

**Department for Local Government
Land and Water Conservation Fund
2020 Application**

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)

**ASHLAND CENTRAL PARK:
NEW INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND**



**2020
GRANT APPLICATION**



Department for Local Government Land and Water Conservation Fund 2020 Application

PROJECT TITLE: Ashland Central Park - New Inclusive Playground
PROJECT ADDRESS/LOCATION: Central Park (Ashland, KY)
PREVIOUS LWCF PROJECTS IN PARK: N/A

APPLICANT

Name Mayor Steve Gilmore	Agency City of Ashland	Telephone Number (606) 327-2001	E-mail address sgilmore@ashlandky.org		
Street or P. O. Box P.O. Box 1839	City Ashland	County Boyd	State KY	ZIP Code 41105	

CONTACT PERSON

Name Amber Berry	Firm/Agency City of Ashland	Telephone Number (606) 385-3295	E-mail address aberry@ashlandky.gov		
Street or P. O. Box Round House, 22 nd Street Central Park	City Ashland	County Boyd	State KY	ZIP Code 41105	

CITY/COUNTY TO BE SERVED

City of Ashland/Boyd County

Number of Acres in the Park: 47	GPS Coordinates (Deg/Min/Sec/Dir) Lat: 38° 28' 23.55" Long: -82° 38' 16.88"
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Number of acres must match acreage in Boundary Map and will be restricted in perpetuity.

Congressional District 5th	Area Development District FIVCO
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APPLICANT LWCF OPEN PROJECT

NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES List Project Number: 21-
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Please checkmark:

Land Ownership – Own Lease _____

Please provide a copy of the deed or long term lease (25 years or longer).

Are Utility Lines in the Park Boundary? Yes ___ No (If yes, they must be buried or relocated).

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT (Attach a separate sheet if necessary)

The city of Ashland, located upon a southern bank of the Ohio River, is a home rule-class city in Boyd County (KY) and is the largest city in Boyd County. The population was 21,684 at the 2010 census. Ashland is the smaller of two primary cities in the Huntington-Ashland metropolitan area, which is referred to locally as the "Tri-State Area" and had a population of 361,487 in 2017. Ashland serves as an important economic and medical center for the northeastern Kentucky Region and is part of the fifth-largest metropolitan area in Kentucky.

One of the main attractions in the city is Central Park. Central Park is the largest park (47 acres) in the city's park system and is considered the city's 'Crown Jewel'. The park is located between 17th and 22nd Streets and Central and Lexington Avenues. There are over 1,100 trees in Central Park with each identified and located on maps of the park. The following is a listing of some facilities available: (3) Indian Mounds, (5) Asphalt Tennis Courts, Baseball Field with modern lighting, (10) Horse Shoe Courts, (2) Sand Volleyball Courts, Pond with three floating fountains, (2) Basketball Courts, Playgrounds (for all ages), (2) Concession Stands, Restrooms (handicapped accessible), Bandstand/Pavilion, Log House (Ashland's oldest house), Fountain/Gardens, Maintenance Office, Round House/Recreation Office.

The Mayor and Ashland City Council is asking for LWCF Grant Funding to help build an inclusive playground (see attached pictures) to be constructed in Central Park in the downtown area of Ashland. An Inclusive Playground are thoughtfully designed to provide a safe place where children of all abilities can play together, and are developmentally appropriate for children with and without disabilities. An inclusive playground takes away the barriers to exclusion, both physical and social, providing a "sensory rich" experience for all. This would be the first inclusive playground not only in Ashland/Boyd County but also the entire FIVCO ADD Region.

The Benefits of Inclusive Playgrounds: Recess and play are an important part of childhood development. When children are playing, they are able to progress language, symbolic thinking, social skills, and motor skills. Studies have shown that children who engage in free play are healthier and have higher self-esteem. These affects can be seen in all children, so it is important that play structures accommodate children of all abilities and developmental levels. This is where inclusive playgrounds come in. Inclusive playgrounds allow all children to engage and play so everyone can be included in the fun.

