

Lions Ventureland Playground Resurfacing Complete

The resurfaced area of the Lion's Ventureland Playground is now open in the Parksville Community Park. Geared for toddlers and young children, the new surfacing with improved safety and playability improves the recreation options for this area of the playground. Cost for this portion of the resurfacing was about \$330,000.

Included in the updates are in-ground trampolines, an embankment slide and 2D and 3D sea creatures built into the surface. The new rubber surface which meets accessible design standards is appropriate for children with mobility challenges and covers the area under the swings, new Zipkrooze, climbing net and pirate ship.

The base mat rubber used to resurface the playground is 100% recycled tire rubber with about 5,500 recycled tires used in this project. The eco fee paid when purchasing tires is used to pay for transporting and recycling of BC generated scrap tires ensuring environmentally responsible disposal. This new surfacing meets CSA Standards and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Standards (LEEDS) requirements. The sand surface in the playground decreases the lifespan of the equipment by slowly eroding surfaces and equipment and is not accessible for people with mobility challenges.

Further improvements are planned to the Ventureland playground later this year with installation of the Smart Play Motion appropriate for ages 18 months to five years. This equipment has many activities built into the structure including a car track, puzzles and lots of learning opportunities. A video about the equipment may be viewed from this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UySNUrnp8Sg>. This new equipment will be installed in partnership with the City and the Parksville Lions Club. The City is grateful for the members of the Parksville Lions Club who donate more than 2,000 volunteer hours each year.

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