



## News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Lafayette Parks & Recreation Hosts Groundbreaking Ceremony for CAT Park All-Inclusive Sports Field**

**LAFAYETTE, IN – April 13, 2022** – Today Lafayette Parks & Recreation hosted a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the CAT Park All-Inclusive Sports Field. The event featured a turning of dirt ceremony as well as remarks from Mayor Tony Roswarski, Parks Superintendent Claudine Laufman, Joe Markun of Caterpillar, Justin Sorber of Keystone Architecture, Inc., Logan Brown of Kettelhut Construction, Inc., Bill Leber of Wessler Engineering, Inc., and Jason McManus of Wabash Center.

The new field will be located in the undeveloped area adjacent to the parking lot and will support the eight existing soccer fields at that location. This new addition will feature an all-abilities sports field with poured-in place rubber surfacing, two dugouts, a covered announcer's booth, scoreboard, and spectator seating. The special field surface material is ADA compliant and will allow participation from individuals with all levels of physical abilities. The field space will be able to host a variety of sporting events and activities including, baseball, softball, and soccer, among others.

"The CAT Park all-inclusive field has been a dream of mine for many years and is truly a labor of love," said Mayor Tony Roswarski. "With support from local businesses and CDBG funds, this facility will provide access to those individuals wanting to experience the joy of playing a sport on a custom field to meet their abilities. I believe this all-inclusive field will allow everyone the opportunity to create memories and have wonderful recreational opportunities."

At the Groundbreaking Ceremony, Mayor Roswarski graciously announced a \$25,000 gift from Wabash Center. The gift will allow Lafayette Parks & Recreation to purchase a state-of-the-art scoreboard for the new facility.



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“Wabash Center is very proud to be an advisory partner on this important project,” said Jason McManus, CEO of Wabash Center. “Mayor Roswarski’s commitment to ensuring that people of all abilities have a place to play is a testament to the City of Lafayette’s spirit of inclusion. Throughout the planning process I learned of the many great people and local companies whose generosity made this project possible and saw an opportunity for Wabash Center to contribute in a meaningful way.”

Future amenities for the facility may include concession space, restrooms, batting cage, hardscaping, landscaping, and shade structures. This project is funded in part by a CDBG (Community Development Block Group) allocation to the City of Lafayette from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The design of this project was made possible through a collaboration between the Parks Department, Wessler Engineering, Inc., Keystone Architecture, Inc., and Kettelhut Construction, Inc., who generously donated their staff time and expertise. This partnership has produced a design for this sports field that will further enhance quality-of-life offerings for the entire community. The City of Lafayette is excited to move forward with this project which complements an overall vision of inclusivity.

### **About Lafayette Parks and Recreation**

The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department operates and maintains 700 acres of land within the City of Lafayette. This includes the maintenance of more than 27 miles of paved trails. The city’s trails are open to the public and can be used for a variety of activities including walking, running, biking, rollerblading, and more.

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