



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Ryan Longoria
Director of Recreation and Sports
(989) 773-5329
rlongoria@mt-pleasant.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 11, 2016

**Crowdfunding campaign launched for Timber Town 2.0;
\$50,000 goal to win matching grant through MEDC and MSHDA's
Public Spaces Community Places initiative**

MT. PLEASANT, Mich. – The City of Mt. Pleasant has launched a fundraising campaign to support the Timber Town 2.0 project. This one-of-a-kind, universally accessible playground structure will replace the 22-year-old Timber Town playscape at Island Park.

Administered through the crowdfunding organization, Patronicity, the effort aims to raise \$50,000 by the campaign's completion on Nov. 4. If the goal is met, the project will receive a matching grant with funds made possible by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and Michigan State Housing Development Authority's (MSHDA) "Public Spaces Community Places" program.

Built by the community in 1994, Island Park's Timber Town has become a place where people and families from all walks of life gather to play, relax and create memories. However, due to aging infrastructure and other structural challenges, the time to rebuild the playground is now.

Designed with input from hundreds of area elementary school children and members of the community, the new playscape will be constructed by volunteers over five days in May 2017, much like the original project more than two decades ago. The full design plan will be built on the existing Timber Town footprint and will be universally accessible. It includes areas for children ages 2-5 and 5-12, while also serving as a destination for recreation and fun for people of all ages.

The City of Mt. Pleasant has already committed \$243,800 towards the project and looks to raise a portion of the final budget needs through the "Public Spaces Community Places" crowdgrant program. "What's special about this project is you'll be able to see your dollars at work for years to come as kids and their families enjoy this new space," said the City's Director of Recreation and Sports Ryan Longoria. "We want to encourage the community to donate by Nov. 4 so their contribution can make double the impact."

"This project is not possible without the help of the people of Mt. Pleasant and the surrounding area," said Amanda Boyle, co-chair of the Timber Town 2.0 Citizens Committee. "We want to involve as many people as we can to make this happen for the kids. We also want to establish that community ownership – if we all work together, we own it together."

To make a donation or to learn more, go to www.patronicity.com/TimberTown2.0 or contact Lisa at the City of Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Department at 989-779-5333.

###

See attached photo: Designed with input from local kids, the plans for Timber Town 2.0 were revealed in August.

Rendered in Forest Palette
with Blue Tire Swing and
Tot/Expression Swing Frames
and Green HDPE. Custom
Citadel Tower and
PrimeTime Roof.

