

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY: Your County Personnel and Human Services Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the playground at Silver Beach County Park was installed in the early 1990's and serves as a premier attraction at the park; and

WHEREAS, due to year-around use and the natural wear and tear over 30 years, this aging structure is deteriorating and requires increased annual upkeep and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the playground lacks Universal Design elements and new and exciting inclusive and accessible features, creating limits for visitors with varying abilities to have clear and easy access to play on the structures; and

WHEREAS, replacement of the playground was considered in the 2015-2019 County Parks 5-Year Plan and became a priority listed in the 2020-2024 County Parks 5-Year Plan; and


WHEREAS, the playground replacement is also a priority scope item in the current Silver Beach County Park Master Plan focused on improving the park experience; and

WHEREAS, Michigan Department of Natural Resources created the Spark Grant program in 2022 to support projects that provide safe and accessible public recreation facilities and spaces and to help local communities create, renovate or redevelop public outdoor opportunities for residents and visitors with priority given to addressing existing park infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, an eligible financial match is encouraged but not required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Parks Department to apply for up to \$1 million dollars in funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resource Spark Grant with a planned match of at least 10% provided through Berrien County Parks Millage Funds, County Parks Endowment, and fundraising efforts to be completed in Spring 2023.

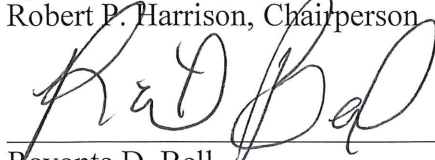
**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
BERRIEN COUNTY PERSONNEL AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**



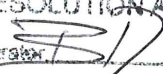
Robert P. Harrison, Chairperson



Michael J. Majerek, Vice-Chairman



Rayonte D. Bell

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM	
Administrator 	Date 10-6-22
Comments Attached _____	
Corporate Counsel _____	Date _____
Comments Attached _____	