

11176 - Writing Rock State Historic Site Playground Facilities Update

Application Details

Funding Opportunity:	7583-Outdoor Heritage Fund May 2021 - Round 18	Initial Submit Date:	May 3, 2021 5:51 PM
Funding Opportunity Due Date:	May 3, 2021 11:59 PM	Initially Submitted By:	Chris Dorfschmidt
Program Area:	Outdoor Heritage Fund	Last Submit Date:	May 11, 2021 5:27 PM
Status:	Under Review	Last Submitted By:	Chris Dorfschmidt
Stage:	Final Application		

Contact Information

Primary Contact Information

Active User*: Yes

Type: External User

Name: Salutation Chris Daniel
First Name Middle Name

Dorfschmidt
Last Name

Title: Historic Sites Manager

Email*: cdorfschmidt@nd.gov

Address*: 612 E Boulevard Ave

Bismarck North Dakota
City State/Province

58505
Postal Code/Zip

Phone*: 701-328-3593 Ext.
Phone
###-###-####

Fax: ###-###-####

Organization Information

Status*: Approved

Name*: State Historical Society of North Dakota

Organization Type*: State Government

Tax Id:

Organization Website: <https://www.history.nd.gov/>

Address*: 612 E Boulevard Ave

Bismarck North Dakota
City State/Province

58505-____
Postal Code/Zip

Phone*: 701-328-2666 Ext.
###-###-####

Fax: ###-###-####

Comments:

Budget

Objective of Grant

Objective of Grant:

The objective of the grant is to help offset the costs of purchasing and installing a nature-inspired, safe playground structure and its ground cover at Writing Rock State Historic Site in Western Divide County. This equipment will replace the current equipment that is outdated and no longer safe.

Summary

Grant Request: \$10,000.00

Matching Funds: \$64,858.00

Total Project Costs: \$74,858.00

You must have at least 25% match

Percentage of Match: 86.64%

Project Expenses

Project Expense Description	OHF Request	Match Share (Cash)	Match Share (In-Kind)	Match Share (Indirect)	Other Project Sponsor's Share	Total Each Project Expense
Playground Structure	\$10,000.00	\$5,995.00	\$0.00	\$25,995.00	\$0.00	\$41,990.00
Swing set	\$0.00	\$2,798.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,798.00
Borders and ground cover	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,280.00	\$6,850.00
Freight and Installation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,220.00	\$23,220.00
	\$10,000.00	\$9,363.00	\$0.00	\$25,995.00	\$29,500.00	\$74,858.00

Budget Narrative

Budget Narrative:

In collaboration with Divide County, the State Historical Society of North Dakota seeks funds to help offset costs to purchase and install a new playground system at Writing Rock State Historic Site. Currently, the site has not had updated playground equipment in well over 30 years. Due to safety concerns, the site removed most of the equipment that was previously at the site. Currently, some swings and slides still stand at the site.

The State Historical Society intends to remove the existing equipment and replace them with safe equipment with a nature-inspired look that blends into the landscape. The State Historical Society of North Dakota has committed to \$9,500 in cash funds towards the project. Divide County has committed \$9,363 in cash. We are approved for a \$25,995 "Move With Us" grant to purchase the playground equipment from the Burke playground company and are currently seeking \$20,000 in community development grant funding from the John & Elaine Andrist Trust to help complete the project. If we are unable to raise the entire funds necessary to complete the project. In that case, we will seek additional funding from local community members and apply for additional grants as they become available. We may need to look at scaling back the project size as much as possible. The goal is to have the playground equipment, ground cover, and barriers purchased and safely installed during the Summer of 2021.

Bid Attachments

Description	File Name	Type	Size	Upload Date
Project proposal from Grondahl Recreation.	Scan2394.pdf	pdf	428 KB	05/11/2021 05:06 PM

Match Funding

Match Amount	Funding Source	Match Type
\$9,500.00	State Historical Society of North Dakota	Cash
\$9,363.00	Divide County Park Board	Cash
\$25,995.00	Move With US Grant (Approved Discount - From Playground Company)	Indirect
\$20,000.00	John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust Grant (Requested)	Cash
\$64,858.00		

Description

Directives

Major Directive*: Directive D
Choose One

Additional Directive: Choose All That Apply

Type of Agency*: State Agency
Choose One

Abstract/Executive Summary

Abstract/Executive Summary*:

