

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION REPORT  
Certificate of Appropriateness  
Section 20-92

**TO:** Heritage Preservation Commission  
**FROM:** Planning Staff  
**MEETING DATE:** February 21, 2023

**PROPOSAL:** Installation of additional play area adjacent to the existing Kids Coulee in Myrick Park.

**PROPERTY OWNER:**

City of La Crosse  
Parks, Recreation, and Forestry  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

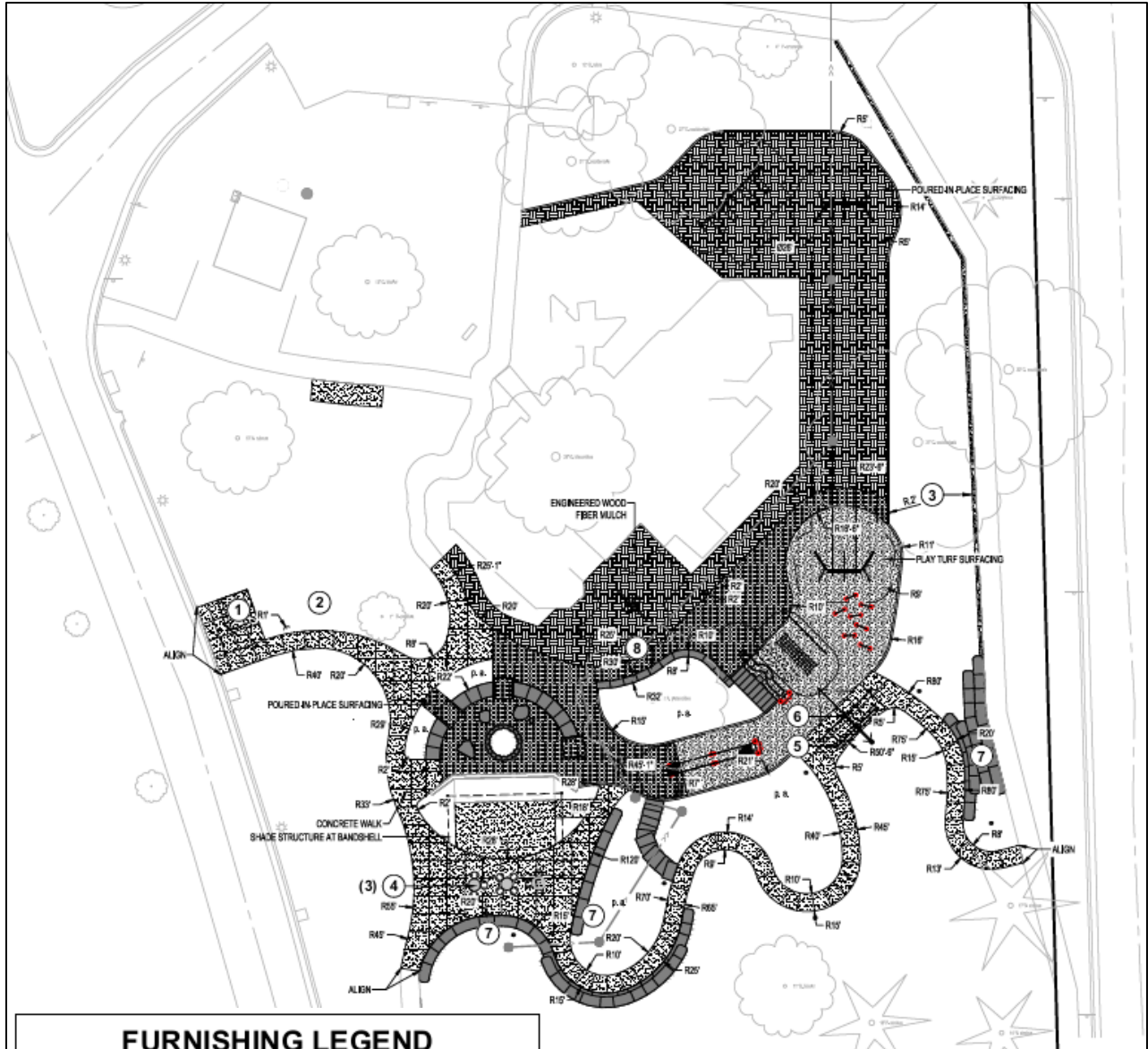
**APPLICANT:**

Same

**BACKGROUND:** The HPC was given responsibility to review all proposed improvements to locally designated sites that requires a permit from the City per Section 20-92 of the La Crosse Municipal Code.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The applicant is proposing to replace several existing play features and install several new play features including in-ground slides, a zip line, and a net structure over a sloped hillside. immediately adjacent to the existing Kids Coulee and band shell/theater. Tiered limestone rock and a tunnel exploration area will also include additional play features. (See Below Picture and site plan)





FURNISHING LEGEND			
KEY	DESCRIPTION	MFR	MODEL
①	GAZEBO (SALVAGED)		
②	BIKE RACK (BY OTHERS)		
③	DECORATIVE FENCE (BY OTHERS)	DIGGER SPECIALTIES	COURTYARD 2000 SERIES
④	DINING HEIGHT TABLE	LANDSCAPE FORMS	CR0194 CAROUSEL TABLE
⑤	TIMBER BENCH	TIMBERFORM	2219-16 COLOSSUS GIANT TIMBER SEAT
⑥	SHADE STRUCTURE	SHADE SYSTEMS	
⑦	LIMESTONE OUTCROPPING		
⑧	LIMESTONE BLOCK WALL		

The proposed new play area located to the southeast of the existing Kids Coulee will require minimal landscaping and terrain disturbance for the installation of play surfaces, pedestrian paths, seating, and play features. It is anticipated that only one existing tree will be removed for ADA compliance.

**SEE ATTACHED PLANS FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

**ANALYSIS:**

Myrick Park began as a fairgrounds site before being acquired by the City in the 1880's and made into a public park. Myrick Park, named after Nathan Myrick, was one of the major elements in the "system" of parks and playgrounds planned in 1908 by the noted landscape architect John Nolen for the newly established Park Board of Commissioners under the leadership of the progressive mayor Dr. Wendell Anderson. Myrick Park benefited from the Great Depression and the Works Progress Administration as the Main Shelter was constructed under this program. Myrick Park is also the site of three Native American "tumuli" or conical burial mounds. Myrick Park is not only significant for its historic uses but also for its location and natural beauty that was identified in Nolen's Park Plan.

The proposed project strives to work in areas that have already been disturbed by the existing play structure and features. Additionally, the new features appear to be designed to be incorporated into the existing landscape with minimal impact.

**FINDING**

The proposed project is in keeping with the local historic nature of the park and appropriate to the park.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION BY STAFF:**

This Certificate of Appropriateness is recommended for approval.