

MEDFORD PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

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Olsrud Playground Nearing Completion Volunteers Needed for Dec. 8-9 Final Assembly

Contacts:

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(Medford, Nov. 30, 2018) – After several weeks of waiting for missing parts and customized features to arrive, final assembly of the Olsrud Family Community Playground at Bear Creek Park is ready to happen.

The Medford Parks and Recreation Department seeks at least 40 skilled volunteers to assist City staff and playground construction captains with part assembly and installation from 8 a.m. to dusk or as needed on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 8-9. The type of volunteers needed, rain or shine, should have experience using power tools and the physical ability to help lift, hold or connect large slides and swing apparatus. Individuals experienced in the carpentry or construction fields are ideal.

To volunteer, contact Michael Mace at 541-774-2695 or michael.mace@cityofmedford.org.

If all goes as planned amid several remaining variables, the long-awaited custom-built playground could open as soon as mid-December.

Since the volunteer-build week concluded on Oct. 6, contractors and staff completed installation of fencing, asphalt and concrete walkways, and as many of the 4,600 surface tiles as possible despite the absence of several major playground features.

Meanwhile, much-needed playground contributions continue to flow into the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation, including grant awards from the Robert and Frances Chaney Foundation (\$10,000), the Oregon Community Foundation (\$10,000), the Marlan Morse Foundation (\$10,000) and the Carpenter Foundation (\$5,000), upping the external fundraising total to over \$376,000. Customized playground fence pickets are still available for \$100/each by visiting playmedford.com.

The City kicked off the effort to replace the popular 30-year-old wooden playground with a larger, modern and more accessible version on Oct. 26, 2017, when students from Roosevelt and Hoover elementary schools participated in a design charrette.

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