Two granite boulders inscribed with thunderbird figures are exhibited at Writing Rock State Historic Site, a hidden gem in Divide County. Thunderbirds, mythological creatures responsible for lightning and thunder, are central to stories told by local tribes. The site has served as a gathering spot for thousands of years and is still used today. With tourism promotional efforts being made by the State and County, Divide County continually seeks ways to grow and enhance recreational opportunities within the County. Divide County approached the State Historical Society of North Dakota about Writing Rock State Historic Site and the present need to update the existing playground facilities. In the fall of 2020, the Divide County Job Development Authority (DCJDA.) Director contacted the local schools (Divide County, Grenora, Westby) to see if they had an interest in bringing additional classes to the site should the playground equipment get updated. All three schools currently bring one to two grades (4th grade and older). They all indicated that the updating of the equipment would be an additional driving force to take additional younger-aged students on a field trip to a location that is basically in their "back yard." A survey was released by Divide County asking the public about their past, current, and future visits to the site. With over 600 responses, approximately 495 indicated they are from NW. North Dakota and from NE Montana. Around 330 indicated they visited the site within the past two years, and about 391 indicated they would likely visit the site more often if the playground facilities received updates. Over 500 people responded that they would likely visit the site if additional activities or events occurred at the site, such as bird watching, kite-flying, Northern Lights viewing, and stargazing events. Upon completing the updating of the playground facilities, the Divide County Job Development Authority (DCJDA) plans to encourage local tourism-related activities, such as those indicated in the survey results. By improving the playground equipment at Writing Rock Historic Site, we can help create a safer place for families to experience. At the same time, they enjoy the outdoors and learn about the region's history. The NW. Region of ND has been growing in population, and at the same time, lowering the average age of our residents. Updating the playground facilities will provide Divide County and the State of North Dakota with an opportunity to promote more family-friendly tourism to the region and work towards growing and enhancing the quality of life that is available for residents to enjoy. The intent is to complete the project by the Summer of 2021. The project's total estimated cost is \$85,858, which is primarily supported by cash match, in-kind service, and a discount, the remaining funds (\$40,000) to be raised via grant funding sources.

Project Duration

Project Duration*:

The goal is to complete the project by the end of Summer, 2021. The completion of the project will be dependent upon the playground company's timeline and availability to install the structures. If we cannot secure the entire funding amount, we will either need to scale the project size back or push the project back to complete in the Summer of 2022.

Narrative

Narrative

Briefly summarize your organization's history, mission, current programs and activities. Include an overview of your organizational structure, including board, staff and volunteer involvement.

Organization Information*:

The State Historical Society was created in 1905. Its mission is to identify, preserve, interpret, and promote the heritage of North Dakota and its people. The agency manages 57 historic sites, five interpretive centers, and over 80 buildings, including 49 historic structures. Almost 382,000 visitors from around the world visited our 57 historic sites and the State Museum, including roughly 22,000 people who attended 200 programs and 1889 students from 85 schools. We have a staff of 75 FTEs, 100 temporary and seasonal employees, and volunteers who provide 12,900 hours of service each biennium. The Society is under the supervision of the 12-member State Historical Board. The board appoints the Director of the State Historical Society of North Dakota to administer the agency and carry out policies and directives. The agency is organized into four divisions: Administration, Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Audience Engagement & Museums, and State Archives.

The State Historical Society of North Dakota has been working alongside Divide County and the Divide County Job Development Authority director on this project since the fall of 2020. The Divide County Job Development Authority was created under Section 40-57.4-06 NDCC jointly between the City of Crosby and Divide County in 2002 and is managed by a 7-member appointed board. The mission of the Divide County Job Development Authority is to lead and serve by example, promote our area and its income potential as well as a great place to live. To be proactive, encourage public/private partnerships that benefit our citizens. To provide a paid staff member to work with various groups who provide countless volunteer hours promoting Divide County. The purpose of the Divide County Job Development Authority is for the benefit of all of Divide County by banding together for the advancement of the county. The DCJDA Director has been and will continue to be directly involved with this project.

Describe the proposed project identifying how the project will meet the specific directive(s) of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Program.

