



CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item J
April 22, 2013

SUBJECT: Approval to reutilize playground equipment at Rotary and Lakeshore Park by providing them to the non-profit organization, "Kids Around the World".

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department *YJM*

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: *[Signature]*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Novi Parks Department is slated to replace the outdated playground equipment at Rotary Park and the second play structure located at the back of Lakeshore Park. At City Council's April 8th Council meeting a contract was awarded to Landscape Structures to remove the current structures and install new. Standard operating procedure for this removal is to extract, disassemble and recycle all the parts.

While at the National Recreation and Park Association conference, Park Director Mangum was introduced to the non-profit organization entitled, "Kids Around The World". The organization is dedicated to helping children and families who have been affected by war, poverty, illness, and natural disasters. One of their goals is to provide reutilized playgrounds to children in underprivileged areas. The organization will remove the equipment, and refurbish it, if necessary and then ship it overseas to other countries where children can enjoy the power of play. Similar to all other donations once the organization takes ownership all liability will transfer to the recipient.

The Novi Parks Department would like to provide the outdated playground equipment to the "Kids Around The World" organization.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval to reutilize playground equipment at Rotary and Lakeshore Park by providing them to the non-profit organization, "Kids Around the World".

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Gatt				
Mayor Pro Tem Staudt				
Council Member Casey				
Council Member Fischer				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Margolis				
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Wrobel				



kids around the world

BUILDING PLAYGROUNDS

On one of our playground builds we had a businessman who asked the question, "Why playgrounds?" We asked him to wait until the end of the build, and then ask the same question. During the week, he saw a team of individuals from different backgrounds, countries, languages and abilities unite together to work for the children. He noticed the involvement of the local people and their ownership as they talked about "their playground". Every day children would stop by, point at the pieces of equipment and imagine what it would be like in a few days. Every day more children came, this was a first for them.

He also noticed the way the community was looking at the partnering organization, the group who brought in the playground. There was a new respect. On Dedication Day, he noticed hundreds of children without much of what this world has to offer, and yet, on this day, they were kids. He noticed the smiles on the faces of moms and dads who try so hard to provide for their children, and yet, today they knew that someone else loved their children, too. And then he noticed blisters on his hands, and he smiled and never asked the question, "Why playgrounds?" again.



- [Main](#)
- [Recycled Playgrounds](#)
- [Where We've Been](#)
- [Playground Funding](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Volunteer Opportunities](#)

LATEST PHOTOS

