



CITY OF CUPERTINO

Jollyman Park All-Inclusive Playground Project

QUALIFICATIONS | AUGUST 30, 2021



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IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

KPFF | ATIUM ENGINEERING | BKF ENGINEERS | NINYO & MOORE



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August 30, 2021

Evelyn Moran, CIP Project Manager
Department of Public Works
City of Cupertino
10300 Torre Ave
Cupertino, California, 95014
Email: evelynm@cupertino.org

RE: RFQ for Design Services for Jollyman Park All-Inclusive Playground Park

Dear Ms. Moran and Selection Committee Members:

MIG loves play, and for us, that has always meant inclusive play. In 1978, MIG's founders started PLAE (Playing and Learning in Adaptable Environments), a nonprofit organization whose mission was to integrate children with and without disabilities in outdoor play environments. A short time later, MIG published the *Play for All Guidelines*, and we've been actively designing and building inclusive environments that welcome all users ever since. Our work includes:

- » Development of universal design standards and policy frameworks for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the General Services Administration, and cities throughout North America.
- » Hosting and facilitating a concept design workshop that gave birth to Harper's Playground, a nonprofit organization focused on building radically inclusive nature play areas.
- » Contributing to the Playright Inclusive Play Association's Inclusive Play Space Guide, Volume 9 (Sponsored by Unicef).
- » Participation and contributions to the American Society of Landscape Architect's (ASLA's) 2020 Universal Design Guidelines.
- » Ongoing design and construction support contracts for inclusive playgrounds in Oregon, Washington, and California.

Beyond the firm, the MIG Team members presented here have been bringing inclusive play areas to Bay Area communities for almost 20 years. Our designs address the full range of developmental needs for all ages and abilities—physical, intellectual, emotional, and social—not only for children, but also for their friends, families, and caregivers. And we don't stop there; we go even further to create spaces that address the basic human need for beauty and interaction with natural elements, spaces that have a spirit and life that is palpable and that make all who come feel welcome and at home, with full hearts and minds, open to each other's special differences, and ready to take on whatever challenges their lives bring them. Our designs are clear and legible, no matter your ability, yet they are distinctive and special to each community. We accomplish that through our community engagement process, which allows us to listen deeply to the community before we design, and then to embed the community's needs and character into the design. Our goal is to create spaces that are more than just beautiful and functional—we design to connect people to each other, to connect people to the poetry of being human, and to create healthy bodies, minds, and spirits for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Through our years of construction experience, we also understand how to create solid, maintainable spaces that will stand up to being enthusiastically used and loved.

On behalf of our team, thank you for your consideration. We look forward to meeting you in person to share our enthusiasm for this project. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 845-7549, ext. 2240 or merikson@migcom.com.

Sincerely,

Melissa Erikson, PLA, ASLA
Principal, Director of Community Design Services

Overview and Summary

Executive Summary

Cupertino is known around the world as an innovation hot spot. Its people are some of the most educated and inventive people in the Bay Area, much less the nation, and many come from faraway places. Jollyman All-Inclusive Play Area can become a place where the multilingual and multicultural backgrounds of Cupertino all come together—a place that reflects their creative character and aspirations and that expresses their humanity and connects them to the place they call home.

Play is an essential part of being human. It is fun and joyful, but more than that, it shapes our brains, opens us to new possibilities, and makes us adaptable to new ideas. At all stages of our lives, play is central to our health, well being, creativity, and intelligence. We all need play, and we all need to feel a sense of connection to our community as well as our natural surroundings. We're all human, and our play areas need to reflect and support that humanity and allow us to feel the magic and poetry of being human.