Identify project goals, strategies and benefits and your timetable for implementation. Include information about the need for the project and whether there is urgency for funding. Indicate if this is a new project or if it is replacing funding that is no longer available to your organization. Identify any innovative features or processes of your project.

Note: if your proposal provides funding to an individual, the names of the recipients must be reported to the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund. These names will be disclosed upon request.

If your project involves an extenuating circumstance to exempted activities please explain.

Purpose of Grant*:

The primary purpose of the grant is to provide additional funding support to update significantly outdated playground equipment located at Writing Rock State Historic Site located within Divide County. The State Historical Society of North Dakota owns, oversees, and manages 57 sites and 80 buildings; most are historic structures that require constant maintenance. Currently, the majority of our funds budgeted for maintenance are already committed to other projects. Without additional financial assistance through local agencies and grant funding sources, we cannot update the playground facilities at this site. Removing the current equipment that is no longer safe, and not replacing it would be removing a recreational opportunity for local area families.

We have been working with Divide County, the Divide County Park Board, and the Divide County Job Development Authority to seek funding support to help complete the updating of the playground facilities at Writing Rock State Historic Site. The Divide County Job Development Authority is looking at ways to increase tourism opportunities and is partnering with the Divide County Park Board to drive more local community members and tourists to the area. Updating playground equipment at Writing Rock State Historic Site will tremendously aid in attracting area families to this site. It is vital for those in our region to better understand our history and enjoy a fun family experience while visiting the site.

Project Timeline (Pending all funding is in place):

Summer 2021- Order playground equipment, ground cover & borders. Remove existing equipment and grade ground for the location of facilities

Late Summer/Early Fall 2021 - Install playground equipment and borders (pending schedule availability of Grondahl Recreation Installers)

Fall 2021- Work with Divide County Job Development Authority and host a community gathering at the site, acknowledging the funding supporters and all of the hard work that went into the completion of the project.

Please list the counties that would be impacted by this project:

Counties*: Burke, Divide, Williams

Is This Project Part of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan?* No

If Yes, Please Provide Copy of Plan:

Does Your Project Involve an Extenuating Circumstance?* No

Please Explain:

Provide a description of how you will manage and oversee the project to ensure it is carried out on schedule and in a manner that best ensures its objectives will be met. Include a brief background and work experience for those managing the project.

Management of Project*:

State Historical Society of North Dakota will manage the project with assistance from the Divide County Job Development Authority director. Historic Sites Manager Chris Dorfschmidt will oversee the project. Chris started with SHSND 3 years ago as the Site Supervisor of the Chateau de Mores in Medora, ND. He was promoted to Historic Sites Manager after a year. He has 8 years' worth of experience in managing projects, people, and sites. Before working for the SHSND, he was gallery supervisor for Gateway to Science, where he was the manager of the exhibit design team for the new science center project.

The purchase and installation of the playground facilities, ground cover, and barriers will be through Grondahl Recreation out of Williston, ND. The State Historical Society of North Dakota has an annual grounds management contract with the Divide County Park Board. Divide County Park Board handles all maintenance of the grounds and indicates to us if there are large projects that need to be taken care of outside the scope of the contract.

Indicate how the project will be funded or sustained in future years. Include information on the sustainability of this project after OHF funds have been expended and whether the sustainability will be in the form of ongoing management or additional funding from a different source.

Sustainability*:

The project will be sustainable because it is a one-time purchase and installation; every year, the site supervisor for Writing Rock and Divide County Park Board will assess the ground covering materials to ensure they are at the proper depth to adhere to protecting those utilizing the facilities. The estimated lifespan of these facilities is beyond 15 years; therefore, it requires minimal maintenance. If maintenance is needed, Divide County and the State Historical Society of North Dakota will discuss a plan of action to do what is necessary to ensure the facilities are functioning for their intended use. The SHSND will maintain the equipment through its maintenance fund and is also looking at insuring the structure in case it needs to be replaced due to a fire or tornado.

Indicate how the project will be affected if less funding is available than that requested.

Partial Funding*:

If we are unable to secure the entire funding amount for the project, we will either need to scale the project size back or push the project back to complete in the Summer of 2022, which will mean a potential loss of the playground structure discount/grant of \$25,995, plus the likelihood that the playground facilities costs will increase in 2022, meaning we will need to fundraise and apply for more grants to complete the project. One option we have is to scale the project back is to remove the swings, which account for approximately \$6,000 in the structure, ground cover, and barrier. Beyond that, we would need to reevaluate our budgets to see if we can contribute additional funding to the project or scale the project back to just purchasing and installing independent pieces, such as swings and two slides.

