



City of De Pere

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New 'inclusive' playground opens at Voyageur Park in De Pere

De Pere, WI: A brand new, "inclusive" playground is now open for children of all ages and abilities at Voyageur Park in De Pere.

Local children had their first chance to enjoy the playground system on Thursday, May 10, during a "Grand Opening" event. On hand to speak at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were De Pere Mayor Mike Walsh and Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry Marty Kosobucki.

The new Voyageur Park playground is not only Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant, which is required by law for any newly-built or renovated playground, its design takes things a step further. It was designed to be an inclusive playground, meaning it is not only accessible (easy for a person who uses a mobility device to maneuver to and around), but also encourages and enables children of all abilities to engage with one another.

A long ramp way, four slides, climbing ropes, interactive music activities, swings for all abilities and merry-go-round, are just a few features of the park.

"Whether you have adventurous kids looking to climb high areas and go down long slides, or children with special needs or mobility limitations, Voyageur has a variety of amenities and features for everyone - all ages and all abilities," Kosobucki said.

The play area also features poured fall surfacing; the safest surface for a playground.

In all, the playground cost was roughly \$300,000. Roughly \$200,000 of this project cost was paid for using De Pere's share of the Brown County stadium tax relief funding. The inclusive playground replaces previous equipment that was more than two decades old at Voyageur.

For more information and other updates on De Pere programs and parks, follow the De Pere Parks, Recreation and Forestry Facebook page or visit de-pere.org.



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