

### Agenda Item C.2 DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEM Meeting Date: January 15, 2019

OLETA

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Vyto Adomaitis, Neighborhood Services and Public Safety Director

**CONTACT:** JoAnne Plummer, Parks and Recreation Manager

**SUBJECT:** Winchester II Park Playground Improvements

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Review the siting options for the Winchester II Park Playground Improvements and provide staff direction.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The City's 2015 Recreation Needs Assessment identified five different park playgrounds that needed to be renovated for a variety of reasons. They include Winchester I, Winchester II, San Miguel, Andamar, and Santa Barbara Shores Parks. Upon further evaluation, staff identified a sixth park, Berkeley Park, with broken equipment which was immediately removed for public safety. Four of these locations require minimal engineering and are approved in the City's Adopted Capital Improvement Project List as #9066 Miscellaneous Park Improvements. The other two locations will require additional evaluation, engineering and planning and have been listed as separate Capital Improvement Projects as #9093 San Miguel Park Improvements and #9094 Santa Barbara Shores Park Improvements.

In preparation for a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the playground replacements, it was necessary to specify equipment types. City Staff proceeded by conducting two different neighborhood outreach events in May of 2017 to gather input from residents. The attendance was lower than desired, but there was substantial discussion with the information collected. To gather more public input, a survey was released in August of 2017 in English and Spanish on the City's website. The link to the survey was sent directly to those in attendance at the outreach meetings, sent out through the City's Gov Delivery program, posted on social media sites including Facebook, Nextdoor and sent through the Goleta Union School District's (GUSD) Parent Square. Parent Square is the primary means of communication that GUSD uses to disseminate information to their students and families. After all of these additional efforts, there were a total of 204 respondents.

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The next step was to determine the type of playground surfacing the City wanted to use in these renovation projects. Although surfacing products are not being ordered at this time, it was important to know the type of surfacing product, so the projects could be budgeted accordingly. In March of 2018, City Council supported the use of a unitary playground surfacing product, rather than a loose fill product for parks being constructed or renovated.

In the Summer of 2018, an RFP was released, and responses were received from six different vendors. Responses were evaluated, and the top three candidates were interviewed. At the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting of October 3, 2018, the Commission appointed two of its members to serve on the five-member interview panel that included staff from Neighborhood Services & Public Safety, Public Works and the two appointed Parks & Recreation Commissioners. Chair Werner and Vice Chair West were chosen to represent the Commission due to their participation in the community meetings, involvement with the project since the beginning and experience attained by participating in the California Park & Recreation Society Conference in March of 2018. Both Commissioners attended sessions related to playground development, safety and maintenance and had the opportunity to speak with a variety of playground vendors while at the conference. At the conclusion of the interviews, the vendor with the highest rating was Play and Park Structures, Inc., who is represented by local vendor Sun Country Systems, Inc. The chosen vendor is required to ensure that all play system elements are safe and meet and/or exceed all Federal, State, Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), International Play Equipment Manufacturers Association (IPEMA) and Americans with Disabilities (ADA) guidelines.

On December 5, 2018 City Council approved a purchasing contract that would allow the City to purchase the equipment for the four park locations from Sun Country Systems, Inc. At that time, there were concerns raised from the public about the placement of the playground equipment and the expansion of the play opportunity areas at Winchester II Park. The City Council requested staff return with options for the placement of the equipment.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The RFP process did allow for an expansion or a relocation of the existing equipment in some of the park locations. At Winchester II Park, the survey results revealed that the responding residents wanted to have play features for toddlers and school age children. This required an expansion of the current play area that features two belt swings and one toddler swing.

The current proposed design at Winchester II Park, not only provides for children 2-12 years old, but also features equipment elements that focus on the six different elements of play that promote fitness. These six elements of play include balancing, brachiating, climbing, spinning, sliding, and swinging. These six activities provide a developmentally appropriate total body workout for children to help engage them in active behavior and learn to enjoy physical activity and fitness.

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The expansion of the playground area will still allow for t-ball baseball activities and soccer fields for children ages eight and under, not requiring additional adjustments to the remaining park space. The proposed changes at Winchester II Park will increase the playground area from 38' x 31' to approximately 38' x 110'. This increase is necessary to accommodate equipment for children ages 2-5 and children ages 5 - 12, seating and shade for spectators and swings for children of all ages and abilities. While there are many trees in this park, the area will have new seating, a picnic table and shade for users and spectators to enhance and upgrade the existing park conditions.