MIG's designs start by supporting physical, intellectual, emotional, and social growth, including providing for those with special needs—people with autism; sensory challenges; cognitive, developmental, and physical disabilities—as well as those who are more typically able. MIG's designs then go even further to express a community's personality and character and give people a sense of connection to each other and the natural landscape where they live. MIG's design for Jollyman Park 's All-Inclusive Play Area will:

- » **Serve all users:** We will seamlessly incorporate multiple levels of challenge and risk so that all developmental needs are addressed, and everyone can play and experience the space side-by-side, regardless of age, race, gender, ability, or background.
- » **Support child development:** From planting and stormwater conveyance to furnishings and play equipment, a play area's parts offer abundant opportunities for developmentally appropriate play. While equipment is important, rich interactions with natural elements and processes are essential in today's technology-focused world. MIG's design will address sensory stimulation and relief, as well as the spectrum of challenge and risk needed for children and caregivers.

- » **Embody community character:** Our design will embody the community's spirit and history and express its heritage, becoming a community destination where all feel at one with their surroundings.
- » **Provide beauty and comfort:** Every play area feature is a potential art piece that can tell the community's story, support social connection, and inspire play. Our design will artfully and beautifully create features and spaces that encourage casual friendships to develop, provide shade and wind protection, and encourage relaxation and comfort alongside play.
- » **Incorporate durability and resilience:** We will focus on long-lived materials that stand up to heavy use and harsh weather in public spaces. We'll use the latest smart technology for irrigation and utilities, and we'll create a landscape ecosystem that's tied to the native soils and climate, and that thrives without chemicals. The result will be a beautiful, resilient, low-maintenance play area.

Our designs grow from public engagement. MIG is well-known for creative outreach. We're as equally skilled with high-tech tools—live polling, Twitter Town Halls, Facebook Live meetings, and virtual/augmented reality simulations—as we are with high-touch workshops, pop-up/mock-up events, youth activities, or mobile Idea Centers. Our diverse, bilingual, and culturally connected in-house engagement experts create outreach materials that spark creativity and inspire participation, helping to maximize responses and produce meaningful data. We'll work with you to develop an optimal process to further develop Jollyman's initial concept design to tell the community's story and meet their desires for play experiences.

Our work is characterized by a **dedication to quality, a flexible and collaborative approach, creativity in planning and design, and a commitment to completing projects on time and within budget.** We believe that successful projects happen when the consultant team becomes an extension of the client team. With that in mind, our well-honed and established project management, communication, scheduling, and cost control processes will be activated in service of this project.

Firm Qualifications and Experience



About MIG, Inc.

Type of Business: CA-Corporation

Years in Business: 39 years

MIG, Inc., improves, adapts, and creates organizations, environments, and tools for human development. We are a community of designers, planners, engineers, scientists, and storytellers who engage people in creative problem-solving and collective action. We believe that the physical and social environment around us have a profound impact on our lives, and this belief shapes the principles that guide our work:

- » Communities can plan their own futures.
- » The world needs an ecological perspective.
- » Great projects work for everyone.
- » Elegant design inspires new thinking.
- » Every project presents an opportunity to advance racial and social equity.
- » All work must be context driven.

Description and Qualifications of the Firm Related to the Scope of Services

For almost 40 years, MIG has been a national leader in the research, design, programming, implementation, and advocacy of innovative play environments, and we have carried that love and understanding of play's importance to our broader, multidisciplinary practice, which includes master planning, landscape architecture, architecture, urban and streetscape design, environmental planning and design, accessibility compliance, and playground safety review.

Our diversity of expertise is built on a foundation of play, and for us, that has always meant inclusive play. Inclusive play design means providing as many ways as possible for everyone of all abilities and backgrounds to engage and play alongside each other. It acknowledges that underneath our special needs and disabilities, we are all human first, so it begins with experience and developmental needs rather than equipment. Whether creating a concept or interpreting an existing concept, MIG's inclusive play spaces incorporate art and humor, and connect people to local culture and natural processes.

Our inclusive play spaces can be found throughout the Bay Area, the nation, and internationally. To create these spaces, we've worked with hundreds of state and local government agencies, as well as nonprofits, such as the Trust for Public Land, Pogo Park, Kristi Yamaguchi's Always Dream Foundation, and the San Francisco Parks Alliance.

