

# Attachment A

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## PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND AT TORO COUNTY PARK

The Tatum's Garden Foundation (TGF) desires to renovate an existing playground in Toro County Park, making it fully inclusive and accessible to all children and families of all ability levels. The renovation would be gift to the community of Monterey County with all needed funding coming directly from TGF.

The Monterey County Parks Commission created an Inclusive Playground Ad Hoc Committee consisting of TGF Board Members, Parks Commissioners, Parks staff and the Fifth District of office of Supervisor Potter to assist in the initial proposal creation.

TGF was established in 2013, upon the opening of the award-winning Tatum's Garden playground. The mission of TGF is to maintain Tatum's Garden in Salinas and expand opportunities for inclusive play in other locations throughout the local community. Tatum's Garden is Monterey County's first and only fully accessible and inclusive playground, located on 4 acres in the heart of Salinas. The vision of the TGF is to inspire communities to foster abundant play for children of every ability.

TGF will provide all funding for development, planning, design, materials, implementation and construction through private donations, grants and fundraising. Utility work including but not limited to stormwater, irrigation and electrical upgrades necessary to the project will also be included.

TGF and the Ad Hoc Committee have chosen Leathers and Associates as the consulting and construction firm to oversee the project, continuing the partnership that created Tatum's Garden. Leathers has over forty-five years of experience building playgrounds, zoos, science centers and community gathering places. Leathers continues to be a leader in custom-designed community-built playgrounds, with over 3,200 custom projects in the US and seven additional countries. Leathers builds their products to American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) standards and are nationally certified with the National Playground Safety Institute (NPSI). All products meet or exceed ADA standards.

The project will follow the highly successful Tatum's Garden model of community-designed, community-funded and community-built. Students at schools throughout Monterey County will help design the playground project. TGF will secure community funding. Community members led by TGF and Leathers will construct the project. The community aspect is highly important to the success of the project as it creates ownership and stewardship by those that helped create it.

Two options have been discussed and chosen by the Ad Hoc Committee and have been vetted through the TGF Board of Directors as being consistent with their mission.

Option A consists of two playgrounds at opposite ends of the developed area of Toro Park with a multi-use trail connecting the two areas. A new playground would be created near the entrance of the park and the Quail Meadows playground would be renovated. Additionally, the adjoining parking lots, bathrooms, utilities and BBQ facilities would be upgraded as well to meet ADA requirements.

Option B consists of renovating only the Quail Meadows Recreation Area.

The overall aesthetic design for both options would fit in with the rural character of the park and would not replicate Tatum's Garden in appearance, only in function.

Upkeep and maintenance of the playground would be the responsibility of the County of Monterey. TGF will seed a maintenance fund that the County will be able to use to care for and maintain the playground.

TGF is requesting that the County of Monterey Parks Department and Resource Management Agency work cooperatively with TGF to help establish and construct this exciting project.

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