Four options have been proposed for Winchester II (Attachment) that will accommodate the playground equipment as well as the current activities in the park to include soccer and t-ball.

- Option A places the playground along Calle Real per the request of the City Council
  at the meeting of December 4, 2018. While this image shows the backstop
  relocated, baseball and soccer areas are interchangeable, and the backstop can
  remain at its current location in the south east corner of the park. The northeast
  corner would need to remain empty due to the number and size of the mature
  trees.
- Option B places the playground equipment along the eastern edge of the property beginning at Calle Real and extending 110 feet. This location would require the relocation of the baseball backstop as well as the relocation of the power pole that supplies the park's irrigation system.
- Option C places the playground equipment in an L shape at the northeast corner of the park and relocates the baseball backstop to the south west portion.
- Option D is the layout that was proposed at the City Council meeting on December 4, 2018. This option utilizes the current play area and expands its length by 72 feet to the north, towards Calle Real. The only modification to the current trees in the park would be the removal of a small dead tree and the slight raising of the existing tree canopy. It is noted that the neighbors to the south of this location have a four-foot high chain link fence and the neighbor in the south west corner has a four-foot-high wooden fence. All remaining residents have higher fences at the property line. This variation in fence lines may explain why some residents are concerned about potential visual impacts related to the improvements. Option D is recommended by staff due to the minimum modifications that would be needed to the overall park site.

In conclusion, the proposed playground improvements for Winchester II Park have been carefully reviewed by staff to respond to community input received that asked for enhancements to this neighborhood park that would provide the necessary improvements and upgrades for the children and residents of the local neighborhood who use this park. This park has not seen any significant upgrades since it was built many years ago.

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#### **GOLETA STRATEGIC PLAN:**

**City-Wide Strategy:** Support Community Vitality and Enhanced Recreational Opportunities

**Strategic Goal:** Support programs that enhance quality of life in the Goleta community such as recreation, public safety, human services, and cultural arts.

#### **FISCAL IMPACTS:**

Fiscal impacts will vary based on the option chosen, bids received and will require further evaluation. Option A, B and C would require backfill and added turf at the existing playground location and adjustments to the irrigation on the north and east sides of the site. Additionally, option B would require the relocation of the power pole that serves the irrigation lines at the park. Option D utilizes the existing play area and only one sprinkler would need modification, keeping construction costs at a minimum. Funding for the Winchester II Park Playground Improvements is supported in the FY 18/19 Adopted Budget, and is included in the CIP Miscellaneous Park Improvements - Project #9066. There is approximately \$433,000 budget available. Based on actual bids received, additional appropriations may be recommended at a later time.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The City Council may choose not to adjust and/or expand the play area at Winchester II Park, keeping the site status quo with two belt swings and a toddler swing. Modifications are still necessary to the park for compliance with current playground safety standards and the Americans with Disabilities Act. This would result in the loss of the equipment that has already been purchased.