MIG's team will be led by Melissa Erikson as Principal-in-Charge and Jan Eiesland, who will be the daily point of contact and the design lead. They will be supported in design and playground safety compliance by Amy Mitchell. Our in-house team of ADA and CEQA specialists will also be available for consultation as needed.

To collaborate with MIG, we have brought together the team that recently collaborated on the design for Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Play Area in San Jose, CA: BKF will provide civil engineering; Moly Seto at KPFF will provide structural engineering; and David Maino at Atium Engineering will provide electrical/lighting design.



Team Organizational Chart

The following chart outlines the overall MIG Team structure and how the consultant team will interact with City staff and stakeholders.



Ongoing Contracts and Projects

The list below comprises this team’s current ongoing commitments. Each of the team members has up to 50% of their time to devote to this project as needed.

PROJECT NAME	STAFF MEMBER	STATUS	END DATE
Almaden Lake Park All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA	Jan Eiesland	Paused for fundraising	Dec. 2021
Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA	Jan Eiesland	Construction Phase, start is pending	Fall 2022
Richmond Playground, San Francisco, CA	Jan Eiesland	Ongoing; 60% Design in progress	Feb. 2023
Herz Playground, San Francisco, CA	Melissa Erikson and Amy Mitchell	Ongoing; 60% Design completed	Fall 2022
53rd Avenue All-Inclusive Park and Playground, Hillsboro, OR	Melissa Erikson and Amy Mitchell	Ongoing; 70% Design In-progress	Oct. 2022
Los Angeles County Regional and Rural Recreational Needs Assessment, CA	Melissa Erikson	Ongoing	Dec. 2021

Litigation Statement

MIG, Inc., has no pending litigations against the firm or any individual.

Staff Qualifications and Experience

Team Introduction

The MIG Team is a collaboration of unique individuals who are not only skilled and experienced, but are also inspiring and enjoyable to work with. This dynamic, time-tested team of creative problem-solvers, storytellers, artists, and engineers is highly recommended by public agencies for achieving project goals, forging consensus among people with divergent opinions, and producing outstanding places that people love. Each member has been selected for their strong expertise as well as their passion, commitment, and availability for this project.

Principal-in-Charge and Director of Community Design Services **Melissa Erikson, PLA, ASLA**, believes in the power of experience and the joy of place. She draws on her liberal arts background to holistically look at problems and her attention to detail and can-do attitude are contagious. Melissa will provide overall project oversight, and quality control, ensuring that adequate resources are made available to the project and all contractual requirements are met. Melissa also worked on Cupertino's Parks & Recreation System Master Plan.

Project Manager **Jan Eiesland, PLA**, will be the day-to-day contact for this project responsible for the direction of the team. As a former free-range country kid turned city dweller, she understands the importance of access to the outdoors for everyone. Her strong design and project management skills foster effective collaborations with design teams from early concepts through construction. Jan believes that good design can create real change at the community level—by providing a valued space with shared meaning—and that should also appeal at the personal level—with artful, memorable elements that delight and surprise.

Melissa and Jan will be supported by **Amy Mitchell, PLA, CPSI**. With a background in art education, Amy is an award-winning and versatile landscape architect as well as play specialist. She strives to capture the spirit and the character of the local community and context in every design. While detail-oriented and organized, Amy allows for a little controlled chaos in the design process because creativity needs space to emerge and unfold. She is committed to designing spaces that support healthy individuals of all abilities and strong community relationships.

With more than a decade of experience as a facilitator and outreach specialist, **Noé Noyola** will lead the Community Outreach and Engagement tasks for this project. Noé has a strong and broad background in implementing community outreach initiatives for a broad range of projects including parks and play areas. Fluent in Spanish, he is a motivated and personable professional with demonstrated success working with federal, state and local government agencies as well as nonprofits.

Our Subconsultants

KPFF

KPFF is at the leading edge of structural engineering and strives for continuous improvement in our engineering design and design methodologies. With a long history of growth and innovation, we have built a practice based on sound engineering fundamentals coupled with developing smarter ways to design and build buildings.