Playgrounds are a great place for children to engage with peers and make friends. One of the struggles families with disabilities face is fewer places to meet and be part of the community. According to studies on physical and developmental disabilities, 53% of kids with disabilities spent less than two hours a week with their peers outside of class. By making playgrounds inclusive it solves this problem because children of all abilities can play together. Parks and playground equipment shouldn't limit or segregate children. It should be a place for children to come together and learn from each other. Inclusive playgrounds encourage play, which leads to a mutual understanding, friendships, and a true feeling of community.

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OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

All of the operation and maintenance of the inclusive playground as well as the other facilities within the Central Park will be done by the city's Parks & Recreation Department, which is ran by the city of Ashland. The new inclusive playground will be installed according to all manufacturer/state specifications and also will follow all ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) regulations and guidelines. Ashland's Central Park is a public park that is open round year (7:00 am - 11:00 pm) during daylight hours and closed at night to ensure safety and security. Plus, the Ashland Police Department (APD) patrols Central Park on a daily basis on regular intervals, this is done to make the park safer but to show patrons of the park that safety is a top priority of the Ashland City Government.

Everything within Central Park is inspected on a daily basis to look for any debris or any possible safety concerns; if any problems or safety issues are found then the facility or that particular part of the park will be temporarily closed until fully repaired. The Ashland's Parks & Recreation Department takes every precaution necessary when operating and maintaining Central Park; visitor safety is the main goal.

ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED

As stated earlier the inclusive playground will be installed according to all manufacturer and state specifications and also will follow all ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) regulations and guidelines. The playground equipment that will used for this LWCF Project will have handicap accessibility so that children with disabilities will not feel left out and can fully enjoy the same playground fun as other children do.

Crabbe Elementary School (located with Central Park) will use the inclusive playground throughout the school year. Also, there are several schools from the FIVCO Region who frequent Central Park throughout the school year as well. Ashland's Central Park is always open to any other schools or classes outside the FIVCO Region that would like to take advantage of the new inclusive playground.

There is plenty of parking that is close by so the parents/family/guardians of the children will be able to access the inclusive playground more easily. The city of Ashland wants to make sure the new inclusive playground will be easily (handicapped) accessible at all times. There will be extra sidewalks constructed make sure there will not be any issues of gaining access to the inclusive playground.

The city of Ashland will publish in their Local Newspaper the rules and proper etiquette of the new inclusive playground and also to make everyone aware that is will be a facility will also be for any child that is handicapped or has a physical disability. The city of Ashland wants to make a heightened effort to make sure that parents know that all children will be able to use this new playground.

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FINANCING – DETAILED COST ESTIMATE

Include **all** funding amounts and sources. Please complete all appropriate columns and specify whether funds are Approved, Pending, or currently under Negotiation. **Please attach a detailed budget with application.**

*Minimum Request: \$25,000
*Maximum Request: \$250,000

Source	Applicant	Status of Funds
General Fund	\$175,000	Approved
Tax Levy		
Force Account		
In-Kind		
Other Federal Funds:		
Appropriation		
Other Funds:		
TOTAL	\$175,000	Approved

Proposed Funding

LWCF \$175,000.00
Applicant \$175,000.00
Total Cost **\$350,000.00**

Include a detailed budget with the application

NAME AND SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE.

<small>Signature, Chief Executive Officer</small> Steve Gilmore <small>Name Typed</small>	Mayor <small>Title</small> <small>Date</small>
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**LWCF RECREATION FACILITY ELEMENTS
Please check mark the proposed elements**

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. CAMPGROUNDS
Tent sites
Trailer/camper sites
Group campground
Day camp | D. GOLF COURSE
Regular
Par 3
Driving range |
| B. PICNIC AREAS
Family site
Group shelter | E. SWIMMING FACILITIES
Pool
Wading pool
Spray pool
Swimming beach
Bathhouse |
| C. SPORTS & PLAYFIELDS
General purpose playfields
Baseball/softball
Football/soccer
Tot Lot (playground equip) X
Tennis courts
Other courts
Rifle/pistol range
Trap/skeet field
Archery range
Skate park
Track facility | F. BOATING FACILITIES
Launch ramp
Docks
Boat lift |
| H. TRAILS
Hiking
Horse
Bicycle
Motorized
Nature
Exercise | G. FISHING FACILITIES
Pier
Stream improvement
Fishing access |
| I. PASSIVE PARKS
Walkways
Landscaping
Utilities
Equipment
Roads/walkways
Parking
Lighting | J. HUNTING
K. NATURAL AREA
L. AMPHITHEATER
M. LAKE IMPOUNDMENTS
N. VISITOR INFO. CENTER
O. INTERPRETIVE CENTER
P. OTHER