**Legal Review By:** 

**Approved By:** 

Michael Jenkins City Attorney

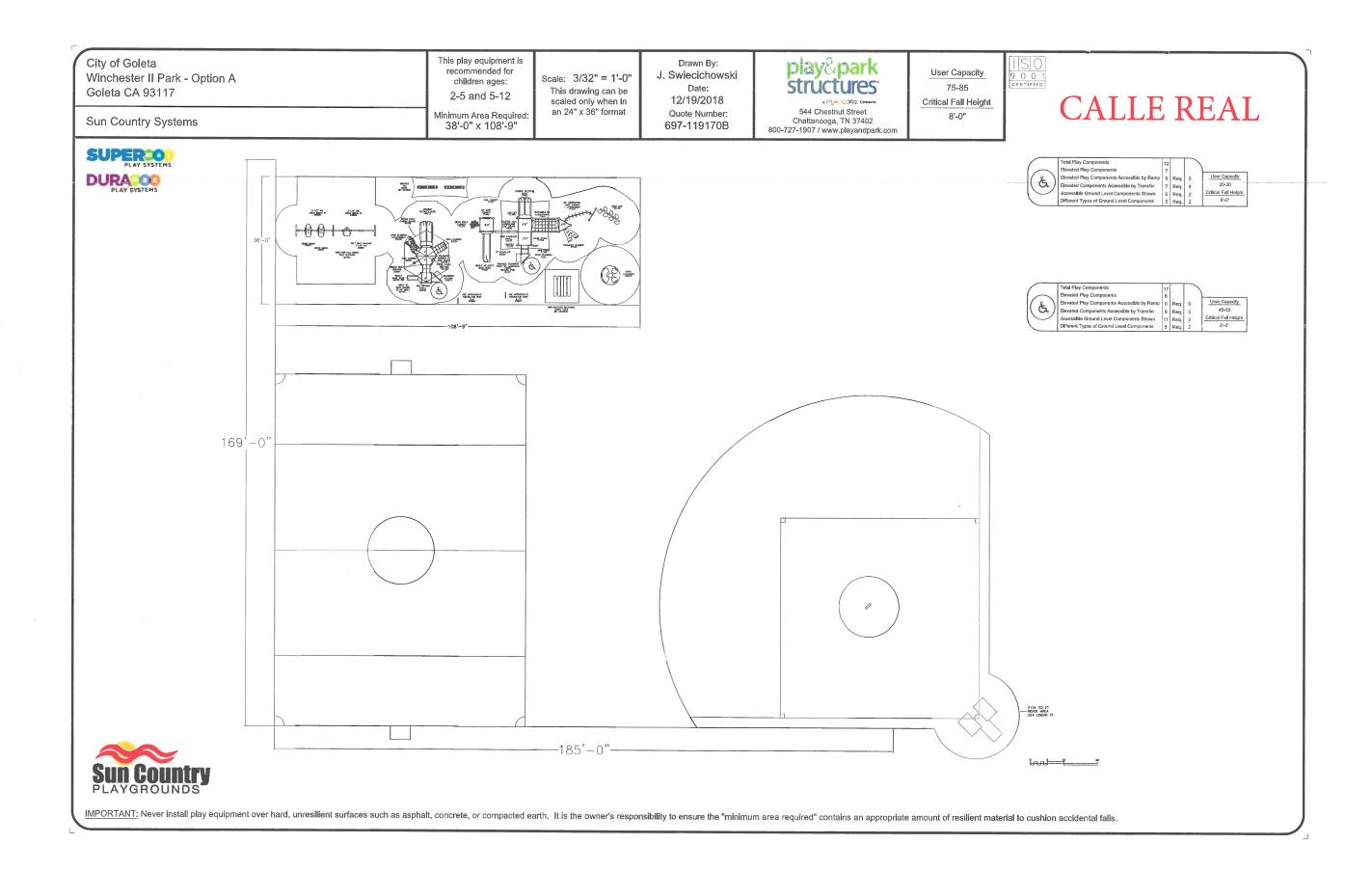
Michelle Greene City Manager

#### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Siting Options for Playground Layout at Winchester II Park

## Attachment 1

Sitting options for Playground Layout at Winchester II Park



City of Goleta Winchester II Park - Option A Goleta CA 93117

This play equipment is recommended for children ages: 2-5 and 5-12

Scale: 3/32" = 1'-0" This drawing can be scaled only when in an 24" x 36" format

Drawn By: J. Swiecichowski Date: 12/19/2018 Quote Number:

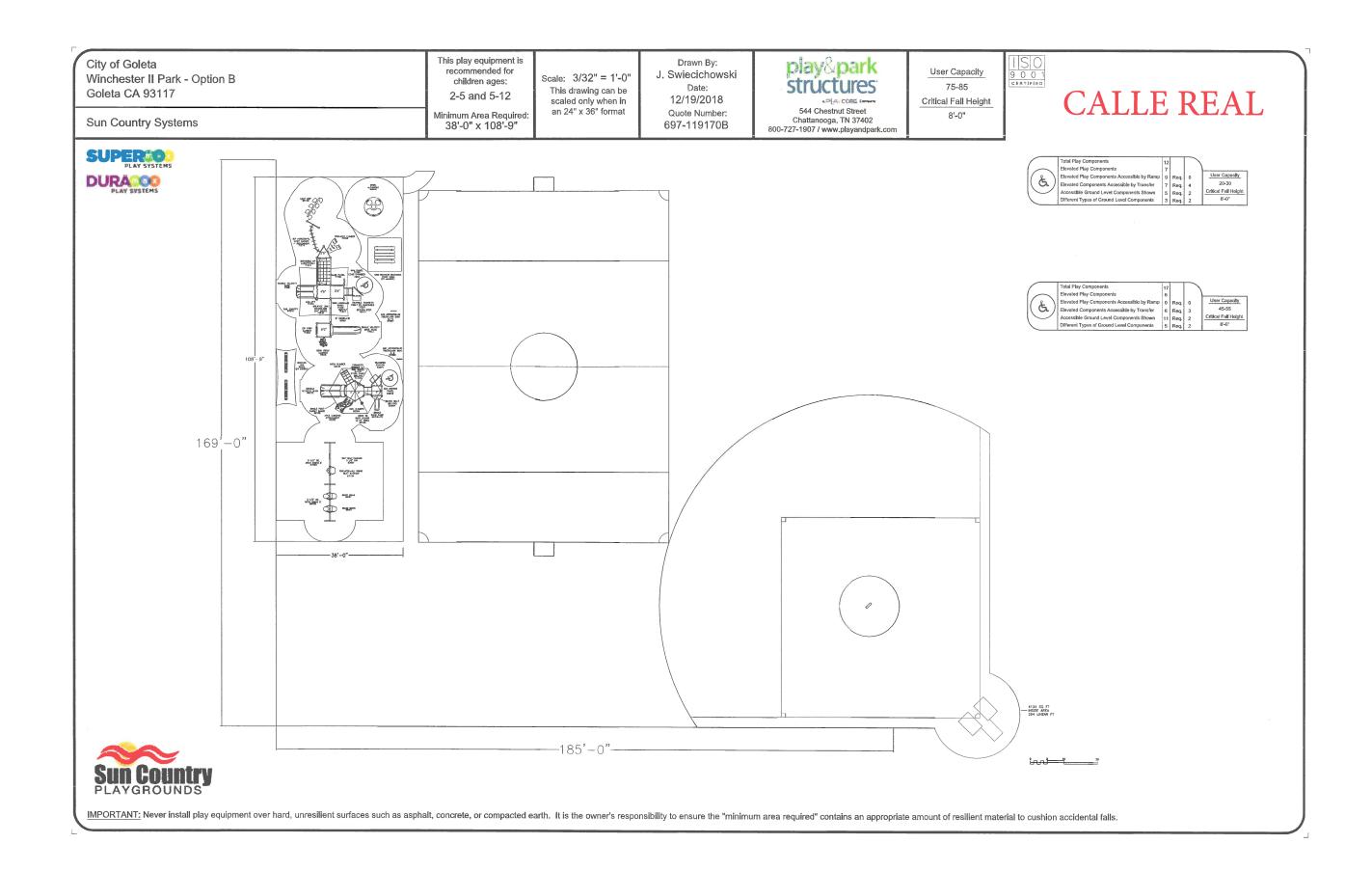
544 Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37402 800-727-1907 / www.playandpark.com

User Capacity 75-85 Critical Fall Height

# **CALLE REAL**



IMPORTANT: Never install play equipment over hard, unresilient surfaces such as asphalt, concrete, or compacted earth. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the "minimum area required" contains an appropriate amount of resilient material to cushion accidental falls.



City of Goleta Winchester II Park - Option B Goleta CA 93117

Sun Country Systems

This play equipment is recommended for children ages:
2-5 and 5-12

Minimum Area Required: 38'-0" x 108'-9"

Scale: 3/32" = 1'-0"

This drawing can be scaled only when in an 24" x 36" format

Drawn By:

J. Swiecichowski

Date:

