Playground Grant Funding



Recreation and Culture Policy K20

Policy:	K20 – Playground Grant Funding
Policy Department(s):	Recreation and Culture
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Policy Purpose

To establish a process for allocation of Capital Grant funding requests to build new Playgrounds or replace/refurbish existing Playgrounds located in the County, or within the incorporated municipalities inside the boundaries of the County.

Policy Statement

The Policy is intended to outline the County's approach to providing funds to support non-profit Organizations in the construction, refurbishment/or replacement of a playground on their own or a partner's land. This Policy does not apply to the lifecycle replacement of Playgrounds or new builds on County Municipal Reserve which would be considered internal County Capital projects.

Definitions

"Council" means the duly elected Council members of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1

"County" means the municipality of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 having jurisdiction under the Municipal Government Act and other applicable legislation.

"Organization" means an incorporated municipality, or a duly registered society in good standing within the Province of Alberta, or a formal service group which has been identified by County Council as the provider of community services.

"Playground" means an area designed at a school or in a public area for children to play outdoors. This could include play structures, outdoor sports courts, natural ice surfaces, skateparks or bike parks.

"Municipal Reserve" means land used for recreation and leisure, including public parks and community buildings. When land is dedicated as a Municipal Reserve it becomes the property of the local municipality and its maintenance is their responsibility.

Policy Guidelines

1. The Organization requesting the funding for a Playground project must be an incorporated municipality, or a duly registered society in good standing within the Province of Alberta, or

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a formal service group which has been identified by County Council as the provider of community services.

- 2. Organizations are only eligible to receive a one-time funding from the County's Capital Grants stream per Playground project.
- 3. Playground projects eligible to apply for grant funding are classified into four (4) different categories for funding allocations through the Capital Grant program:
 - 3.1. Community Playgrounds at Schools in the County includes any request for eligible funding up to a maximum of \$75,000 for a Playground by a non-profit Organization that is adjacent to an elementary, junior high or high school located in the County that would be considered the "hub" or destination of the hamlet. This structure would be maintained by the group or school and subsequently owned by the respective landowner.
 - 3.2. School Playgrounds in the County includes any request for eligible funding up to a maximum of \$50,000 for a Playground by a community group or non-profit Organization that is adjacent to an elementary, junior high or high school located in the County where residents already have access to other Playground resources within Municipal Reserve (MR) that were built and maintained by the County.
 - 3.3. School Playgrounds or other Playgrounds within other municipalities inside the boundaries of the County– includes any request for eligible funding up to a maximum of \$25,000 (provided the host municipality matches the allocation) for a playground by a non-profit Organization that is located within the boundaries of the Town of Sexsmith, Town of Beaverlodge or the Town of Wembley.
 - 3.4. Community Playgrounds includes any request for eligible funding up to a maximum of \$50,000 for a Playground on land leased, owned and operated by a non-profit Organization that provides recreation services to County residents.
- 4. Requests from any group for Playground funding must be received through the prescribed online application portal under the County's Capital Grant program as per Policy K10 Capital Grants and must include justification for the request, proposed budget, two (2) quotes for project applications and, if applicable, demonstrate confirmed other funding sources.
- 5. Approved Playground projects are bound by the Capital Grant Conditional Agreement issued under Policy K10 Capital Grants.
- 6. Applicants must follow the municipal Land Use Bylaw to develop their Playground project.
- 7. All playground equipment must meet Canadian Standards Association (CSA) safety standards.
- 8. Playground project must be inspected by a certified playground Inspector at key construction intervals, and the Inspector must be part of the final acceptance process.

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- 9. Applicants must complete all construction within a two (2) year timeline.
- 10. All maintenance and repair of Playground projects are the responsibility of the Organization.
- 11. Council retains the right to provide Capital support for:
 - 11.1. Playground projects which do not meet the requirements of this Policy, and
 - 11.2. At levels exceeding the limits of this Policy.

Attachments

N/A

References

Legal Authorities	Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26
	Societies Act, RSA 2000, c S-14
Related Plans,	Policy B1 – Policy Development
Bylaws, Policies, Etc.	Policy C27 – Financial Reserves
	Policy K4 – Operating Assistance Grant
	Policy K6 – Community Assistance Grant
	Policy K10 - Capital Grants
	Policy K16 – Funding of Major Community Projects
Other	Online Application Form

Revision History

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October 30, 2024	Adoption Date CM20241030.006