

## Lincoln Basketball Court improvements expanded, thanks to a grant from the Pat Connaughton Foundation

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KENOSHA – The basketball courts at Lincoln Park will be resurfaced and upgraded this year, thanks to a \$200,000 grant from the Pat Connaughton Foundation. Three courts will be resurfaced, lighting will be updated and ADA accommodations will be added including adjustable hoops on a separate court. The foundation's donation also will fund ADA paths and design work related to the project.

Director of Parks Katie Elder announced the grant during a meeting of the Parks Commission Monday evening, stating it will "take it up 10 notches" from planned asphalt resurfacing of the basketball courts. The Parks Commission unanimously approved acceptance of the donation to expand improvements of the basketball courts at Lincoln Park. Work on the project is expected to begin later this year.

"The Parks Department is honored to have been selected by the Foundation to receive these funds. We look forward to working with the foundation on the project and in the future. This will be the first ADA basketball court in the City, and we're happy to expand recreation opportunities to people of all abilities" according to Katie Elder.

Alderperson Ruth Dyson, who represents the Lincoln Park neighborhood in District 12, said, "I am honored that Lincoln Park was chosen by the Pat Connaughton Foundation. Lincoln Park basketball courts are in dire need of repair. Once the courts have been upgraded my desire, as Alderwoman of this district, is to have our community enjoy the improvement, to respect each other while using the courts and to adhere to the City's code of conduct which will allow us to continue enjoying our Park."

The Pat Connaughton Foundation was founded in 2016 with the mission of creating access to athletics for the next generation of student-athletes through Courts, Clinics, and Character. The PCF focuses on teaching the translatable life skills sports teach us, including hard work, teamwork, leadership, accountability, and discipline. During the last eight years, the PCF has hosted 25 clinics, donated/refurbished 6 courts with 10 more underway, and impacted over 20,300 student-athletes in total. For more information/to support their mission, please visit <u>www.patconnaughtonfoundation.org</u>.