

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **ACCESSIBLE KAYAK LAUNCH AT ADA HAYDEN PARK**

BACKGROUND:

When developing the 2020-25 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the public input received included adding an accessible kayak launch at Ada Hayden Heritage Park. The approved 2020-2025 CIP included an accessible kayak launch in FY 2021-22. This project included funding of \$50,000 from the City and \$35,000 in private fundraising.

A group of citizens formed a group called Access Ada Hayden (AAH) and started fundraising. To date they have submitted \$36,164 to the City for the installation of an accessible kayak launch. AAH also assisted the City in securing a \$5,000 grant from the Iowa DNR. In total, there is \$91,164 available for this project.

The project cost estimate is shown below:

<u>Component:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Accessible Kayak Launch	\$54,850
Site Work	23,650
<u>Engineering Services</u>	<u>11,500</u>
Total Project Estimate	\$90,000

ACCESSIBLE KAYAK LAUNCH MANUFACTURERS:

Prior to AAH beginning its fundraising campaign, members researched multiple launch manufacturers. The group was looking for three key features in the launch for it to be truly accessible:

1. Boat chute to facilitate the movement of a boat from shore to transfer point
2. Transfer bench with slide-out platform
3. A wide variety of hand holds (grab rails and straps) to assist in transferring

The group's research included visiting several locations in Iowa and beyond. AAH determined the BoardSafe Adaptive Kayak Launch included all three features and was the best launch. Pictures of the BoardSafe launch was then used in its fundraising materials.

Additionally, staff contacted manufacturers for accessible kayak launch products, specifications, and price. Below is this information and pictures of the different kayak launches available:

ACCU Dock

Contact made with company representative: Yes
Responded to inquiry: Yes
Specifications provided: Yes
Price provided: \$30,630, materials and freight included, assembly required



Northeast Products and Services BoardSafe

Contact made with company representative: Yes
Responded to inquiry: Yes
Specifications provided: Yes
Price provided: \$54,850, materials, freight, and Boardsafe Representative Onsite during installation, assembly required



Connect-A-Dock

Contact made with company representative: Yes
Responded to inquiry: Yes, provided dock photo examples only
Specifications provided: No
Price provided: No



The Dock Doctors

Contact made with company representative: Yes

Responded to inquiry: No

Specifications provided: No

Price provided: No



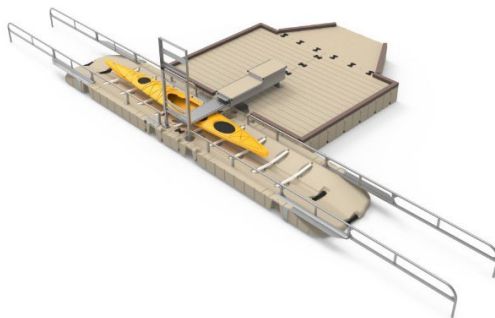
EZ Dock

Contact made with company representative: Yes

Responded to inquiry: No

Specifications provided: No

Price provided: No



Staff has reviewed the above information and found that the BoardSafe Adaptive Kayak Launch from Northeast Products and Services is the only one that provides the three features users are requesting. If staff was to follow purchasing policies and call for written bids, there may be bids with lower costs. However, cost is not the only factor to be considered as specifications will require the launch to have the features shown above.

The Parks and Recreation Commission, at its August 19, 2021 meeting, reviewed all the vendor information and recommended City Council approve the Boardsafe Adaptive Kayak Launch from Northeast Products and Services.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. a. Waive the City's Purchasing Policies and Procedures for competitive bidding and approve Northeast Products and Services as a sole source for the purchase of a BoardSafe Adaptive Kayak Launch.
- b. Award a contract to Northeast Products and Services of Fleetwood, Pennsylvania, to purchase a BoardSafe Adaptive Kayak Launch in the amount of \$54,850.
2. Direct staff to prepare a formal invitation to bid and solicit competitive bids for an adaptive kayak launch.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This project is an example of residents coming forward with an idea to meet a need within the community. In addition, AAH committed to, and was successful, in raising over \$35,000 for this project! It is important to note that AAH has identified three key features needed to ensure this launch meets the needs of the individuals for which it is intended for. Staff contacted the above manufacturers to learn and understand what each provides regarding accessible launches.

From the information provided (either in person or from website research), ACCU Dock, Connect-A-Dock, and The Dock Doctors fail to meet any of the identified features. EZ Dock provides a transfer bench with slide-out bench, but not the hand holds or boat chute. It appears that BoardSafe is the only launch that provides all the features needed to make it an accessible launch.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, as described above.