



Welcome ! We are a non-profit organization dedicated to helping communities throughout the world create universally accessible playgrounds for their children.

Our Mission

Boundless Playgrounds seeks to increase public awareness of the tremendous need for fully integrated, universally accessible and developmentally appropriate playgrounds and to demonstrate how all children benefit from them. Of equal importance, the Boundless Playgrounds team provides direct services to people, groups and corporations who want to design and develop universally accessible playgrounds so that every child in the United States will be able to ultimately reach one within an hour's drive - a minimum goal of 1,000 playgrounds.



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The Need for *Boundless Playgrounds*

Play is a fundamental joy of childhood. It is also an important way children learn to navigate the world. Children, regardless of ability or disability, need outdoor play environments to build their strength, instill a sense of self-empowerment, enjoy the sun and experience natural settings. *Boundless Playgrounds* children's parks benefit both fully able children and children with disabilities by providing opportunities for *all* children to play together side-by-side.

One child in ten (about 5 million) in the United States with disabilities does not get to experience what most children take for granted. For example, children who use wheelchairs or other means of physical support usually must abandon their special equipment and crawl in traditional playgrounds. For them, a traditional playground can be a very humiliating place. Multitudes of children with sensory disabilities (such as visual impairment) could benefit from sensory-rich play activities. Children with developmental disabilities (such as autism) need playground structures and activities where they can play quietly. By understanding the diverse needs of all children, *Boundless Playgrounds* creates unique play environments where all can flourish.

The Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) were designed to create minimum standards for accessibility with transfer decks and limited ramps. Such 'access', however, does not guaranty full integration. Rather than challenging government standards, *Boundless Playgrounds* works with communities to build their own *Boundless Playgrounds* children's parks. These special playgrounds are designed to be at least 70% accessible, enriching and fun for children of *all* abilities.



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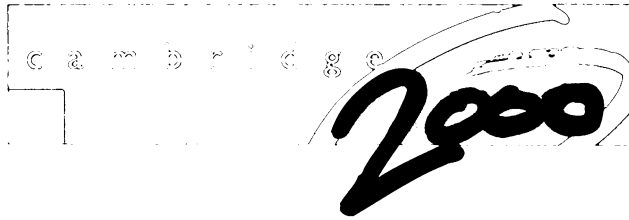
**I Want
to Help !**



News



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5.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

October 16, 2000

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 00-75, regarding a report on the feasibility of having a "Barrier Free Park" in the City, Assistant City Manager for Human Services Jill Herold reports the following:

An initial investigation into barrier free parks has revealed an organization called Boundless Playgrounds, based in Connecticut, which assists in the design of "fully integrated, universally accessible and developmentally appropriate playground." Although current City design standards for playground renovations exceed American with Disabilities (ADA) guidelines, the City will pursue further information from Boundless Playgrounds and incorporate recommendations from this organization, which would improve accessibility for all participants.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Healy", written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment



2000 Things 2 Do in 2000

S 324
Consent Agenda # 5

Relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 00-75
regarding a report on the feasibility of
having a "Barrier Free Park" in the City

In the City Council October 16, 2000

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