ATIUM ENGINEERING

Atium Engineering (Atium) was founded in 2017 and provides power distribution design, lighting system design, and low-voltage systems design ranging from small buildings requiring a single panelboard to large, medium-voltage campus-wide power distribution systems.

BKF ENGINEERS

Since 1915, **BKF Engineers (BKF)** earned a reputation for its ability to successfully plan, design, survey, and implement complex projects. We draw upon and utilize our experience diligently guiding projects from the initial due diligence and feasibility stages through progressing project designs and permitting approvals, and concluding with construction and implementation.

NINYO & MOORE

Ninyo & Moore (Ninyo) was established in 1986 to provide geotechnical engineering, engineering geology, materials testing, special inspection, and environmental consulting services to clients in the governmental (federal, state, and local), commercial, and private sectors.

Key Staff Qualifications

STAFF MEMBER	QUALIFICATIONS	RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
<p>Melissa Erikson, PLA, ASLA Principal-in-Charge/Project Director</p> <p>EDUCATION: MLA, University of California, Berkeley</p> <p>BA, Studio Art and Psychology, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota</p> <p>LICENSES / REGISTRATIONS: Landscape Architect: CA #5024, TX #3243, OR #LA0919, CO #1394, MN #58375</p>	<p>Melissa Erikson brings over 20 years of experience and is an accomplished landscape architect and designer who grew up finger-tracing land contours on National Geographic maps, and is now shaping them in the public realm for people of all ages and abilities. Her work encompasses a diverse range of outdoor spaces from parks and plazas to trails and streets – with the common purpose of connecting people to nature and fostering positive associations to story, memory, and place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Anna and Abby’s Yard, Forest Grove, OR » Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA » Rainbow Play for All Park, San Jose, CA » Koret Children’s Quarters, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA » 53rd Avenue Park Inclusive Play Area, Hillsboro, OR » Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, Cupertino, CA
<p>Jan Eiesland, PLA Project Manager</p> <p>EDUCATION: BA, Architectural Studies, University of Washington</p> <p>MLA, University of California, Berkeley</p> <p>LICENSES / REGISTRATIONS: Landscape Architect: CA #4893</p>	<p>Jan Eiesland brings 20 years of professional experience centered on the public realm, including play areas, public parks, community centers, schools, and civic landscapes. She has a passion for public spaces that get people outside to engage with their community and reconnect with the natural environment. Jan begins each project by drawing out community and stakeholder needs while uncovering the site’s specific challenges and opportunities. Her strong design and project management skills foster effective collaborations with design teams from early concept through construction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA » Verdesse Carter Park Improvements, Oakland, CA » Koret Children’s Quarters, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA » Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park, Santa Rosa, CA » Morgan Park, Campbell, CA » Almaden Lake All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA » Richmond Playground Renovation, San Francisco, CA
<p>Amy Mitchell, PLA, CPSI Landscape Architect</p> <p>EDUCATION: BS, Landscape Architecture, University of California, Davis</p> <p>LICENSES / REGISTRATIONS: Landscape Architect: CA #5852, TX #3220, AL #819 Certified Playground Safety Inspector: #48878-0423</p>	<p>Amy Mitchell brings almost 20 years of experience and is a versatile landscape architect and project manager whose work can be found in a range of settings from streets and schools to parks and specialized children’s environments around the country. Coming from arts education, Amy was drawn to landscape architecture as a means of manipulating texture, color, form, and space. Rather than art on a wall or shelf, she creates entire environments that people interact with on a regular basis. A focused and persistent problem-solver, she is adept at utilizing new technology and open to exploring different perspectives to achieve desired project goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Anna and Abby’s Yard, Forest Grove, OR » Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA » Bill’s Backyard at the Children’s Discovery Museum, San Jose, CA » Yanaguana Garden at Hemisfair Park, San Antonio, TX » Always Dream Play Area, Fremont, CA » Hal Brown Park at Creekside, Kentfield, CA » Herz Playground Renovation, San Francisco, CA
<p>Noé Noyola Community Engagement Specialist</p> <p>EDUCATION: MCP, University of California, Berkeley</p> <p>BA, Political Science and Spanish, Sonoma State University</p>	<p>Noé Noyola brings over 16 years of experience. He is a highly skilled and dedicated community planner and project manager whose projects have addressed the full range of urban planning and design issues—from transportation and housing to economic development and recreation. Noé’s cultural competency—fluency in Spanish—and mastery of process and meeting facilitation enable him to effectively bridge technical content with impacted, and often under-served, stakeholder communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Richmond Playground Engagement and Outreach, San Francisco, CA » Herz Playground Renovation Outreach and Engagement, San Francisco, CA » Union City General Plan Update, Decoto Neighborhood Outreach, Union City, CA » Youth Parks, and Community Enrichment Master Plan, Sacramento, CA

