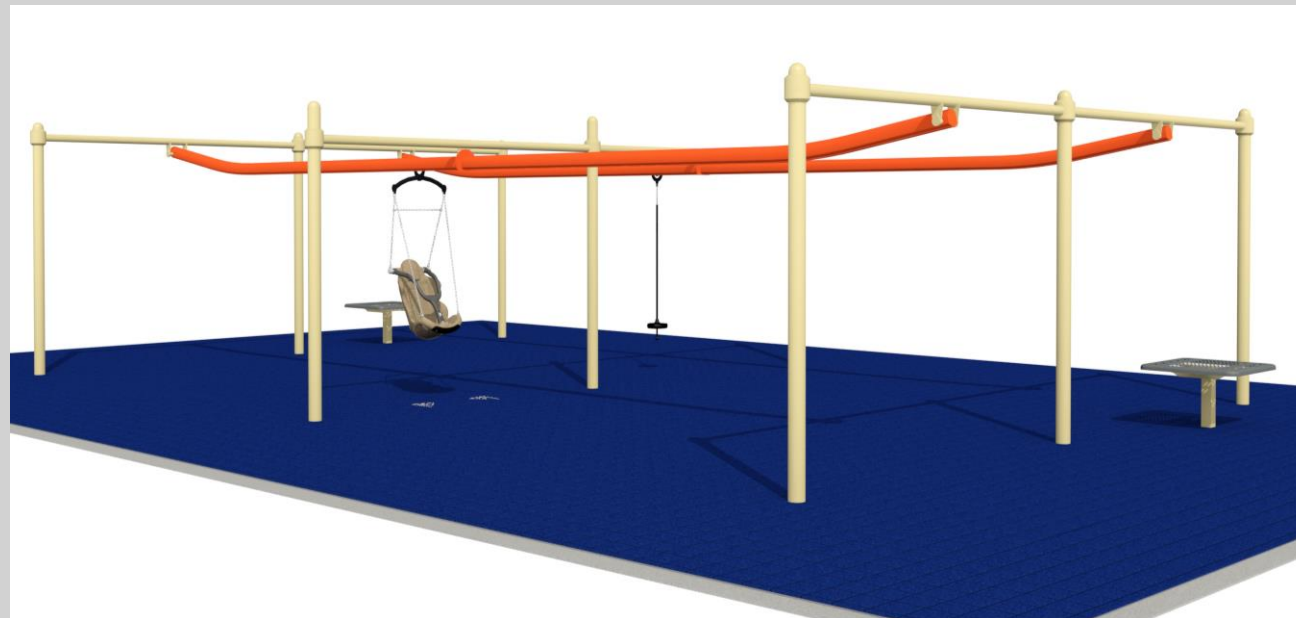
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Exhibition Park Zipline Play Feature Project

- The Double Rail-Rider play equipment will be the first of its kind in the City of Guelph and is proposed for Exhibition Park. It includes one accessible seat and one disk seat. The equipment is AODA and FADM compliant.
- An accessible route to the equipment from the existing trail will be provided as part of this project. Rubber tile safety surface is proposed for this project.
- The project is in the design phase. Anticipated construction is summer or fall 2025.



Recommended motion(s):

1. That the AAC receive the information provided regarding the Exhibition Park Zipline Play Feature Project.
2. That the AAC share their recommendations regarding the entry to and the accessibility of the feature as outlined in the report.