Lighting
Parking
Signs
Comfort stations
Concession stand
Maintenance bldg. |

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PUBLIC MEETING GUIDELINES

An essential component of establishing the local need for a specific project is obtaining input from the local public. To be effective, citizen input must be: Representative (include diverse elements of the population), significant (the input should actually have an impact on what is proposed), and widespread (include a fairly large number of citizens).

It is best if citizens are involved in actually setting priorities for certain projects for a community rather than securing public reaction to a completed plan. However, if open meetings have not been held to set recreational priorities, they must at least be held to obtain citizen evaluation of the proposed acquisition or development.

The following guidelines have been formulated to provide direction for holding open meetings:

- A. A public meeting should be advertised at least one week in advance in the local newspaper and/or posted in public places to reach the citizens in the service area. An example of an advertisement is attached for your use. Advertisements should not appear in the legal section of the newspaper.
- B. Minutes should be kept of public meetings. These minutes should be submitted with the pre-application form to provide documentation of these meetings.
- C. A record of the citizens who attended meetings should be kept. This record should include the name, address or organization of each person who was present.

A concurrence form should be handed out to citizens at the beginning of a public meeting. Citizens should be encouraged to return these at the end of the meeting. A sample form is attached.

ADVERTISEMENT

Under the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965 (Public Law 88-578), citizens are afforded the opportunity to express their views concerning the recreational needs of their community. To provide a forum for public review, a copy of the application is available for review on the city of Ashland's website (ashlandky.org) or on FIVCO ADD's website (fivco.org) as well as hard copy in Mayor Gilmore's Office located at 1700 Greenup Avenue until May 16th, 2020. Please use contact below for access. The LWCF Grant Project is sponsored by the City of Ashland and the specific purpose is: The use of a LWCF Grant to help purchase an inclusive playground to be constructed in Central Park.

Anyone with significant supporting/opposing views is invited to voice that opinion by contacting Amber Berry, Superintendent of Ashland's Parks & Recreation Department at (606) 385-3295 or via email (aberry@ashlandky.org) or you can contact: Land & Water Conservation Fund Program; Governor's Office, Department for Local Government, 1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 340, Frankfort, KY 40601 within two (2) weeks of the date of the meeting.

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PROJECT CONCURRENCE

_____ I agree with the Ashland Central Park – New Inclusive Playground project proposal as it was outlined at this public meeting.

_____ I do not agree with the Ashland Central Park – New Inclusive Playground project proposal as it was outlined at this meeting for the following reasons:

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____, KY ZIP: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

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PRIORITY RATING SYSTEM

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicant must provide assurance of the availability of the required 50 percent of match. If force account or donations are to be all or part of the match, a detailed listing of these elements must be provided.
2. Applicant must hold a public meeting within its jurisdiction concerning the project proposal. Public meeting guidelines have been prepared which can be used to meet this requirement. Other public forums may be acceptable for meeting this requirement if adequate public notice about the proposal is given in advance of the meeting.
3. Applicant must provide assurance of compliance with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations, especially Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.
4. Applicant must provide assurance to operate and maintain proposed facility if a designated first party fails to do so. An example of this situation would be if a civic organization is given operation and maintenance responsibilities by the applicant
5. Applicant must provide brief narrative of how the project will be made accessible to the handicapped.
6. Any LWCF Grant request seeking funds for facilities rehabilitation must include a short explanation of the nature of the rehabilitation effort. This explanation should include an estimate as to the current age of the facility and what preventative maintenance procedures, if any, have been utilized in the past.
7. Applicant may submit a copy of a Master Plan or Recreation Assessment, if one has been done on the local level. If included in a regional plan by the Area Development District, please submit a copy.
8. The enclosed scoring criteria will be used to evaluate and score the projects. In #4, donations can account for all of the local match or partial match. No points will be awarded for an overmatch of local funds.

