



PEARLAND'S FIRST ALL INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND Sponsorship Packet – April 2021

## INTRODUCTION



FOREVER PARKS FOUNDATION OF PEARLAND

Hello Friends of Forever Parks Foundation of Pearland,

Thank you for your interest in supporting the vision of the Forever Parks Foundation to bring Pearland its first all inclusive playground. Established in 2015, the Forever Parks Foundation is an independent 501 (c)(3) whose mission is to partner with the City to establish premier parks, facilities and programs in Pearland.

As a longtime resident of Pearland, and mom to four active kids, I am passionate about providing accessible outdoor recreational experiences for all families in our region. Unfortunately, most playgrounds you see today are not inclusive or accessible to children who are living with physical or intellectual disabilities. We hope to change that by building a regional destination for all families to enjoy. We will work to establish a space to play that:

- Empowers children living with disabilities to be full, valued members of their communities
- Inspires advocates in the community to create sustainable social inclusion
- Brings diverse partnerships together with a shared vision

This unique, state-of-the-art play space will meet critical child development milestones by offering a wide variety of activities that support a child's physical, cognitive, social, and sensory needs.

Help us "plant the seeds" for Pearland's first all inclusive playground. We'd love for you to consider a donation. No amount is too small – or too big! Through your support, we will be able to give the gift of play to ALL!





Kelly Moody, Forever Parks Foundation – Board President

# OUR VISION – BUILD PEARLAND'S FIRST ALL INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND

As Pearland grows, so does our community of families living with disabilities, both physical and intellectual. As the diversity of our area continues to expand, there is a clear need for a playground to serve as a supportive and therapeutic learning environment for all families. In December 2019, the Forever Parks Foundation Board voted to commit to making this vision a reality by bringing Pearland it's first all inclusive playground, which will serve a wide spectrum of children living with disabilities as well as being engaging and challenging for typically developing children.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated space adjacent to the Phase II construction at the Sports Complex at Shadow Creek Ranch. Our dedicated space is 9200 square feet next to the Miracle Field currently under construction. This playground will be built using funds through donations and grants from foundations, businesses and families throughout the region.

We have partnered with a global leader in the field of inclusive playground design, **Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration**, whose mission is to create inclusive playgrounds and education programs which unite children of all abilities. *www.inclusionmatters.org* 

We kicked off fundraising in late 2020 and intend to complete fundraising for our \$900,000+ budget by the end of 2021. Groundbreaking will then occur in early 2022 with construction complete that year.

Upon completion, we will work with our design and programming partner Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration, and local school districts to implement educational programs to further foster inclusion and build advocacy in and out of our classrooms.



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For more information on our progress to date, visit: <u>www.foreverparksfoundation.org/playgroundprogress</u>

# PLAYGROUND PROJECT - SPORTS COMPLEX AT SHADOW CREEK RANCH

It is important to provide all children with increased opportunities to play outdoors and learn through exploration of an enriched environment. This is more important for children living with developmental delays because they may lack access to outdoor play situations that are available to their typically developing peers. Our inclusive playground project will be designed to maximize inclusivity and access for all children, while also encouraging them to play independently from their parents or adult caregivers, while providing fun opportunities to play and learn, enhanced by natural surroundings.

**Over the past few decades, there has been significant research supporting the importance of play in childhood development.** As children play, they develop critical cognitive, emotional, social, and physical skills. Play also contributes to proper brain development. The skills children learn through play in the early years set the stage for future learning and success.

**Children need open space to expand their learning.** The playground will provide children with appropriate physical challenges to strengthen their motor skills. Playing outdoors in a specially designed accessible playground also provides an enhanced sensory experience. Some children need to be safely supported near more isolated play elements and to play independently near their friends. Other children need more vigorous exercise and stronger input from the environment to register sensations such as movement and touch. The challenge of walking a balance beam, climbing a play structure or manipulating an activity panels can meet these needs.

**Outdoor play increases health benefits by providing space and greater opportunities for more active play.** Children living with disabilities often have even fewer opportunities for development of physical fitness due to physical limitations and or a caregiver who may not be knowledgeable about how to help the child safely enjoy the setting. Our playground will be designed with play opportunities that engage all children, offering something for everyone to experience on their own or with their friends and family!

