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For Immediate Release
May 21, 2019

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CITY OFFICIALS TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING ON CROSS STREET PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

City Preparing State Grant Application for All-Abilities Park

WESTFIELD- Mayor Brian P. Sullivan and city officials will hold a Public Meeting soliciting feedback from neighborhood residents and interested parties relative to planned improvements for Cross Street Playground on **Wednesday, June 5th, at 6:00 pm at Cross Street Playground**. The highlight of the proposed renovation includes the installation of an all-abilities playground with accessible surfacing and a playscape that integrates features to allow for people of all ability levels to play together.

The City has worked with R. Levesque Associates on a concept plan for the improvements to the park, which currently houses a small playscape, a baseball diamond, and a grass panel in need of improvement. The concept plan includes an accessible path from existing parking on the northern portion of the property to the planned playscape and pavilion area, which is located on the southern end of the property. Separate from the grant, the City is looking to improve parking on a parcel under the custody and control of the School Department to supplement parking needs for the facility.

“The rehabilitation of Cross Street Playground and specifically this all-abled playground model has generated a great deal of support from the community at large,” Mayor Sullivan said. “This meeting is to solicit support and feedback from the Cross Street neighborhood to ensure we are meeting their needs and addressing their concerns with our design,” he continued.

The state grant being sought is through the Executive Office of Energy & Environment and could provide a maximum of 70 percent reimbursement up to \$400,000.

“Cross Street Playground holds a special place for many of us in Westfield,” Mayor Sullivan said. “The site has always served an important public purpose and we hope to make it special once again,” he continued.

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