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LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND SCORING CRITERIA

1. Applicant's administration of previous LWCF Grants. Considerations include effective coordination; sound development in accord with cost and time estimates; timely submittal of billing and closeout documentation; conformance with LWCF Manual Section 6 (f) provisions; and operation and maintenance of completed projects.

Excellent - No problems requiring state-level administrative attention; or no previous grant.

(25 pts)

Good - Problems minimal, quickly corrected, or beyond the control of the applicant.

(20 pts)

Fair - Performance adequate, but marked by significant or persistent problems.

(10 pts)

Poor - Applicant has experienced serious difficulty in project administration or the operation the operation and maintenance of completed facilities.

(0 pts)

2. Project facility is located at a site which can be effectively used by user population.

Project site is centrally located or within reasonable driving distance of user population.

(15 pts)

Project site is not located close to user population by virtue of facility type e.g., nature preserve or boat ramp, and must be accessed by car.

(10 pts)

Project site is in a remote location and is not easily accessible by car.

(0 pts)

3. At least fifty (50%) percent of the grant request is directly attributable to the primary recreation facility being developed or renovated. A primary facility is defined as the single activity component which provides for the outdoor recreational needs of the planned user population i.e., tennis courts, softball field, skate park, swimming pool, etc. A support facility is an element i.e., restrooms, utilities, concession stands, lights, etc.

50% or greater

(10 pts)

Less than 50%

(0 pts)

4. The applicant has the capability to operate and maintain the project once completed.

The sponsor has a full-time park or recreation department capable of providing necessary facility maintenance and upkeep.

(25 pts)

The sponsor has demonstrated the ability to provide necessary facility maintenance and upkeep using other full-time personnel.

(15 pts)

The sponsor has the ability to provide necessary facility maintenance and upkeep using part-time personnel.

(10pts)

The sponsor has a designated group or organization that has the ability of providing necessary facility maintenance and upkeep.

(5 pts)

5. The applicant currently has an open LWCF Project.

No

(10 pts)

Yes

(0 pts)

6. Special Populations – This project provides and/or improves outdoor recreation by persons with disabilities, older citizens, economically disadvantaged and other special populations or groups.

This project provides and/or improves outdoor recreation for two or more special populations.

(10 pts)

This project provides and/or improves outdoor recreation for one special population group.