### To follow is the design created by Inclusion Matters based on the vision of the Pearland community.



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# Our Playground – Site Plan



### TYING TO OUR LOCAL LANDMARKS - PEARSCAPE ENTRY ARCH

**Pearscape is a Public Art Sculpture Trail** envisioned by the Pearland Convention & Visitors Bureau. Nineteen fiberglass cast pears artistically painted by local artists are placed throughout the city with the goal of promoting cultural tourism and community pride. The importance of this project was evident when the community gave us feedback that a Pear theme would resonate for the first **Inclusive Playground in Pearland**.

The main entrance to the playground is flanked by two lifelike Pear tree trunks, built with welded internal steel tubing and a rebar skeleton, coated with 1" sprayed sculptural concrete, painted and stained. Metal panels, attached to the GFRC branches will support actual images of the nineteen pears installed throughout the City of Pearland.

A *Pearscape* map and legend notes the Pear name, artist and installed locations. Serving as a Look n' Find Panel, it will encourage children to search for Pear images throughout the playground, similar to the children's Scavenger Hunt organized by the Visitor's Bureau. Different pear views will challenge a child to match a playground pear with one shown on the map. This engaging activity is extremely beneficial to children who are non-verbal as it builds communication skills. Our hope is to create the next generation of Pear identifiers as the children learn about their communities' species, fruiting schedule, lifespan and more!

**Donation:** \$80,100 (Entry Arch/Pearscape Map Panel)





# ENTRY PLAY STRUCTURE



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Our multi-age *Play structure* reflects on a child's whimsical love of play, nature and learning. This magical multi-level world will transport children to a fully accessible fantasy wonderland themed with pear and bird accents. Accessible via concrete ramp through a secondary entrance gate, climbing or wheeling to 6' above grade is the ultimate challenge. The colorful structure palate provides contrast throughout to help children living with visual impairments navigate the playground.

Our playground provides a comprehensive site layout, allowing children to gain confidence and successfully participate in play. Children can effectively access, explore, and engage at their own level. Multiple slides, accessible via stations. wheelchair transfer provide opportunities for vestibular stimulation, mobility and sheer fun. The Roller Slide encourages sensory body awareness. The wobblv *Clatterbridge*, pod steppers, balance beams and disc challenge all develop balancing skills and body awareness. The Air Dancer challenges a child's ability to sense oneself in space, the basis of Proprioceptive stimulation. Accessible sensory



activity panels are provided on deck and ground level. A child's visual/auditory processing and fine motor skills will be challenged and developed as they spin the *Color Splash* and *Kaleidoscope* panels, communicate through the *PES* (Picture Exchange System) panel, or see the light reflection of the *Marble* panel. The *Mirror* panel can help with learning body parts and motor planning as children who exhibit difficulty understanding facial expressions use mirrors as a way of understanding feelings and communication. Resilient surfacing will cushion any unexpected falls while linking play spaces. Benches and shading offer a comfortable place to rest and relax maintaining parent oversight, providing for children who may need to limit their time in the sun.

Donation: \$273,360 (Equipment) \$62,525 (Resilient Surfacing)

## SPINNING AND ROCKING

**Spinning & Rocking** elements are popular play equipment for children to practice movement opportunities that promote physical activity while providing vestibular and proprioceptive stimulation. The *We-Go Round* provides levels of sensorial and motor stimulation as children experience speed and controlled movement. For children living with autism, a group vestibular play element helps get them moving, allowing big muscle movement.

The **We-Saw** provides opportunities for multiple participants to play together challenging their body awareness, balance and coordination, and the entire vestibular system. The accessible seats are large enough that parents can sit and hold their younger children in their lap. The center platform provides a different sensation for a child who may lack back support.

The *Curva Spinner* allows for solitary or face-to-face play for one or more children as they improve their body control and synchronize their movements.



We-Saw: \$14,415



**Curva Spinner:** \$2,535





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Total Donation: \$60,460 (Equipment) \$27,265 (Resilient Surfacing)

## SWING AND SWAY ZONE

**Swinging:** All kids love to swing, but for children living with developmental challenges, swings are an essential part of the playground experience. Swings combine coordination and an elevated sensation and awareness of height with fun and speed. Repetition for children living with sensory processing disorders, or autism can be stimulating and relaxing. Accessible seats will offer therapeutic support and opportunities for all children to enjoy the swings safely.