Key Staff Qualifications, *continued*

STAFF MEMBER	QUALIFICATIONS	RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
<p>Molly Seto, SE, LEED AP, BD+C Structural Engineer (KPFf)</p> <p>EDUCATION: MS, Civil Engineering, University of California, Berkeley</p> <p>BS, Civil Engineering, Princeton University</p> <p>LICENSES / REGISTRATIONS: Registered Structural Engineer: CA #S6102 Registered Civil Engineer: CA #C72759 LEED Accredited Professional</p>	<p>Molly Seto has been with KPFf since 2012. Her responsibilities include project management, design, and analysis of both new and existing buildings and structures. Her design experience includes residential, commercial, medical, and retail buildings in concrete, post-tensioned design, wood, and steel. Molly has worked on numerous projects with high sustainability goals, and is an advocate for green building. This experience, combined with a reputation for excellent client service, brings a high level of structural expertise to both clients and projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA » Herz Playground Renovation, San Francisco, CA » Richmond Playground Renovation, San Francisco, CA » Gamma Dog Park Light Pole, Santa Clara, CA » On Lok East San Jose Tenant Improvement at 130 N, Jackson, San Jose, CA » Middlefield Junction, Redwood City, CA
<p>David Maino, PE, LEED AP Electrical Engineer (Atium)</p> <p>EDUCATION: MAE, Pennsylvania State University</p> <p>LICENSES / REGISTRATIONS: Registered Engineer: CA #E19203 LEED Accredited Professional</p>	<p>David Maino has built upon the collaborative approach encouraged as part of his Architectural Engineering curriculum to focus on a whole-building approach to design. Careful collaboration between disciplines is at the core of his design philosophy. This collaborative approach has led to successes in a wide variety of commercial, public works, educational, residential, and civic projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » McClellan Ranch Nature Preserve, Cupertino, CA: - Historic blacksmith renovation and new educational facility » Nature Bridge National Environmental Science Center, Yosemite, CA: - New landscape lighting, cabins, facilities buildings, and dining hall » Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA
<p>Patrick Chan, PE, LEED AP Civil Engineer (BKF)</p> <p>EDUCATION: BS, Civil Engineering, Santa Clara University</p> <p>LICENSES / REGISTRATIONS: Civil Engineer: CA #83189 LEED Accredited Professional</p>	<p>As Vice President at BKF, Patrick Chan has a broad base of civil engineering experience. Throughout his career, he has worked with both private- and public-sector clients. He is responsible for many phases of project development ranging from preliminary studies to contract document preparation and construction administration. His experience includes residential, commercial, institutional, and community-related projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA » Hampton Park, Cupertino, CA » Almaden Lake All-Inclusive Playground, San Jose, CA » Elaine Richardson Park, San Jose, CA » Solari Park Master Plan and Development, San Jose, CA
<p>Ransom Hennefer, PE, GE Geotechnical Engineer (Ninyo)</p> <p>EDUCATION: MS, Geotechnical Engineering, University of California, Berkeley</p> <p>BS, Civil Engineering, University of California, Berkeley</p> <p>BA, Business Management Economics, University of California, Santa Cruz</p> <p>LICENSES / REGISTRATIONS: Civil Engineer: CA #85603 Geotechnical Engineer: CA #3152 ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician Grade I</p>	<p>As a Principal Engineer for Ninyo & Moore, Ransom Hennefer has nine years of experience conducting and managing geotechnical and geophysical services for a variety of projects including educational facilities, pipelines, flood control structures, dams, airports, roadways, hospitals, renewable energy structures, park and recreational facilities, commercial and residential developments, and other public and private works projects. His responsibilities as Manager of Engineering for our Northern California offices involve providing engineering support to technical staff, reviewing reports and laboratory test results, and providing quality assurance reviews.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Hayward Area Recreation and Park District, McConaghy and Kennedy Parks Renovation Project, Hayward, CA » Skyline Park Project, Geotechnical Evaluation and Construction Services, Burlingme, CA » Northgate Community Park, Fremont, CA » Central Park Large Group Picnic Area, Fremont, CA » East Bay Regional Park District, Lake Chabot Campus, Oakland, CA



