

# Memorandum

## Parks & Recreation Department



**To: City Manager, Todd Thompson**  
**Subject: Douglas Park Multi-Use Sport Field Lighting ARPA Funding**  
**Date: 1/5/23**

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### **Information:**

The Parks & Recreation Department is requesting approval to utilize ARPA funds for the lighting project on the multi-use sport field at Douglas Park.

The Parks Department is requesting a total of \$200,000 in ARPA funding.

The Parks and Recreation Department received a \$50,000 grant from T-Mobile for this project and the Friends of Douglas Park have committed \$70,200.

Douglas Park is located in Census Tract #236 in the City of Rock Island, which is a low-income concentration area with over 85% of all households defined as low-income. Over 80% of the population within this census tract is a minority. Furthermore, Douglas Park is located in one of Illinois' opportunity zones. There are .38 softball/baseball fields per 1,000 residents in Rock Island, compared to .74 per 1,000 residents on average according to the Illinois Recreation Facilities Inventory. This data shows that the neighborhood in which Douglas Park is located is underserved in terms of recreational facilities. The neighborhood is high in poverty and has a high level of minority residents. This project will provide improved and more diverse recreation opportunities to the neighborhood and community. The renovation of this Park will also lead to increased programming and accessibility to an underserved portion of the city's population. Programs and activities provided by the Parks and Recreation Department, Martin Luther King Jr. Center, and local school districts among others will reach a segment of the population that is underrepresented in organized sports and activities.

Some activities that will utilize the multi-use field include youth soccer, youth baseball/softball teams, youth flag football teams, summer camps, practices and tournaments. The field will be open to public use when not in use for scheduled activities. The field will be used from early spring to late fall. This project will also economically benefit the surrounding neighborhood by increasing traffic to the businesses located in the opportunity zone.

### **Recommendation:**

The Parks & Recreation Department recommends that the City Council approve \$200,000 in ARPA funding for the lighting project for the multi-use sport field at Douglas Park.

**Submitted by:** John Gripp, Director of Parks and Recreation

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**Approved by:** Todd Thompson, City Manager

Bids were received for metal light poles, lighting fixtures and installation for the multi-use sport field at Douglas Park. Bids were received from Crawford Company, Tri City Electric and Rock River Electric. A bid alternate was included for pricing on removing existing wooden poles between the multi-use field and the youth ballfield. Below are the bid results.

			Crawford Company 1306 Mill St. Rock Island, Il 61201	Tri City Electric 6225 N. Brady St. Davenport, Ia 52806	Rock River Electric 5753 Poppy Garden Rd Colona, Il 61241
item No.	Description	Quantity	Total	Total	Total
1	Base Bid	1	283,000.00	343,442.00	260,500.00
2	Alternate 1	1	70,000.00	0.00	59,700.00
			353,000.00	343,442.00	320,200.00