

Village of Mahomet Parks and Recreation

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Mahomet Parks and Recreation Announces Naming Rights Deal with Mahomet Lions Club for the new Inclusive Playground at Barber Park

MAHOMET, IL — Mahomet Parks and Recreation has a new naming rights partner in a deal that will see the new amenity named the Lions Club Playground.

The development of this playground creates a uniquely accessible environment where disabilities disappear and promotes inclusive play for all children. Other project improvements include amphitheater stage additions, a splash pad and additional accessible paved pathways.

“Parks create spaces that provide for social, mental and physical development of people, improve health and foster a sense of community and place. Play impacts mind, body and spirit, we are excited to build a space that will provide an opportunity for the community to play imagine and connect together. We are thrilled to partner with the Mahomet Lions Club on this impactful project. The Mahomet Lions Club has a long-standing history with MPRD and specifically Barber Park, it’s just a natural fit, said Dan Waldinger, Mahomet Parks and Recreation Director.”

George Castor, President of Mahomet Lions stated, “the Mahomet Lions Club is excited to partner with MPRD on this project. This playground will be a wonderful addition to our community and we are certain that this will become one of the go to places in Mahomet. Thanks to MPRD for allowing us to be a part of their vision for Barber Park.”

Nearly half of the funding for the project has been made possible through an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Open Space and Land Development Grant. Additionally, MPRD staff sought for and received a playground grant from Illinois Park and Recreation Association which further defrayed the costs of the playground. Once complete, the playground will become a national demonstration site for through Playcore. National Demonstration Sites (NDS) exemplify evidence-based best practices in design and implementation, support health-related initiatives, and provide meaningful ways for community stakeholders to gather data about the sites’ impact on the community. The remaining funds will derive from additional naming rights, sponsorships, and individual gifts in addition to parks capital funds.

We are building a positive, healthy, inclusive environment inspiring our entire community to play, imagine and connect together. MPRD is seeking additional donations to see the project through. To learn more or find out how you can sponsor/donate to the project, visit our project website at www.facebook.com/mahometsprayandplay or contact us at 217.586.6025.