#### We-Go Swing: \$41,610

The *Friendship Swing* offers face-to face play and the *We-Go Swing* allows children utilizing wheelchairs not only access to the play element, but encourages socialization since a standard bench rests opposite the wheelchair space for friends to use. *This is the first installation of this new Landscape Structures product in Texas!* 



**Swaying:** The controlled, rhythmic and repetitive movement of the accessible *Sway Fun* can provide all children with a sense of calm. Everyone can enjoy the rhythmic movement regardless of age, disability or level of independence. **Sway Fun:** \$22,160



Friendship Swing: \$4,890 Belt/Highback Seats: \$8,930

Total Donation: \$55,430 (Equipment) \$52,890 (Resilient Surfacing)

# BALANCING OPPORTUNITIES



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**Balancing:** The body's vestibular system is responsible for balance and motion perception and plays an essential role in maintaining head and body posture.

*The Wobble Pod* has multiple movement opportunities for mobility and sensory needs. It can be use individually or with a friend. Children will gain further awareness of their own body, stimulating other senses.

**Half and Full Ball Pods** allow children to work on leg stability and strength with varying elevation change and levels of challenge. We have provided two different types of climbing experiences for 2-5 year olds so they can learn to master gravity while they play. The tactile surface allows their feet to grip the surface safely. For the *climbing* experience the balls are touching so children don't accidentally fall in between each. For the *stepping* experience they are separated by 10-12 inches for a true stepping challenge with varying difficulty. Both of these activities invite children to use their vestibular system to balance and gain awareness of their own body.

**Parallel Bars** are set low to the ground at an appropriate height for small children. They provide an opportunity to practice standing upright on their own or with friends in a safe and supported way. Children who don't require support enjoy following the path, and wheelchair users can pull themselves alongside their friend.



Wobble Pod: \$2,080

Climbing/Stepping Pods: \$7,650



Parallel Bars: \$1,390

Total Donation: \$11,120 (Equipment) \$28,290 (Resilient Surfacing)

## SENSORY PLAY

**Sensory Processing:** A successful sensory play environment provides multi-sensory (auditory, visual, tactile) stimuli, organized as separate nodes, offering deliberate cues to build cognitive skills through repetitive solitary and parallel play. This layout will allow children to effectively access, explore, engage and participate at their own level.

**The Sensory Tunnel** offers kids, particularly those living with autism, a place to escape the hustle and bustle of a busy playground, providing a quiet space for overstimulated kids. Pear peek holes and marble inlays offer textural opportunities for those living with cognitive disabilities, developing a child's concentration and coordination skills. Color contrast will aid a child's movement if they are visually impaired. The tunnel is wheelchair accessible from grade or off the concrete ramp landing.

**The Bird Hut** is another wonderful opportunity for escape or cooperative play. Children living with autism or attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) may need a quiet cozy nook to be on their own or regroup with a few friends. The interactive table top bird panel also educates children on the native birds of Pearland.

The *Leaf Theme Activity Panel* offers a separate node of play, a tactile and visual play experience. The cool or warm touch of the marbles depending on the weather elicits different sensory responses. The Leaf Manipulative Panel develops concentration skills as one navigates the branch path, and the bells offer a different auditory sound than those in the music area.

Total Donation: \$85,040 (Equipment) \$18,860 (Resilient Surfacing)



Sensory Tunnel: \$39,540 Bird Hut: \$35,050



Leaf Activity Panel: \$10,450

### SENSORY



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The Warble Chimes

produce warm, rich,

tones

resonate for up to

five seconds, evoking

the feel of finger

painting with sound.

As the mallet gently

sweeps across the

Chimes, sound waves

waft through the air

similar to a harp,

melodies that can be

enjoyed by all.

pleasing

creating

that

full

**Sound and Music** are powerful motivators for children and can provide connections between them and their peers, teachers and parents and are important components to include in our playground. Music benefits children living with sensory processing needs, helping build auditory and visual skills.

Musical components offer an additional sensory element of play; the opportunity to observe independently while building auditory skills. Music is especially beneficial for the visually impaired. It is a wonderful opportunity for cooperative play for children living with autism or cognitive disabilities.

The Jingle or Ditty Metallophones have beautiful twinkly sound with nine notes in a small but child friendly design. It is a small Metallophone instrument and its bright color hints of Spring no matter what time of year it is played.



The **Babel Drum** is positioned at a lower height, so younger children can easily play the instrument. No musical experience is necessary to create interesting sounds and melodies! It can be played with hands or fingers for different sounds.

Rhapsody Music: \$11,805 Babel Tongue Drum - \$3,065 Jingle or Ditty Metallophone - \$4,320 Warble Chimes - \$4,420

Total Donation: \$11,805 (Equipment) \$10,355 (Resilient Surfacing)

### EXTENDING TO THE CLASSROOM

Upon completion of the playground, we will continue to partner with Inclusion Matters by Shane's inspiration as well as our local school districts to implement, Together, We Are Able – the ability awareness program designed to help educate our children about accessibility and inclusiveness. The program consists of three steps:

**Classroom prep** – A 60 minute classroom ability awareness workshop that helps general education students walk through their beliefs and assumptions about disabilities while preparing them for interaction with their peers living with differences.

