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NEWS RELEASE

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Parks Foundation Receives Grant to Fund Summer Playground Programs

McClaskey Family Foundation grant provides \$26,000 per year for five years

VANCOUVER, Wash. – The Parks Foundation of Clark County received a welcome surprise at the July 19 Orchards Park Summer Playground Program donor site visit when Lyn Angelo, Board Chair for the McClaskey Family Foundation, presented Parks Foundation Executive Director Cheri Martin with a \$26,000 check to fund summer playground programs. Angelo announced that the donation is the first of a five-year \$26,000 per year commitment from the McClaskey Foundation to support the summer playground programs.

Mayor Leavitt expressed sincere appreciation to Mrs. Angelo and the McClaskey Foundation. Said Leavitt, "It's difficult for me to express in words just how thankful I am for this commitment by Lyn and the McClaskey Foundation to the families and children in our community. The Summer Playground Program has been such a benefit to the local neighborhoods – creating a safe and active environment in these parks for our children. This wonderful gift allows the City and our partners to further improve and potentially expand the program to serve even more children. This is truly fantastic news!"

"We are extremely appreciative of this commitment by the McClaskey Family Foundation which will help maintain and grow this important program that invests in our youth and brings our community closer together," said David Perlick, Recreation Services Manager for Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation. "We've seen growing interest in our playground programs this year and we have also seen community members come out to help support these programs by volunteering, helping children walk safely to the site and just keeping a closer eye on the parks to make sure equipment doesn't get damaged."

The Parks Foundation, through their Community Grant Program, seeks and secures funding to support programs and projects like the summer playground programs. "We are so incredibly grateful to the McClaskey Foundation for generosity in supporting this very important program," said Cheri Martin, Executive Director of the Parks Foundation. "We are excited at the possibilities this donation provides to further expand the program."

About the Parks Foundation

The Parks and Recreation Foundation of Vancouver and Clark County was established in 1999 to accept and administer donations, gifts and bequests for the enrichment and enhancement of our communities' parks, trails, and recreational programs.

The mission of the Parks Foundation is to raise funds through public and private partnerships for parks, trails, and recreational programs throughout Clark County. The Foundation is a 501 C 3 non-profit corporation and all gifts are tax deductible. The Foundation is governed by a board of directors comprised of local citizens who oversee, invest and administer donations made to the Foundation.

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