



providing direction
and guidance

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March 11, 2009

Hourigan, Kluger, and Quinn PC
600 Third Ave.
Kingston, Pennsylvania 18704

To: Sue Greenfield, and JJ. Murphy, City Administrator
Re: New Play Area @ Coal Street Park, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Dear Sue, and JJ,

As per our conversations, please see the updated notes below:

Please remember, if I can answer anything else please feel free to contact me. The unit chosen seems to have many opportunities for interactive elevated and ground level play for all. I've known Playworld Systems for over 35 years, and their engineers have always been very responsible and address all safety, and ADA requirements.

JJ, you did a great job with all of the play opportunities incorporated into this play area, on behalf of the Coal Street Playground for the City of Wilkes-Barre.

Notes and concerns from: Custom Playgrounds and Child Care Design Consultants, Inc.
(Risk Management, and ADA Consultant – Elaine Sherman)

References: ASTM F1487-07ae1 (Usually the Playground Supplier gives you a copy)

ADA/ABA July 23, 2004 – accessibility guidelines, per the Access Board

Latest as of Jan. 2009: <http://www.access-board.gov/ada-aba/final.cfm>

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A. Of course check with Miss Utility, and verify, and/or test for any underground tunnels.

B. See ASTM 9.8.4.2, 9.8.4.1. regarding overhead utility lines, etc. Recommend contacting a tree expert regarding the issue with the trees. Can they be saved, and are the types of trees appropriate for a play area? If you can save them, they need to be trimmed up to 7' above grade, and have to be 7' from any part of the unit. If you can utilize the trees for shade, you will need to dig outside of the canopy of the tree to deter hurting the trees roots.

C. Since you are ordering surfacing to cover the full 100'.9" x 81'.6", you should be able to move the unit over toward the existing fence and angle it to fit all of the amenities in the perimeters of the rubber surface, and still keep the trees, if possible. Please check with Local Zoning Laws/Codes, and Regulations, BOCA, and if Permits are needed, etc., and Dept of Natural Resources and/or Park and Recreation. Please remember you do need some form of shade besides the roofs on the decks.

Regarding compliance:

- 1. ADA- F208.1, F208.2- see chart. Include ADA Signage, or Accessible parking spaces and ground level markings and include a sign for a fine of \$250.
- 2. Chapter 4: Accessibility Routes. This applies to both indoor and outdoor applications. 403 Walking Surfaces addresses Slope (no greater than 1:20, Changes in elevation, Cross slopes and Clear Width. Ramps ADA 405 shall have a slope no steeper than 1:12. Cross slope no steeper than 1:48. Handrails are required for Ramps. Recommend a new sidewalk and accessibility curb cut from parking lot to sidewalk into the play area for wheelchair and other mobility aids that complies with ADA..
- 3. ASTM 3.1.47 Trip Hazards and to meet all ADA requirements of sections 403 and 303.
- 4. If there is a border- Recommend at least 2 accessible entrances with parking spaces for wheelchairs or carriage, etc. on the route of travel, outside of the fall zones.
- 5. ADA advisory 1008.3 Transfer Systems. Accessible transfer systems should be provided considering the distance between the transfer and the elevated play components.

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- 6. ASTM F 1487 15.1-15.5 Age appropriate supervision. Signage is needed-noting for 5 – 12 year olds, and safety requirements near the entrances to the play area. ASTM F1487 15.1-15.5
- 7. ADA 1008.2 and Chapter 4 ADA. At least one of each type of the site amenities and/or ground level play events provided must be on the accessible route of travel.
- 8. ASTM F1292, ASTM F1951-99, IPEMA Certification, and ADA requires surfacing pass both F1292, and F 1951-99. Obtain copies of the independent test results from the rubber supplier/installer verifying compliance.
- 9. Verify the length of warranty on the surfacing, and all maintenance requirements in order to meet their warranty.
- 10. Check with City Codes. You may want to include signage at the entrance to the parking lot, and whether or not you may need signs like “children at play”, or “dawn to dusk”, playground rules, beside the one in the play area, from the factory, and markings on the street to slow down.
- 11. Even though, the play area seems far enough away from the street, without a fence or barrier of any kind, a child could still run across the street without looking out for traffic, especially since there are no restrooms on the property. (that I saw?) I’m assuming that they may be in your plans since you are renovating the entire site. I would recommend that you consider some form of barrier at the street entrance, for safety and peace of mind.
- 12. Have both the equipment supplier and surfacing supplier add The City of Wilkes-Barre, as an added insured.
- 13. In my opinion, I feel that the Contractor needs at least 2 million dollars of liability insurance, and be a CPSI.

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- 14. By complying with all of the above, when you hire Elaine Sherman to do the independent, final Audit/ inspection to meet all of the ADA Laws and ASTM requirements, as well as the Poured in Place Field Testing with The Triax Test equipment, everything should be in compliance.

Once again, it was an honor to be hired to assist you with this project.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,



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CC: JJ Murphy