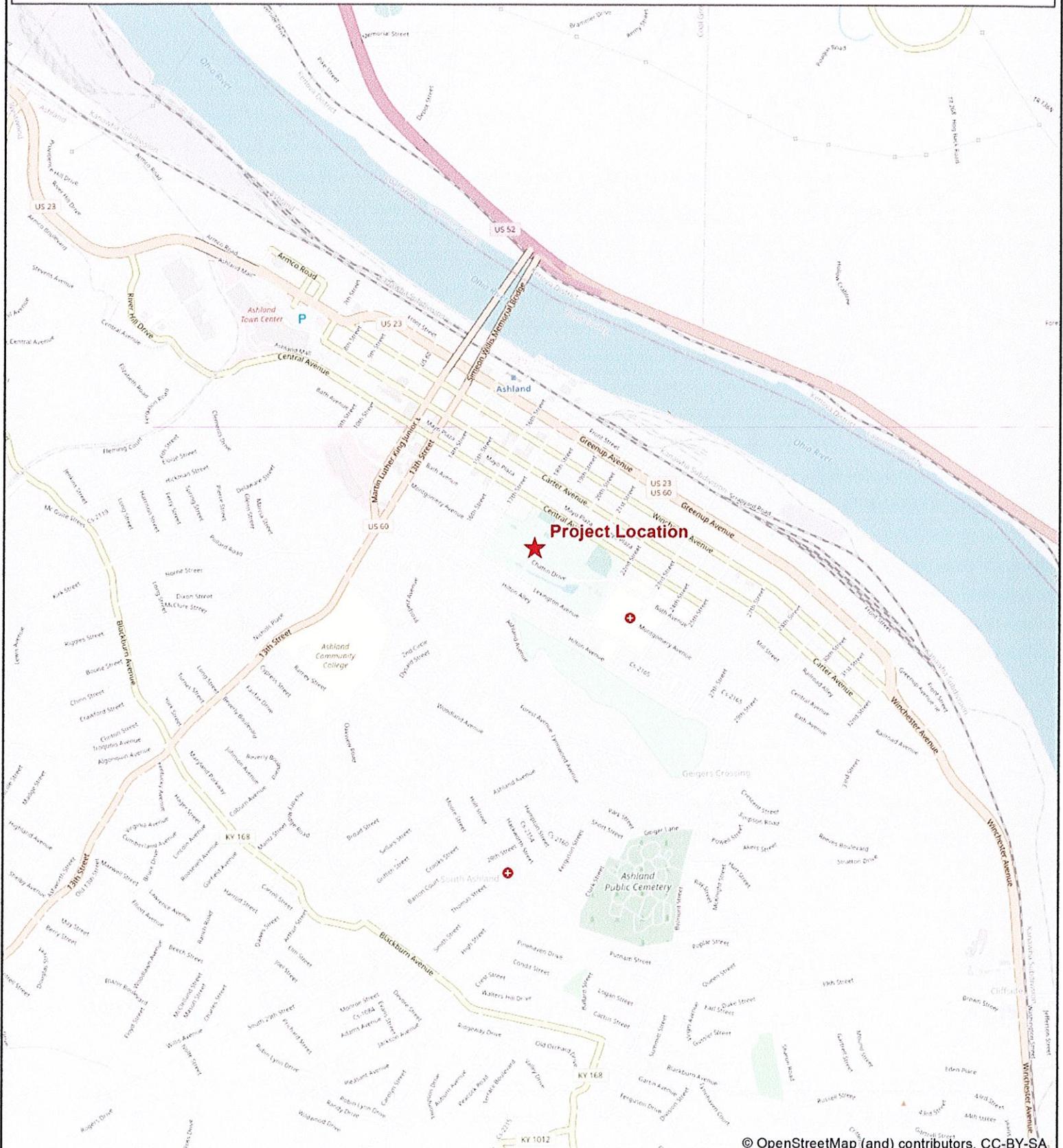
(5 pts)

This project does not provide and/or improve outdoor recreation for special populations.

(0 pts)



Ashland Central Park New Inclusive Playground Project Location



Ashland Central Park - New Inclusive Playground Boundary & Site Plan



CENTRAL PARK INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND DESIGN CONCEPTUAL DRAWINGS



CENTRAL PARK INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND DESIGN CONCEPTUAL DRAWINGS (CONT.)

