



Sustainability in Action

Republic Services' grant to help build new adaptive playground at Mid-Willamette Family YMCA

\$250,000 award from the Republic Services Charitable Foundation will fund state-of-the-art, accessible equipment

Albany (May 17, 2022) – A \$250,000 neighborhood revitalization grant from the Republic Services Charitable Foundation will help fund the Tri-County area's first all-inclusive and all-accessible playground at the Mid-Willamette Family YMCA.

The Foundation's grant is one of only 10 awarded in the country for 2022 through the National Neighborhood Promise® program, a community revitalization initiative.

"The work we're doing with the Republic Services Charitable Foundation will touch the lives of thousands of people in a state where fully inclusive and adaptive parks are few and far between," said Chris Reese, CEO of the Mid-Willamette Family YMCA. "We want our community park to be the example for what facilities should look like in the future to ensure nobody is ever left behind – that's why this project is so near and dear to my heart."

Republic Services has served Benton County and the surrounding area for more than 40 years via Coffin Butte Landfill. The environmental services company also operates the Pacific Region Compost facility (PRC), which processes 140,000 tons of organic material annually, and services 68 collection routes in Linn, Lincoln, Benton, Marion and surrounding counties.

"This is our community, our home," said Shawn Edmonds, general manager, Republic Services of Corvallis. "Part of being a good neighbor is giving back and working together to find solutions that fill an important need. We're thrilled to be able to partner with the YMCA to build a safe, state-of-the-art play area that is engaging, inclusive and accessible."

Planning for the 7,200 square foot playground space is already well underway; the playground equipment will be 100 percent customized and unique to the YMCA



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facility. It will be modular in design so that it can be added on to over time, and feature ramps, accessible merry-go rounds, swing sets and other items.

"There's going to be nothing close to this in the Tri-County area," Reese said, adding that the goal is to open before the end of the year.

Albany Mayor Alex Johnson II said the new playground aligns with his long-term vision for the city, including upgrading parks, facilities and hard surface trails so that they align with American with Disabilities Act standards.

"The YMCA services so many young people and seniors, and we have a great working relationship with Republic Services," Johnson said. "This is going to make things a heck of a lot better for children with special needs, for youth sports, for the Special Olympics. Having a place for the kids to go, be safe, and be included is essential."

The National Neighborhood Promise projects support Republic's long-term [sustainability goal](#) to positively impact 20 million people through charitable giving by 2030 and are another way the Company is demonstrating sustainability in action. For more information about the Republic Services Charitable Foundation and the National Neighborhood Promise program, please visit RepublicServices.com/giving.

About Republic Services

Republic Services, Inc. is a leader in the U.S. environmental services industry. *Through its subsidiaries, the Company provides superior service offerings while partnering with customers to create a more sustainable world.* For more information, visit RepublicServices.com, or follow us at Facebook.com/RepublicServices, [@RepublicService](https://Twitter.com/RepublicService) on Twitter or Republic Services on [LinkedIn](https://LinkedIn.com).

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