12/19/2018

Quote Number:
697-119170B

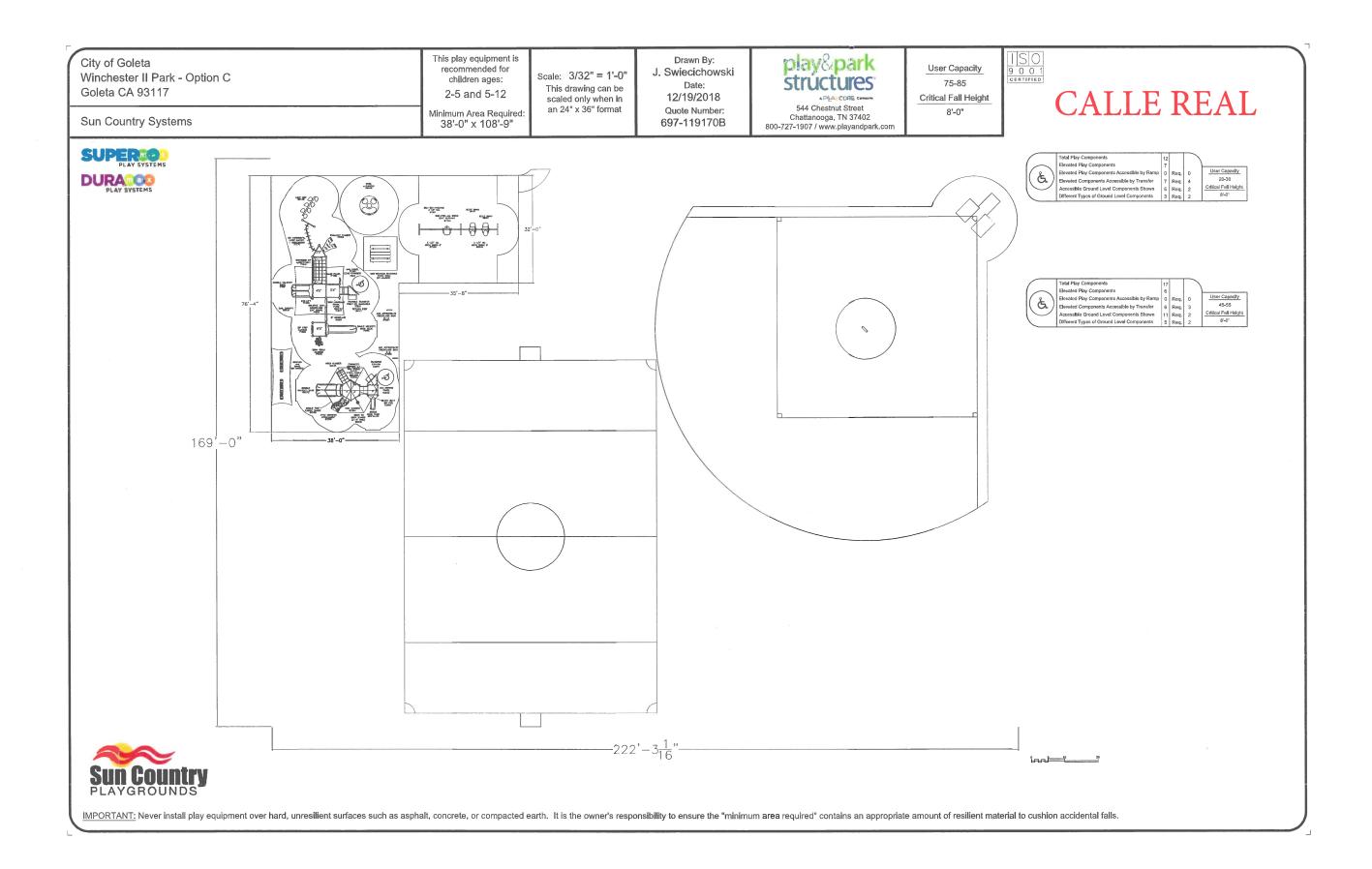
play park structures 544 Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37402 800-727-1907 / www.playandpark.com

User Capacity
75-85
Critical Fall Height
8'-0"