Anna and Abby's Yard

FOREST GROVE, OREGON

Over the past several years, MIG has worked with the City of Forest Grove on a variety of planning and design projects, which has allowed us to become an extension of the City's staff and deeply invested in the community. One of the places we are strongly committed to is Rogers Park, a popular four-acre neighborhood park with an existing Oregon oak canopy and the site of Anna and Abby's Yard.

Anna and Abby's Yard is a memorial play area inspired by the lives of two sisters—Anna Dieter-Eckerdt and Abby Robinson—who loved to run, laugh, skip, climb, spin, explore, and dream in the parks and yards of Forest Grove, Oregon. In honor of them, this destination play area is made from both natural and manufactured materials, encourages tactile and open-ended free play, and celebrates the special qualities and interests that made each of the girls unique. Designed as an inclusive play space, this park also supports accessibility, livability, health and wellness, social cohesion, and community identity while providing a safe and welcoming place for visitors of all ages and abilities to engage in outdoor time.

MIG was fortunate to have worked on this project alongside Anna's and Abby's mother, Susan Dieter-Robinson, who has shared her story so that the love and joy her daughters experienced while at play will live on in their community. MIG also worked with Harper's Playground to raise the money needed to complete this park in one phase and make Anna and Abby's Yard as magical and all-embracing as it can be.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- » **Key Staff:** Melissa Erikson, Principal-in-Charge and Design; Amy Mitchell, Design and Play Safety
- » Completed through construction
- » Inclusive play that tells a story and highlights the natural context



Bill's Backyard at the Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

"Bill's Backyard: A Bridge to Nature" features the tree house, dig pit, and free play of our childhood dreams. It's 27,500 sq. ft. of a good time! And it complements the indoor Discovery Museum, providing an exciting place to continue exploration outdoors.

Kids can run, jump, and climb; build shelters with reeds and branches; scurry through sky bridge tunnels (getting a whole new perspective on the world); and scoop gravel, twigs, sand, dirt, and water—just like you would do in a backyard. They'll find life size bronze animals scattered throughout the area. There's a hands-on flower and vegetable garden, and an area for programmed activities. Care was taken to allow places for quiet and calm, imaginative play—such as the hollow tree hideout—with more active places like the hillside slide. A 7,200-gallon rain harvest system irrigates and provides water to the water play area.

