



To: Niagara Falls City Council
From: Niagara Falls Community Development
Date: May 23, 2018
Re: Acceptance of KaBoom! Community Partner Agreement – Legends Park

Pursuant to a competitive application submitted in March 2018, KaBoom! Inc. has offered to collaborate with the City of Niagara Falls on the construction of a new playground at Legends Park. This site serves as an alternative to the original 7th Street site. In recent weeks, KaBoom! Inc. agreed to consider Legends Park as a secondary site. In early 2018, the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation, in partnership with KaBoom!, announced the *Built to Play Initiative* to provide more opportunities for kid-driven free play across Western New York and Southeast Michigan. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department applied to the “Build It With Kaboom!” grant as a component of the *Built to Play Initiative*.

The Build It With KaBoom! model includes an extensive community design process and volunteer installation. If approved, that design process will determine the playground’s exact location, within Legends Park. This initiative would both add lasting value to the neighborhood and create an opportunity for civic engagement through the design/installation process. The park is already maintained by the City of Niagara Falls, and the addition of a playground is consistent with the 2012 City of Niagara Falls Parks Master Plan. The Build It With Kaboom agreement offers both playground equipment and design services for the ADA compliant playground. All of the playground equipment includes specific warranties. Per KaBoom!, this project can be completed within the 2018 construction season.

This requested action does not expend general fund or casino fund dollars. The KaBoom! Community Partner Agreement requires an \$8,500 local fundraising investment as a match. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department proposes using United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, applicable as part of the proposed “Improvement of Public Spaces/Place-Making” CDBG budget amendment on this City Council agenda.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the KaBoom Community Partner Agreement, in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Paul Dyster, Mayor

Nick Melson, City Administrator

Seth Piccirillo, Director
Niagara Falls Community Development

Kennedy Scott Tompkins Voccio Touma