If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership? * There must be signage at the location of the project acknowledging OHF funding when appropriate. If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be.

Partnership Recognition*:

We will affix a sign of partner acknowledgment to one of the picnic shelters referencing contributions that assisted in the funding of the playground facilities. Recognition will also be made via social media posting on agency and local pages. Along with an acknowledgment in the local newspaper.

Do you have any supporting documents, such as maps or letters of support that you would like to provide? If so, please provide them in a single file.

Supporting Documents*: Yes

If Yes, Please Provide Copies in a Single File: Supplemental Documentation for OHF Grant.docx

Awarding of Grants - Review the appropriate sample contract for your organization. Sample Contract

Can You Meet All the Provisions of the Sample Contract?* Yes

If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be:

Provisions Unable to Meet:

Tasks

Tasks

Task	Start Date	Completion Date
Fundraising and commitment of ND State Historical Society Funds and Divide County Park Board Funds	03/20/2021	06/10/2021
Install structure, ground cover and borders	07/31/2021	11/01/2021
Ordering Playground Facilities, Ground Cover & Borders	06/15/2021	07/31/2021
Remove Existing Structures & Grade Area	06/15/2021	07/31/2021

Description of Tasks

Please Describe Tasks:

Project Determination-Determine what equipment best fits the local needs and maintains and preserves the landscape and historical nature of the site.

Survey

Funding- We have commitments from the playground company, SHSND and Divide County. We are continuing to seek grant funding for the remaining amount.

Ordering - We will place the order for the playground facilities, ground cover, and borders upon receipt of all raised funds.

Removal-The DC Road Department will complete

Installation

Deliverables

Deliverables

Deliverable	Quantity	Unit of Measurement, if applicable
Increased school visits	1.000	Post-project survey of schools
Installation of structure, ground cover and borders	1.000	Documented with written report and photographs

Certification

Certification

Certification: Yes

Name: Chris Dorfschmidt
First Name Last Name

Title: Historic Sites Manager
Title

Date: 05/03/2021

Internal Application Number

#/ID: 18-23

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
 PLAYGROUND SURFACING
 ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT
 FLAGS/FLAG POLES
 BLEACHERS



1202 18th St. West, Williston, ND 58801
 Office 701-572-7897 Cell 701-770-7897 Fax 701-572-0824
 Email grondahl@dia.net Website www.grondahlrecreation.com

SCOREBOARDS
 SITE FURNISHINGS
 SHELTERS
 SHADE SYSTEMS
 NETTING

PROPOSAL

Proposal Submitted To DIVIDE COUNTY JDA/CITY OF CROSBY	Email KACEE LINDSEY	Date 4/26/21
Street BOX 297	Phone	Cell
City, State, Zip CROSBY, ND 58730	Job Name/Location WRITING ROCK PLAYGROUND	
Project Name PLAYGROUND-WRITING ROCK HISTORIC SITE		

GRONDAHL RECREATION WILL PROVIDE AND DELIVER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

(1) CUSTOM "NATUREPLAY" NUCLEUS PLAYSYSTEM	\$51,990
(1) 4 SEAT SINGLE POST SWING SET	2,798
(57) BORDERS AND STAKES	2,850
(110) CU YDS ENG WOOD FIBER	<u>4,000</u>
	61,638
FREIGHT	<u>3,225</u>
	\$64,863
LESS MATCHING GRANT AWARD FROM BCI BURKE	- 25,995
TOTAL	\$38,868
OPTION TO INSTALL ALL ABOVE ITEMS..... \$19,995	

- Shipping charges do not include unloading ,assembly, or installation unless noted above
- This transaction is not bound to retainage, unless specified by contract
- Taxes, bonds, special insurance provisions, permits and any other fees not included

Prices do not include shipping, unloading, assembly, material storage, site excavation/preparation, removal of existing equipment, removal of excess soil from footing holes, site security, safety surfacing (unless shown in quoted items above), installation (unless shown in quoted items above) or sales tax (if applicable). Prices are based on current year catalog. Custom colors, where available, would be an extra charge. Freight charges are predicted on all items being ordered and shipped at the same time. Pricing and freight valid for 30 days from date of quote.

