



Eddie Treviño, Jr.
County Judge

For Immediate Release

Date: December 5, 2017

POC: Joe E. Vega, Parks Director

956-761-3701

**Ground Breaking Ceremony of the All Inclusive Playground and Park Improvements at
La Esperanza Community Park-Cameron Park located in Brownsville, Texas**

Cameron County is pleased to announce the construction of the All-Inclusive Playground and Park Improvements at La Esperanza Community Park-Cameron Park located at 2100 Gregory Avenue, in Brownsville, Texas. A ground breaking ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at 2:30 p.m.

The new all-inclusive playground facility is universally designed to create a myriad of play opportunities for special needs children. The playground will provide maximum American Disability Act (ADA) accessibility and will be constructed with shaded structures. This playground will be the first in both the County Park System and in Brownsville. The new facility will also include improvements to the existing restrooms and upgrading them to be ADA Family Restrooms. The all-inclusive playground was made possible through a grant in the amount of \$500,000 from the Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation (VBLF). The improvements to the Family ADA Restrooms are made possible through in kind donations for construction services and materials from Noble Texas Builders, Ethos Engineering, Cantu's Plumbing Inc., and Central Air & Heating Services Inc. A monetary donation of \$30,000 from Rodeo Dental will support the improvements of the playground and restrooms. The Lions Clubs of Brownsville have committed up to \$20,000 of monetary funds toward the development of this project.

The Brownsville Independent School District has committed \$65,000 of in kind educational services, personnel, and equipment in support of the development of this project.

Cameron County Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr. stated, "the All-Inclusive Playground will allow kids, both with disabilities and non-disabilities to participate and explore the fun, educational and inclusive opportunities that this playground will offer". "We are all looking forward to the completion of this project."

Cameron County Commissioner Pct. 2 Alex Dominguez stated, "all too often special needs children and their families are left out of the simple joys in life. This playground will provide a fun family space where all kids can play. We worked hard for this project, and hopefully, it will play an important role in helping to create an initiative for the implementation of more projects like this in the future. Thank you Legacy Foundation and all donors who continue to making this project a reality."

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“The All Inclusive Playground concept is certainly a much needed program to reach more children, or people in general, for a better quality of life. The Legacy Foundation is proud to be a partner in this project” said Randy Baker, Executive Director of the Legacy Foundation.

Cameron County Parks Director Joe E. Vega stated, “we are excited to break ground on this project. This project will be a catalyst to a significantly unmet need in the area that will improve the quality of life for all the children of Cameron County.”

Weather permitting; the construction should be complete by late spring to early summer. The playground contractor on this project is Experplay, Inc.

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