



Interoffice Memorandum
City of Green
Public Service Department

To: City Council

Cc: Mayor Neugebauer, Lisa Carey Dean, Chrissy Lingenfelter, Michael Elkins

From: Valerie Wax Carr, Director of Public Service

Date: Feb. 16, 2022

Subject: **Splash Pad legislation**

Unfortunately, at the end of our season, we discovered an issue with one of our splash pad features, The Wavy Wand, which is an upright pole structures that squirts water into the air. The pole appears to have been “rocked” loose from the likelihood of an adolescent or teen climbing or hanging on the pole. Since our features are affixed below ground, we had to open the concrete to investigate. In doing so it was discovered the feature has broken loose from its’ concrete foundation. The warranty which covered the workmanship of this specific issue has expired. Therefore, the feature needs to be replaced and of course the area that was disturbed will also need to be repaired and resurfaced.

Construction and installation methods continue to improve in the splashpad arena. Since we need to replace a feature, we do want to start to move toward having our features when replaced be surface mounted. Surface mounted features obviously are easier to review problems and repair. There is an omni-pod-like sleeve available through a vendor located in nearby Ashland, Ohio, that the feature is placed into so that features can be easily removed for repair and even winter storage.

Also, the choices in flooring have expanded. This includes flooring that is modular in nature that sections can be removed for repair and replacement. The longevity of these products has improved. Our current flooring has had many patches due to repairs and it is wearing down to the concrete in front of features that get the most traffic patterns.

We have prepared legislation to be introduced to City Council on Feb. 22, 2022, to replace the standpipe feature with a water table feature (a rendering is forthcoming). We are also recommending a full replacement of the surface materials. Since we must do another repair, it

makes sense to replace the surface with a more versatile system. The new product has a considerably longer life of approximately 10 years versus the 5 years we have gotten from the current surface. ***Life Floor is the first Splash Pad surface certified to NSF/ANSI/CAN 50 and meets six unique performance-based standards: slip-resistance, impact absorption, chemical resistance, UV resistance, cleanability, and impermeability.***

Slip-Resistance	Certified surfaces are slip-resistant to minimize slip-and-fall injuries. Meeting the criteria requires a 40 British Pendulum Number (BPN) and a P4 on the Australian Standard. Life Floor exceeds these criteria with a 65 BPN and P5 rating.
Impact Attenuation	Certified surfaces must be cushioned to absorb inevitable falls. The standard requires a HIC (Head Injury Criterion) value of 750, with a .20-meter minimum fall height. Life Floor is certified to this standard with a 74 HIC.
Impermeability	Impermeability is important so that foreign substances such as sunscreen, fertilizer run-off, and other hazardous substances do not absorb into the tile. Life Floor is certified to these criteria with 99.7% Impermeability.
Cleanability	Life Floor is made from a closed-cell foam, which means it does not harbor bacteria, or support microbial growth. During testing, our tiles experienced a 99.9% reduction of bacteria after being sanitized, including the joints of tiles.
Chemical Resistance	Surfaces must remain slip-resistant and impact attenuating after undergoing exposure to high chemical shock periods without showing signs of erosion. Unlike ceramic or painted depth markers, our tiles also retain color contrast and visual clarity after chemical exposure which is important for safety messaging and depth markers.
UV Resistance	Resistance to UV radiation is essential, as many splash pads experience intense, year-long sun exposure. During testing, erosion is not acceptable if it compromises the surface's traction and impact attenuation. Life Floor is certified to this standard.

We were hoping to discuss the splash pad issues and solutions at the Park Board March meeting ahead of submitting legislation. Due to lead time and supply chain issues, we feel it is prudent to get the legislation in sooner than later so we can meet our Memorial Day weekend opening. We have informed the Park Board by the way of a memorandum of the issues and solutions. We will have time to discuss any questions or concerns regarding the splash pad at the March Park Board meeting ahead of anticipated passage of the legislation. The total expected cost of these needed repairs is just under \$75,000.00. We are requesting a funding appropriation in the legislation of \$80,808.00 which includes a 10% contingency from the Parks Capital Fund.