

## MEMORANDUM



**TO:** RANDY AULER, DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES *Rauler*  
ROB HAYES, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES

**FROM:** MATT WIKTOROWSKI, FIELD OPERATIONS SENIOR MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** TIM POPE PLAY STRUCTURE SEALING

**DATE:** JUNE 30, 2009

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In the summer of 1997, the Tim Pope Memorial Play Structure was constructed near the Eight Mile Rd. entrance of ITC Community Sports Park. The structure was a custom community build project made primarily of Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA), treated southern yellow pine. Design of the structure included two play areas with age specific events. The first is a tot lot with equipment for children ages 2-5, and the second is designed for children ages 5-12. Both areas include swings, climbers, bridges and platforms.

On April 2, 2008 a comprehensive independent audit was completed by Site Masters Inc. of Cincinnati, Ohio. The audit was based on recommendations of the ASTM F1487-07 Standard Performance Safety Specification for Public Use Playground Equipment, and the surfacing was evaluated using criteria set forth by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). In addition to the ASTM and CPSC reports, an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), evaluation was also performed.

This 2008 audit identified seven areas of concern. The following is a list of items and actions taken by staff to correct the items.

- 1) *The protective surfacing is significantly below its designed depth and may in fact not provide the attenuation required for compliance, in particular the areas under the swing seats. Further the lack of protective surfacing under the slide exit regions creates a potential problem, as the exit areas are too far above the protective surfacing. Secondly, the lack of surfacing and maintenance prevent the full use of the play area by the people using mobility devices.*

**Action: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff restored surfacing to adequate depth markings as part of an annual maintenance program**

- 2) *The truck climber in the Tot Area has a serious protrusion because the wood headlamp is broken, and the fastening hardware is fully exposed.*

**Action: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff removed the protrusion hazard**

- 3) *There are exposed concrete footers around the two racing car spring toys.*

**Action: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff restored surfacing to adequate depth as part of an annual maintenance program**

4) *The Track/Trolley Ride hand grip is a suspended item that is not compliant and needs to be raised to have no more than 7 inches of chain.*

***Action: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff shortened the Chain to <7 inches.***

5) *The swing hangers in the 5-12 area need to be tightened to the wood beam or replaced.*

***Action: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff tightened swing hangers to the stabilizing beam.***

6) *As designed the structure is not compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)/Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) and without a significant investment in redesign and construction it never will be.*

***Action: Submitted for Capital Outlay Project Replacement (Not Funded), Submitted for DNR Grant Funding (Denied)***

7) *The condition of (what is believed to be southern yellow pine CCA treated) the wood on most of the equipment, including the structural members, railings and enclosures requires significant refurbishing.*

***Action: As decks and railings become worn from wearing against metal components, or are vandalized, staff replaces the custom parts with composite materials. It is suggested that the wooden portions of the structure are coated with sealer every 12 months. Power washing and application of a sealant was completed by Reasonable Improvements, LLC on June 26, 2009 in the amount of \$2,675. (Please reference attached photos).***

The Department of Public Services continues to inspect and maintain the Tim Pope Play Structure, as it does with all other play units contained in the parks system. We are always looking for assistance with any parks maintenance projects. The department has initiated conversations with Eagle Scout candidates to see if they would be willing to assist with annual coating our wooden structure, as well as, receiving quotes from contractors to supply the materials and perform the work.



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# ITC Community Sports Park Tim Pope Memorial Play Structure

This year, the ITC Community Sports Park, Tim Pope Memorial Play Structure got a facelift. In June of 2009, the structure and perimeter fence was power washed, stained and sealed in an effort to maintain the structures beauty.



Children are treated to a spacious, fun and age appropriate play area.



A variety of activities are available for the children to enjoy!



The picket fence provides safety and security for our children. A special area of the fence is designated for "In Memory of" pickets.