**Interactive field Trip** – An interactive field trip to our inclusive playground where our students living with and without disabilities are paired together for a day of play and learning.

**Follow up conversation** – A follow up 45 minute classroom workshop that helps general education students synthesize how their perceptions shifted, what they learned from their buddies at the playground, and how they can continue to use these lessons within their school and community. To learn more about the power of inclusion that is created through the Together, We Are Able education program visit – https://www.Edutopia.org/video/why-inclusion-matters-playground







### **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Pearscape Entry | \$80,100 Arch Entry Sign Look n' Find Panel

Pearscape Playstructure | \$335,885 Play Structure Resilient Surfacing

#### Spinning & Rocking | \$87,725

We-Go Round We-Saw Curva Spinner Babel Drum Junior Resilient Surfacing

#### Swing & Sway Zone | \$108,320

We-Go Swing Friendship Swing Accessible/Belt Seats Sway Fun Resilient Surfacing

### **Balancing Opportunities** | \$39,410

Wobble Pod Climbing Pods Stepping Pods Parallel Bars Resilient Surfacing

#### Sensory Play (Socialization/Quiet Time) | \$103,900

Bird Hut Sensory Tunnel Leaf Activity Panel Resilient Surfacing

### Sensory Play (Sound & Music) | \$22,100

Babel Drum Mettalophone Chimes Resilient Surfacing

#### Site Amenities | \$116,435

Benches - \$8,065 Fencing- 4' Ornamental Steel - \$61,500 Freestanding Shade - \$46,870

Construction Contingency-7% | \$60,000

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$953,865



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Sponsorship Level	Benefits
Premium Sponsor (\$100,000)	Naming rights per City approval
Goal = 2	Special event / dinner pre ribbon-cutting event
Gold Sponsor (\$50,000)	Recognition on New Pear element (near donor recognition wall)
Goal = 4	Leadership presence and photo at ground-breaking and ribbon-cutting
Silver Sponsor (\$25,000) Goal = 8	Name and color logo on Wall of Recognition and FPF website
Champion (\$10,000)	Name and black & white logo on Wall of recognition and FPF website
Goal = 10	Recognition on all promotional / media materials
Partner (\$5,000) Goal = 10	VIP access at ribbon-cutting event
Advocate (\$2,500)	Four reserved seats at ground-breaking event and ribbon-cutting event
Goal = 25	Friend of FPF Lawn Sign
Supporter (\$1,000) Goal = 75	Two reserved seats at ground-breaking event and ribbon-cutting event
Friend (\$500)	Name on Wall of recognition and FPF website
Goal = 125	Friend of FPF Car Magnet

Each level receives all benefits of the subsequent levels

# SUPPORT FROM PEARLAND MAYOR, KEVIN COLE

Dear Friend of the Forever Parks Foundation,

I'm writing to express my ardent support for the Forever Parks Foundation and their vision to bring Pearland its first all inclusive playground. In our city and region, we have a growing population of families who are impacted by those having disabilities, and we have a need to educate and advocate so all kids have access to a playground that he or she may enjoy.

I am personally passionate about this issue as I have family members who have been challenged with physical disabilities and I have seen firsthand how the inaccessibility at our playgrounds can impact a young child. I believe the gift of play is something to be enjoyed by all children and I can't wait to break ground on this outstanding project.

I have chosen to donate 50 percent of my mayoral salary to this project and encourage everyone who is able to donate to support what I believe will become a regional destination for families across Brazoria County.

Help us make our city even more inclusive!

Kevin Cole, Pearland Mayor



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# FOR MORE INFORMATION



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For additional inclusive playground project information, please click on the following links:

FAQ: <u>www.foreverparksfoundation.org/playgroundfaqs</u>

PARTNERS: Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration - <u>www.inclusionmatters.org</u> City of Pearland: <u>https://www.pearlandtx.gov/</u>

In the News: <u>https://www.houstonchronicle.com/neighborhood/pearland/news/article/Group-vows-to-build-inclusive-playground-in-15766682.php</u>

Contact: <u>foreverparksfoundation@gmail.com</u> Nikki Kamkar, 281.217.8032

> **Donations** may be mailed to: Forever Parks Foundation 4141 Bailey Road Pearland, TX 77584

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