



REQUEST FOR DECISION

File # 1220-20

Report To: **Mayor and Council**
From: **Darrell Blades, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer**
Subject: **Administration Report No. 0095/26**
Tender Award - Surerus Park Playground Construction
Meeting: **Regular Council**
Meeting Date: **May 25, 2026**

RECOMMENDATION:

"THAT, Council award the tender for the Surerus Park Playground Construction project to Van der Pauw Landscaping Ltd. of Maple Ridge, BC, for the unit rates set out in their tender submission dated April 23, 2026, in the amount of \$859,076.00."

CAO'S COMMENTS:

Staff are recommending that this tender for the Surerus Park Playground be awarded to Van der Pauw Landscaping Ltd. of Maple Ridge, BC, for the unit rates set out in their tender submission dated April 23, 2026, in the amount of \$859,076.00. This is substantially below the budget for this project.

ALTERNATIVE RECOMMENDATION:

"THAT, Administration Report No. 0095/26 - Tender Award - Surerus Park Playground Construction be received for information."

KEY ISSUES(S)/ CONCEPTS DEFINED:

The playground equipment at Surerus Park required upgrades as it did not meet current playground standards and was removed to accommodate construction of the new pavilion. The new playground will be installed north of the pavilion. The design and supply of the playground equipment was previously awarded to Play Envy (Calgary, Alberta) through a competitive RFP process. This contract is for installation of the owner-supplied equipment, fully rubberized safety surfacing, and a concrete playground edge; construction of accessible trails with lighting; installation of site furnishings; and installation of a hydrant to service the new pavilion.

RELEVANT POLICY:

Council Policy No. 22/20 - City Purchasing and Tendering Policy

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC PILLARS:

Vibrant Community – Invest in community safety, social, cultural, and recreational programs.

Managing Assets – Build and manage assets that support the current and future needs of the community.

COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

Provide and support robust, affordable, and accessible wellness and recreational opportunities for the whole community.

Invest in building, improving, and maintaining physical and digital assets.

Ensure accountable, transparent, and responsible financial management focused on value.

GENERAL:

The City issued a tender for the Surerus Park Playground Project using the MMCD 2019 Unit Price Contract format. The tender was posted April 7, 2026, and closed April 23, 2026.

The City received 4 submissions, summarized below:

Submitted By		Tender Price (GST excluded)
1	Van der Pauw Landscaping Ltd.	\$ 859,076.00
2	S. Young Enterprises Ltd.	\$ 901,810.90
3	Northern Legendary Construction Ltd.	\$ 916,649.00
4	GLVT	\$ 956,465.93

The project scope includes installation of owner-supplied play equipment (supplied to the City of Fort St. John by Play Envy), a fully rubberized playground safety surface, accessible pathways with lighting, and associated seating areas. The forecasted timeline below anticipates the playground opening in fall 2026:

Milestones

Contract Award: May 11, 2026

Construction: June - September 2026

Playground Opening: September 30, 2026

This project is part of the larger Surerus Park improvements project to implement upgrades across the recreational amenities in the park. Previous phases include improvements to the soccer fields,

additional trails and trail lighting, with construction of the pavilion building and new washroom facilities currently underway.

Remaining planned improvements include reconstruction of the tennis courts; the addition of pickleball courts and a basketball court; provision of a fenced off-leash dog area; formalization of existing desired path trails, and future parking lot improvements. The timing of the remaining improvements is intended to be scheduled to maintain access to the courts during the 2026 playing season.

ORGANIZATIONAL:

N/A

FINANCIAL:

The tender price for installation of the playground equipment, safety surfacing, trails, trail lighting, and site furnishings is \$859,076.00, which is within the estimated budget of \$1,400,000.00. The scope also includes installation of a hydrant to service the new pavilion.

This work is funded in the 2026 Capital Budget and is expected to be completed within the approved funding.

FOLLOW UP ACTION:

If the recommended resolution is passed, a tender award letter will be issued, and construction will commence as weather conditions permit.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

The playground design and equipment were selected through engagement with local schools. Students provided feedback on preferred designs and features. Accessibility and inclusivity were key requirements; the pathways and seating areas included in this project support a welcoming and comfortable space for all users.

The broader Surerus Park concept plan was informed by community consultation in 2019 through the Kin and Surerus Parks concept design project (workshops, open houses, and a community survey). Key themes included updated soccer fields, a new playground, wind protection at the tennis courts, and a concession/covered shelter. Several items have been addressed through earlier phases; this project delivers the new playground identified through that engagement. The concept plan also reflects interest in a sports court, updated tennis facilities, and a fenced off-leash dog area.

COMMUNICATION:

N/A

DEPARTMENTS CONSULTED ON THIS REPORT:

Public Works and Utilities

Engineering

ATTACHMENTS:

USL - Surerus Park Playground Construction - Tender Summary Letter

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Catherin Ross, Executive Assistant