The Backyard brings the joys of nature and freedom-to-get-dirty to kids too often glued to screens, especially in an urban environment like San Jose with limited safe outdoor areas. It creates a spark in kids and their parents to venture out more to parks, trails, and wilderness areas.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- » **Key Staff:** Amy Mitchell, Design Team and Play Safety
- » Completed through construction
- » Inclusive play in a natural context
- » Bay Area nonprofit experience



Emma Prusch All-Inclusive Playground

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

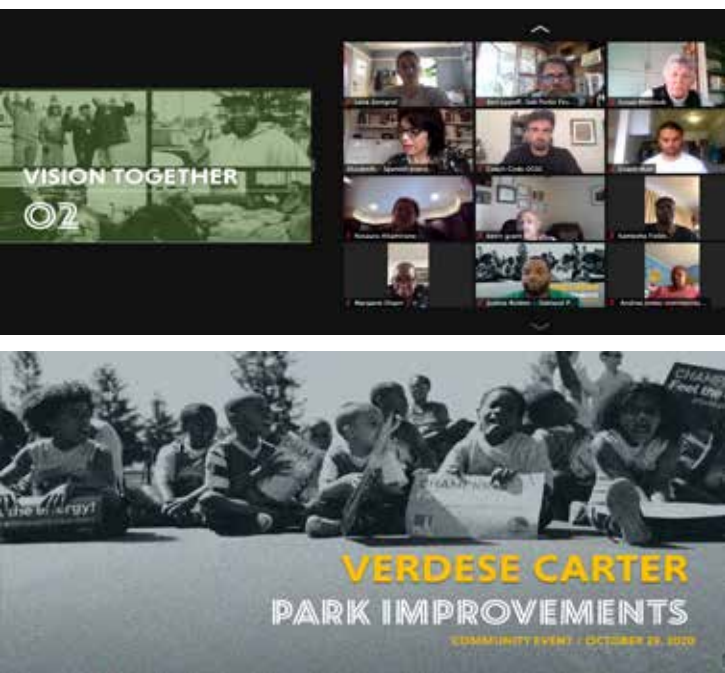
Emma Prusch Farm Park was gifted to the City of San Jose with the vision of creating and maintaining a rural country atmosphere in the city that promotes and demonstrates historic, contemporary, and culturally relevant agricultural practices. This neighborhood park is unique in the region with a working farm that is co-managed with nonprofits and docents. The park includes community gardens, rare fruit orchards, livestock, a barn, historic buildings, picnic facilities, and a play area (park visitors also get to enjoy the free-ranging peacocks and chickens make visits extra memorable!). MIG is working with the City of San Jose to expand the play area by designing an all-inclusive playground that builds on the agricultural history of the site while providing improved play experiences for all ages and abilities.

The concept builds on the park's unique character of being a working farm and plays with scale in a fun way—for example, there is a giant chicken climbing structure and a hidden, tiny dairy herd. The hillside has a looping accessible path with a variety of sliding options and shared, shaded seating areas help bridge the existing play area with the new area. The park is expected to open in 2022.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- » **Key Staff:** Melissa Erikson, Principal; Jan Eiesland, Project Manager; Amy Mitchell, Design and Play Safety
- » Completed through bid documents
- » Inclusive play highlighting local culture and context
- » Bay Area government agency experience
- » Engaging multicultural community

Similar Projects



Verdese Carter Park Improvements

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

The Verdese Carter Park of 2021 is a worn out and underutilized 9-acre neighborhood park set within a disadvantaged and park-poor community in east Oakland—yet it has so much potential to become a vibrant community resource. Last year, MIG worked with the Verdese Carter Park neighbors to dream up a new center for community life on this neglected park site and pursue grant funding to make it a reality.

The partnership included The Trust for Public Land (TPL), the Police Activity League (PAL), City of Oakland, and Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation. Despite significant crime in the surrounding area and a lack of trust in the police, Verdese Carter Park and the PAL-run clubhouse have been a safe haven in the neighborhood for many kids and teens.

To build community pride in the park and foster long-term stewardship—and to be competitive for the grant—outreach and engagement were essential. MIG, alongside TPL, conducted a robust community engagement process with enhanced digital tools due to the pandemic to understand the issues and design park improvements that best met this community's specific priorities and programming needs.

The community-driven concept plan served as the basis for the Proposition 68 grant application (currently under review).