Grondahl Recreation Inc.
 By: 
 Larry Grondahl

This proposal may be withdrawn by Grondahl Recreation Inc. if not accepted within 3 days.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with this quote. We look forward to filling your park & playground needs in the months and years to come!

Purchaser
 By: _____
 Printed Name: _____
 Title: _____
 Date of Acceptance: _____

Acceptance of Proposal The above prices, specifications, terms and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted by purchaser. Grondahl Recreation Inc. is authorized to do the work as specified and Purchaser shall make payment as outlined.

In collaboration with Divide County, the State Historical Society of North Dakota seeks funds to help offset costs to purchase and install a new playground system at Writing Rock State Historic Site. Currently, the site has not had updated playground equipment in well over 30 years. Due to safety concerns, the site removed most of the equipment that was previously at the site. Currently, some swings and slides still stand at the site. The State Historical Society intends to remove the existing equipment and replace them with safe equipment with a nature-inspired look that blends into the landscape.



Rendering of new playground structure

A survey released this past winter by the DCJDA asked the public about their past, current, and future site visits. With over 600 responses, approximately 495 indicated they are from NW North Dakota and NE Montana. Around 330 indicated they visited the site within the past two years, and about 391 indicated they would likely visit the site more often if the playground facilities received updates. Over 500 people responded that they would likely visit the site if additional activities or events occurred at the site, such as bird watching, kite-flying, Northern Lights viewing, and stargazing events. Upon completing the updating of the playground facilities, the DCJDA intends to encourage local tourism-related activities, such as those indicated in the survey results. The DCJDA Director has been and will continue to be directly involved with this project.

If we cannot raise the entire funds necessary to complete the project, we will seek additional funding from local community members and apply for additional grants as they become available. We may need to look at scaling back the project size as much as possible. Please see the estimated project budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for a grant through the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

Writing Rock State Historical Site Playground Estimates

ESTIMATED EXPENSES	
Playground Structure	\$ 51,990.00
Swingsets	\$ 2,798.00
Barriers/Ground Cover	\$ 6,850.00
Installation	\$ 19,995.00
Freight	\$ 3,225.00
Removal of Existing Equipment & Ground Work	\$ 1,000.00
<i>Total Project Cost (Estimated)</i>	<i>\$ 85,858.00</i>
ESTIMATED INCOME	
Move With Us Grant (Approved Discount- From Playground Company)	\$ 25,995.00
Divide County Park Board - Cash	\$ 9,363.00
North Dakota State Historical Society - Cash	\$ 9,500.00
Divide County Road Department (In-Kind Services) *To remove existing structures & base ground work	\$ 1,000.00
North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund (Requested)	\$ 20,000.00
John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust Grant (Requested)	\$ 20,000.00
<i>Total Estimated Income</i>	<i>\$ 85,858.00</i>

