



Updates: September 2023

Meet Our Builder!

Marquette City Commission awards bid to Associated Constructors, LLC!

The Playground for All committee and the Community Foundation of Marquette County are excited and pleased to announce that the Marquette City Commission has awarded the construction bid to rebuild the Kids Cove Playground at Mattson Park to Associated Constructors.

This will allow the demolition of the existing playground to begin **this fall**, with new construction starting next spring (Weather Permitting!).

As costs have risen, for a number of reasons, the bid amount exceeded the \$1.4 million already raised, thus the committee is committed to raising an additional \$300,000 to cover the shortfall. The project WILL move forward while the committee tackles the fundraising goal.



Ground Breaking Ceremony – Kids Cove- September 5, 2023- Mattson Park- Marquette, MI

Where are we today?

This playground is an incredible step forward in community inclusivity. This will be a place for every single child of every ability to play together, learn together, laugh together, imagine together, and grow friendships.

Our original timeline has changed due to:

- Supply chain difficulties as a result of the COVID pandemic
- Grant stipulations that were a part of the \$300,000 Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Trust Fund.

These issues have now been resolved and the timeline on the back page is in place. Consequently, fundraising goals have also changed due to:

- Rising costs of equipment and supplies
- Rising costs of labor
- Supply chain cost increases

Project Timeline

DNR Grant Application Submission

Spring 2020- *Successful*

Contract Playground Design Company

Spring 2021- *Completed*

The Community Planning Process

Spring 2021- *Completed*

DNR Award Contract Signed

Summer 2021- *Completed*

Community Fundraising

Summer 2021- *Ongoing*

Picket Removal/Pick-up

Fall 2022- *Completed*

Construction bids out and placed on city website

Spring 2023- *Completed*

City Commission approval of Construction bid for playground

August 14, 2023 - *Completed*

Groundbreaking Ceremony: existing playground closed for demolition

September 5, 2023 - *Completed*

Playground Construction Completion

July 28, 2024 - *Pending*

THE COMMITTEE INVITES ONE AND ALL TO JOIN US IN ACHIEVING OUR FINAL FUNDRAISING GOAL

As the bid amount exceeded the original \$1.4 million raised the Playground for All committee is enthusiastically engaged in further fundraising. Many opportunities to donate to this worthwhile project exist including naming sponsorships described on the Kids Cove website. <https://www.kidscovemqt.com> With a continued partnership with the Community Foundation of Marquette County, we are thrilled to finally build the dream. If you would like to talk about giving opportunities feel free to email Nheena Ittner at nittner24@gmail.com to discuss the many opportunities available.

Please be aware that the project will move forward as the committee tackles the fundraising goal. Please be aware that the project will move forward as we are confident the additional fundraising goal will be met!

THANK YOU!!

We have reached our initial fundraising goal!

The Committee invites families and friends to join us as we raise the additional shortfall amount.



The Playground for All Committee and the City of Marquette have partnered with the Community Foundation of Marquette County to raise funds for this project. The Community Foundation of Marquette County, a Michigan 501 (c)3 Non-Profit Corporation, is the fiscal agent for this project.