



Inclusive ADA Playground

A Playground Where Everyone Belongs

McFerren Park
Hoopeston, Illinois

Community Vision & Funding Packet

Prepared by the Hoopeston Inclusive ADA Playground Committee

INCLUSIVE
PLAY AREA

ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM
& INFORMATION KIOSK

6' FENCE &
MAIN GATE

ADDITIONAL
INCLUSIVE
EQUIPMENT

EXISTING
SWINGS

EXISTING
PLAY
EQUIPMENT

OPEN PLAY
& GREEN SPACE

GAZEBO

PAVILION
(ACCESSIBLE)

SENSORY
GARDEN

	CONCRETE PATH
	POURED RUBBER SAFETY SURFACE
	LANDSCAPING
	BENCHES
	ACCESSIBLE RAMP (ADA)

The Vision

The Hoopeston Inclusive ADA Playground Committee is working to transform an existing playground at McFerren Park into a safe, accessible, and genuinely inclusive recreation space. The goal is not to create a separate playground only for children with disabilities. It is to build a better playground for everyone - one intentionally designed so children and families of differing physical, developmental, sensory, and communication abilities can share the same space.

The site already includes playground equipment, a pavilion, gazebo, open green space, swings, and other recreational amenities. The project would build on those assets rather than start over, adding accessible routes, inclusive equipment, safety surfacing, secure fencing, a restroom/resource facility, communication supports, lighting, and other features that make the entire area easier and safer to use.



Current McFerren Park playground area. The project is intended to preserve and build upon the park's existing structures and open green space.

Why McFerren Park?

McFerren Park serves Hoopeston and surrounding rural communities in northern Vermilion and southern Iroquois counties. It also hosts the annual National Sweetcorn Festival and other community activities, giving accessibility improvements at this location the potential to benefit both regular park users and thousands of regional visitors.

The committee's current planning target is approximately \$400,000-\$500,000 for the initial project scope. Full or partial funding is being sought, and individual project components can also provide meaningful opportunities for partnership.

A Vision for What Could Be



CONCEPTUAL DREAM RENDERING

This image is not a finalized site plan, construction drawing, or commitment to specific equipment or placement. It is a conceptual rendering intended to illustrate what the Hoopeston Inclusive ADA Playground could become as funding, professional design, accessibility requirements, and community partnerships come together. Final equipment, pathways, structures, landscaping, and placement will be determined through the planning and construction process.

Funding Request

Dear Community Partner,

The Hoopeston Inclusive ADA Playground Committee is seeking partners to help us create a safe, accessible, and genuinely inclusive recreation space for children and families in Hoopeston and the surrounding rural communities.

Our vision is simple: a playground where everyone belongs.

Rather than creating a separate play space specifically for children with disabilities, we are working to transform an existing playground at McFerren Park into a place where children and families of all abilities can play, gather, and participate together. The park already contains playground equipment, a pavilion, gazebo, open green space, and other recreational amenities. Our goal is to build upon those existing resources by removing barriers, improving safety and accessibility, and adding inclusive features that allow more people to fully enjoy the park.

Choose What You Want to Help Build

Sponsor a section, sponsor a feature, or help complete the park as a whole.

The project is organized around four play areas identified by the committee, plus the accessibility and infrastructure that connects and supports the entire space. Individual gifts within a section count toward that section's overall sponsorship goal.

1 MAIN INCLUSIVE PLAY AREA \$150,000 The centerpiece: a large ramp-accessible commercial play structure with elevated and ground-level play. Primary inclusive structure \$150,000	2 ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AREA \$40,000 A southeast play zone with additional inclusive motion, social, and ground-level experiences. Wheelchair-accessible spinner \$20,000 Accessible seesaw \$15,000 Sand / water ground-level play \$5,000
3 SENSORY GARDEN \$30,000 A calmer interactive area supporting sensory exploration, communication, music, and varied ways to engage. Sensory play area \$15,000 Communication / music / sensory \$15,000	4 INCLUSIVE SWING AREA \$10,000 Accessible and supportive swing experiences designed to expand participation alongside traditional play. Adaptive / inclusive swing area \$10,000
PLAY AREA SPONSORSHIP GOALS \$230,000 Section totals are planning goals; final equipment will be selected through City planning and procurement.	

Accessibility & Infrastructure

These improvements make the entire inclusive play space safer, connected, and usable.

These are not background expenses. Each one is a visible, essential part of creating a park where families of differing abilities can enter, move through, play, gather, and participate together.

Accessible Safety Surfacing

\$55,000

Impact-attenuating accessible surfacing concentrated under and around play equipment where required.

Accessible Concrete Pathway System

\$45,000

Connected accessible routes linking entrances, play areas, pavilion, gazebo, restroom/resource center, and gathering spaces.

Accessible Restroom & Resource Center

\$75,000

An accessible restroom facility with space for information and resources for families and community partners.

Safety Fencing & Accessible Gates

\$30,000

A six-foot safety perimeter around the desired play area, with accessible pedestrian gates and service access.

Park Lighting & Electrical Improvements

\$30,000

Lighting and electrical improvements to support visibility, safety, and use of the park during posted hours.

CURRENT WORKING SPONSORSHIP PLAN

\$465,000

Play areas: \$230,000 | Whole-park accessibility & infrastructure: \$235,000

Planning amounts are preliminary and may be refined as professional design, bids, and final equipment selections are completed.

Meet the Committee

The Hoopeston Inclusive ADA Playground Committee brings together a strong mix of gifts, skills, professions, community connections, and lived experience. The committee's experience ranges from psychology, general education, special education, occupational therapy, and ministry to family experience with autism and other special needs. These perspectives strengthen our shared goal of creating a public space that is safer, more accessible, and more welcoming for every family.

Adam Wood	Jessi Enyiaku
Holly Eyrich	Kristi Hudson
Bre Wallace	Rhonda Carter

Committee Chair

Adam Wood

Adam is a local pastor, nonprofit leader, and community advocate with a background in psychology, autism, ministry, music, and organizational leadership. He earned an Associate of Arts in Psychology: Christian Counseling and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology with an Autism minor from Liberty University, as well as a Graduate Certificate in Digital Media Communications from Full Sail University. He is currently continuing graduate study. As the father of an autistic child, Adam brings both professional knowledge and lived family experience to the committee's work. His interest in the project is rooted in creating public spaces where children and families of differing abilities can participate together rather than requiring families affected by disability to seek out separate spaces.

Interested in Funding or Supporting the Project?

Trish Stebbins

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