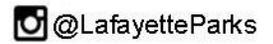
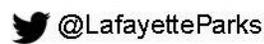
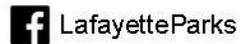


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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Lafayette Parks Department receives gift from The McAllister Foundation for new playground at McCaw Park**

**LAFAYETTE, IN** – March 29, 2017 – Today the Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department, along with the City of Lafayette, announced a generous donation of \$126,000 from The McAllister Foundation that will be used towards the construction of a new playground at McCaw Park. City leaders and parks staff gathered with the McCaw family to break ground on Phase 1 of the multi-age playground, which is set to be completed by mid-summer of this year.

The 26-acre McCaw Park is located on Lafayette's east side near the intersection of Union Street and Creasy Lane. Surrounded by open greenspace and wildflower areas, the park features three youth baseball fields, basketball courts, pickleball courts, restrooms and two picnic shelters. The new playground, which will replace the small existing playground that has become outdated since its installation more than 20 years ago, will feature a rubber surface that provides optimal safety and mobility for children of all capabilities. The new playground will accommodate ages 5-12 years old and cover more than 10,000 square feet north of the picnic shelter area near the basketball and pickleball courts. This larger, more diverse playground will add significantly to the amenities of the area and serve as a fun, safe place for children to play and socialize.

"We are very excited to be able to add this new playground to McCaw Park and are grateful for the continued support of Bill and Michele McCaw and The McAllister Foundation," stated Parks Superintendent Claudine Laufman. "McCaw Park is a great place to visit and already provides so many different opportunities for our community. This new addition is going to really enhance the visitor experience for families with children. I think both the kids and adults are going to love it!"

McCaw Park was named for long-time Lafayette Parks supporters Bill and Michele McCaw. The McCaws made a \$70,000 donation to the Parks Department in 1994 in honor of the birth of their grandson Bryce. This donation spurred the creation of the Lafayette Parks Foundation, and McCaw Park was renamed for them at that time. McCaw Park is a popular destination for the community and surrounding neighborhoods.

**[Continued on Page 2]**

The McCaw family is very excited about upcoming enhancements to McCaw. “Having grown up in a rural community just north of Lafayette, I have so many fond memories of visiting the parks as a child. The mere mention of going to Columbian Park would have my siblings and me counting down the days until our adventure. There were, and still are, so many fun things to do at the park and it gave me fond memories to cherish,” said Michele McCaw. “My hope for McCaw Park is that it becomes a place for family unity, developing new friendships, establishing a healthier lifestyle, having fun playing, and making memories that can be passed on to the next generation.”

For more information regarding the playground enhancements, please contact the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department at 765-807-1500 or visit [www.lafayette.in.gov](http://www.lafayette.in.gov).

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Phase I Rendering of McCaw Park Playground Enhancement