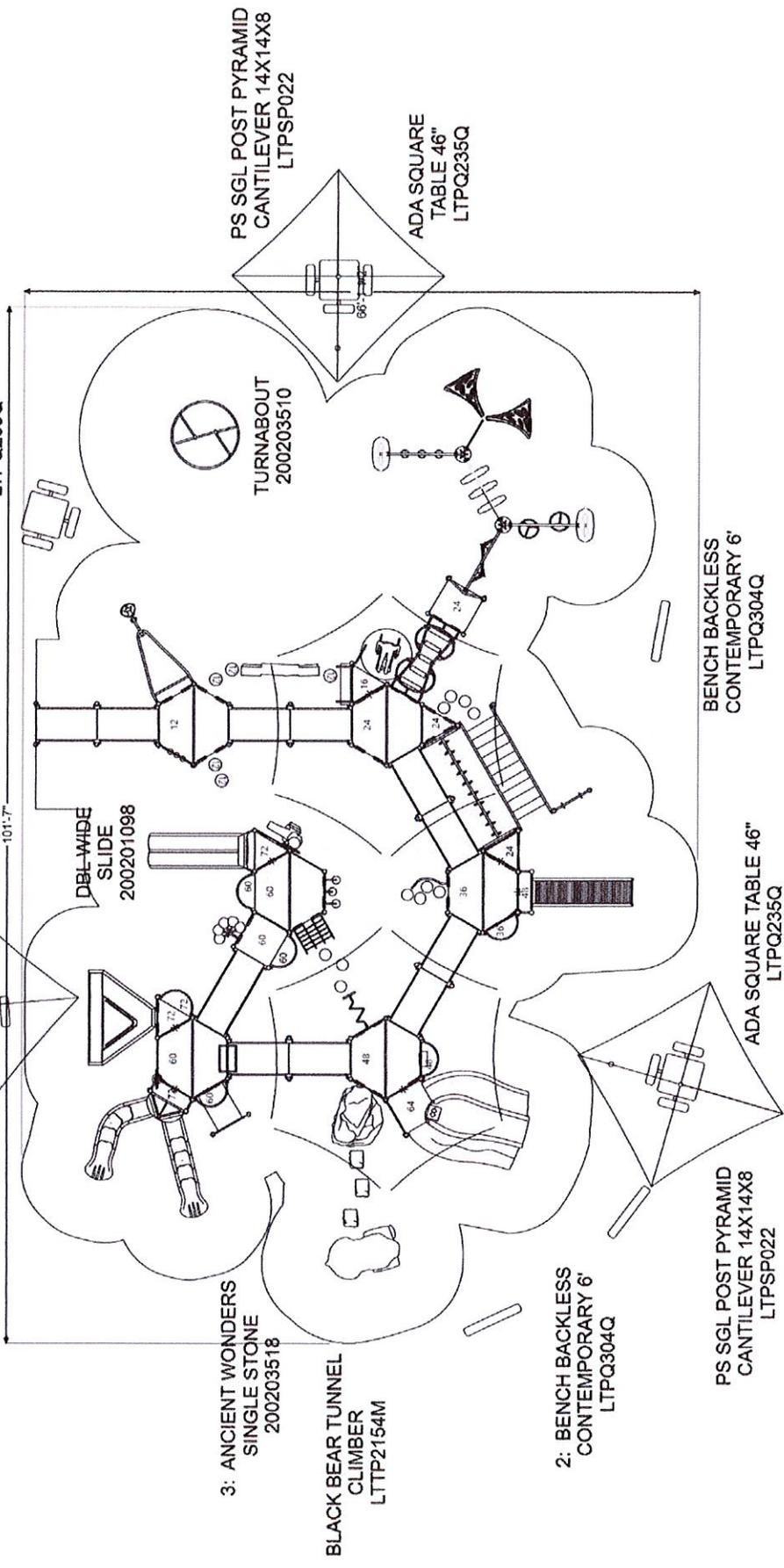


PS SGL POST PYRAMID
CANTILEVER 14X14X8
LTPSP022

ADA SQUARE TABLE 46"
LTPQ235Q

BENCH BACKLESS
CONTEMPORARY
LTPQ304Q

ADA SQUARE TABLE 46"
LTPQ235Q



3: ANCIENT WONDERS
SINGLE STONE
200203518

BLACK BEAR TUNNEL
CLIMBER
LTTP2154M

2: BENCH BACKLESS
CONTEMPORARY 6"
LTPQ304Q

PS SGL POST PYRAMID
CANTILEVER 14X14X8
LTPSP022

ADA SQUARE TABLE 46"
LTPQ235Q

BENCH BACKLESS
CONTEMPORARY 6"
LTPQ304Q

PS SGL POST PYRAMID
CANTILEVER 14X14X8
LTPSP022

ADA SQUARE
TABLE 46"
LTPQ235Q

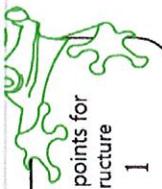
TURNABOUT
200203510

Playground Layout Compliance:

- ASTM F1487 - Playground Equipment for Public Use.
- CPSC Handbook for Public Playground Safety



The play components identified in this plan are IPENAS certified. The use and layout of these components conform to the requirements of ASTM F1487.



LEED points for
this structure
1

ASHLAND CENTRAL PARK - LWCF PICS

ALL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT SHOWN WILL BE REMOVED DUE TO **AGE (25+ YEARS)** & **SAFETY CONCERNS**