The revitalized park will support children's play, athletic activities, community gardening, walking, and socializing. A refurbished recreation center will be the home for PAL and a central reminder of the positive relationships police can have with a community's youth—not only for reducing crime, but for building strong personal relationships that can change the course of a child's life.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- » **Key Staff:** Jan Eiesland, Project Manager
- » Completed through Concept Plan
- » Inclusive and equitable design
- » Nonprofit and agency experience and coordination
- » Digital Engagement Tools—Zoom meeting with a local DJ and interactive polling, Community Survey, and distanced Park Popups



Yanaguana Garden at Hemisfair Park

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Named for the river of “refreshing waters” along which the local Coahuiltecan tribe built its seasonal villages, Yanaguana Garden honors San Antonio’s past as it provides a place for the community to gather and play in the present.

As one of the first projects completed in the 100-acre redevelopment of Hemisfair Park, Yanaguana Garden is a catalyst for economic development and community interaction. Working closely with the City of San Antonio and the Hemisfair Park Area Redevelopment Corporation (HPARC), MIG led the visioning, programming, and design process that included thousands of area residents and business owners. The result is a 24/7-outdoor play and recreation experience that fosters creativity, exploration, learning, and fitness by encouraging everyone to play—regardless of age or ability.

A large blue net structure called the Boomerang invites children of all ages—even Dad—to climb, and ping pong and foosball tables offer opportunities for family competition. Sculptures commissioned by the City from local artists serve as illuminated steel “pup-tents” to create a camp circle and airy play structures become “houses” for imaginative hosts.

A promenade with a vine-covered pergola winds through the site like its namesake river. A cascading water spray area and an inland beach lure people to beat the heat. Large green spaces and walking/jogging paths offer rest or movement.

MIG also collaborated with native tribes and artists to infuse landscape elements with the community’s history and culture. Sinuous, mosaic-covered seating and a climbable spotted blue panther sparkle like jewels and reflect the native origin story. A custom restroom building features a curving psychedelic mural, and colorful checkered “flooring” in the central square can be a game board or a dance floor for special events. As the new world standard for innovative play for all, Yanaguana is a refreshing start to the renewal of San Antonio’s Hemisfair Park.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- » **Key Staff:** Amy Mitchell, Design Team
- » Completed through construction
- » Inclusive play highlighting local culture and context
- » Multicultural engagement

References, Rates, and Insurance

Team References

ANN AND ABBY'S YARD

Tom Gamble, Director (retired)
 Parks and Recreation Department
 City of Forest Grove
 (503) 702-0991

YANAGUANA GARDEN

Andres Andujar, CEO
 City of San Antonio / Hemisfair Park Area
 Redevelopment Corporation
 (210) 867-1305
 Andres.Andujar@Hemisfair.org

BILL'S BACKYARD PLAY AREA

Marilee Jennings, Executive Director
 San José Children's Discovery Museum
 (408) 298-5437
 executivedirector@cdm.org

EMMA PRUSCH ALL-INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND

Hayde Pacheco, Parks Manager
 City of San Jose Parks, Recreation,
 and Neighborhood Services
 (408) 793-4197
 Hayde.Pacheco@sanjoseca.gov

Hourly Billing Rates

Melissa Erikson, Principal-in-Charge / Project Director	\$210
Jan Eiesland, Project Manager	\$165
Amy Mitchell, Landscape Architect/CPSI	\$175
Noé Noyola, Engagement Specialist	\$145
Molly Seto, Structural Engineer (KPFF)	\$175
David Maino, Electrical Engineer (Atium)	\$180
Patrick Chan, Civil Engineer (BKF)	\$200
Ransom Hennefer, Engineer (Ninyo)	\$220

Insurance Coverage

MIG, Inc., currently maintains the following levels of insurance coverage.

- General Liability:** \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000 aggregate and \$10,000,000 umbrella
- Professional Liability:** \$2,000,000 per claim and \$4,000,000 aggregate
- Automobile Liability:** \$1,000,000 per accident
- Worker's Compensation:** \$1,000,000 per accident