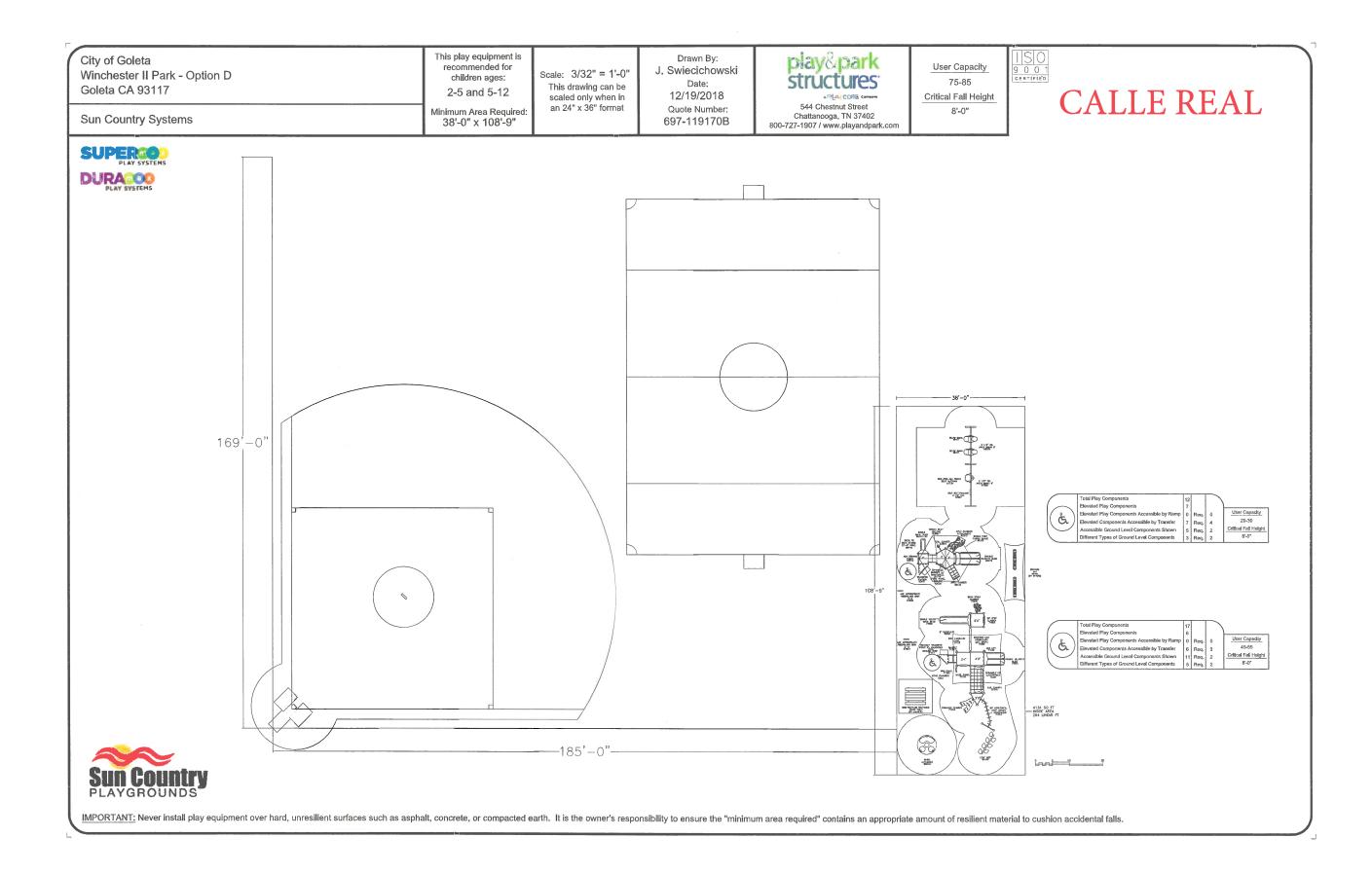
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CALLE REAL





This play equipment is recommended for Drawn By: City of Goleta play&park User Capacity J. Swiecichowski Scale: 3/32" = 1'-0" Winchester II Park - Option C children ages: structures 75-85 This drawing can be CALLE REAL Goleta CA 93117 2-5 and 5-12 544 Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37402 800-727-1907 / www.playandpark.com scaled only when in an 24" x 36" format 12/19/2018 Critical Fall Height Quote Number: Minimum Area Required: 38'-0" x 108'-9" Sun Country Systems 697-119170B DURA DO PLAY SYSTEMS Sun Country PLAYGROUNDS IMPORTANT: Never install play equipment over hard, unresilient surfaces such as asphalt, concrete, or compacted earth. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the "minimum area required" contains an appropriate amount of resilient material to cushion accidental falls.



This play equipment is recommended for Drawn By: City of Goleta User Capacity J. Swiecichowski Scale: 3/32" = 1'-0" Winchester II Park - Option D children ages: structures 75-85 Date: This drawing can be Goleta CA 93117 2-5 and 5-12 **CALLE REAL** 12/19/2018 scaled only when in an 24" x 36" format A PLAY CORE CONNEY Critical Fall Height 544 Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37402 800-727-1907 / www.playandpark.com Quote Number: Minimum Area Required: 38'-0" x 108'-9" Sun Country Systems 697-119170B SUPEROS PLAY SYSTEM DURA DE DE PLAY SYSTEMS IMPORTANT: Never install play equipment over hard, unresilient surfaces such as asphalt, concrete, or compacted earth. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the "minimum area required" contains an appropriate amount of resilient material to cushion accidental falls.