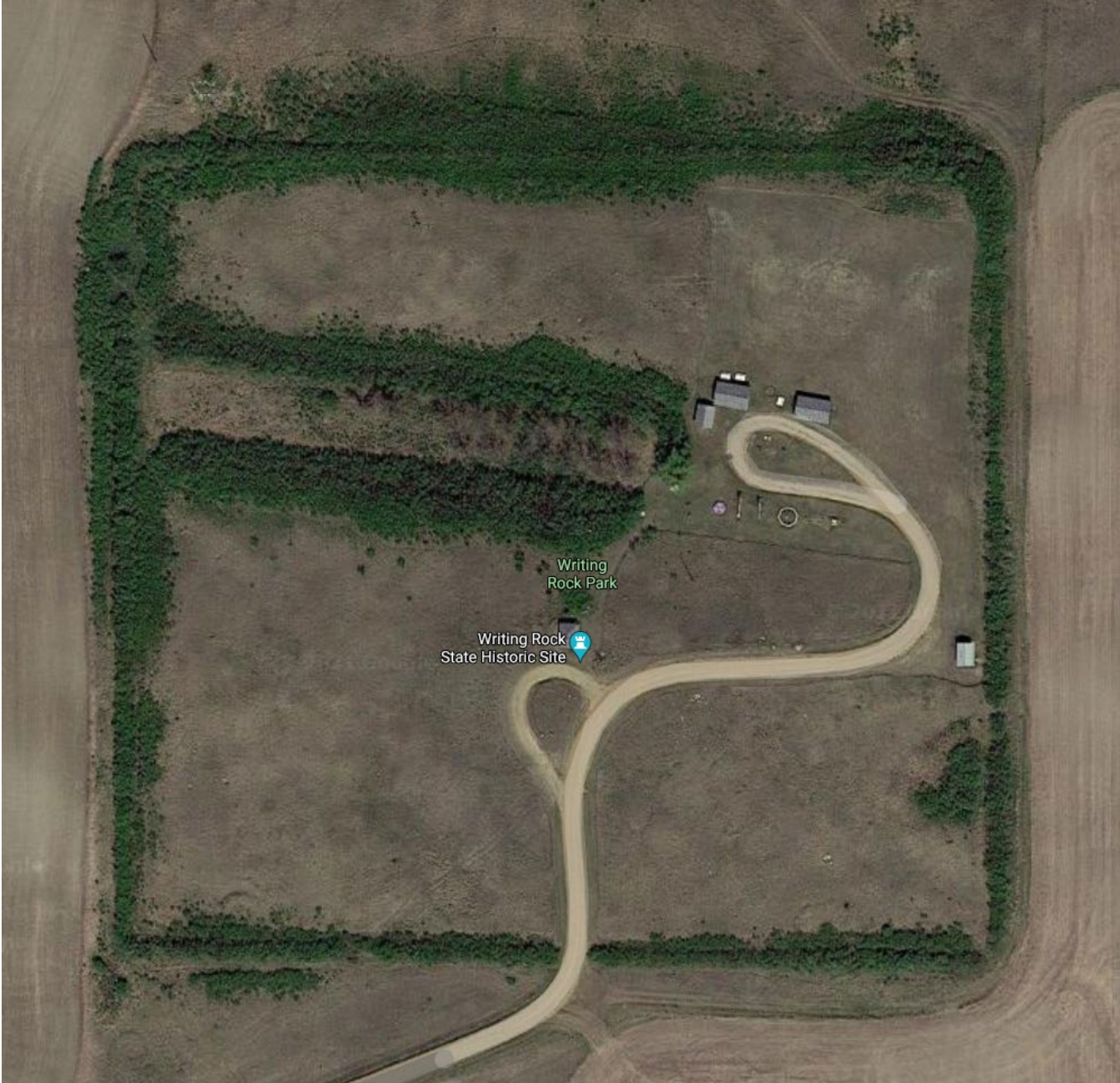
Current playground equipment at Writing Rock State Historic Site



Panoramic view of the site



Aerial view of Writing Rock State Historic Site





PO Box 297

Crosby, ND 58730

701.965.6006

**The Divide County Jobs Development Authority is an equal opportunity Lender, Provider and Employer.*

April 30, 2021

North Dakota Industrial Commission
Outdoor Heritage Fund
State Capitol, 14th Floor, 600 E Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Re: Application from the North Dakota State Historical Society Writing Rock Site Project

To the Grant Review Board:

The Divide County Job Development Authority is in full support of the proposed project of updating the playground facilities at Writing Rock State Historical Site, which is located in Western Divide County.

As the director for the Divide County Job Development Authority, I have been working with the ND State Historical Society on this proposed project since the Fall of 2020. What prompted my initial conversation was because of my personal experience of visiting the site for the first time with my family. With the current playground facilities being quite aged, I was hesitant to allow my young children to enjoy themselves due to my cautious nature. Writing Rock Historical Site truly is an experience in itself, with views for miles around the entire site. Having been in the community for many years, I am ashamed to admit that it had taken me so long to visit and experience the site. Immediately upon arriving, my mind began to switch to my role as the economic and community development director for Divide County. The opportunities that our community has to promote more visitation to the site is endless. It is for these reasons, that both personally and professionally, I am in full support of this project as I believe that it will not only enhance the site, but provide an additional destination experience for our local community members, families, and visitors to enjoy.

Thank you for considering this project for funding. I am grateful for the opportunity to support this project as I know it will make a positive impact for Divide County and the State of North Dakota.

Sincerely,


KayCee Lindsey
Executive Director