



March 21, 2016

Playful City USA
c/o KaBOOM!
4301 Connecticut Ave. NW
Suite ML-1
Washington, D.C. 20008

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the City Council, I am writing to share our support for the City of Commerce City's eighth consecutive year as a Playful City USA. We continue to be honored by this national acknowledgement of our efforts to increase play opportunities for more than 18,000 children in our community.

As the fourth-fastest growing city in Colorado, Commerce City has one of the youngest and most diverse populations – the average age of our community is 31 and more than 47 percent of our residents are of Hispanic descent. Creating play spaces as well as providing active living and healthy lifestyle opportunities for people of all ages has been a top priority for the city.

Over the past year, Commerce City has opened a seasonal outdoor pool in the southern part of the city called Paradise Island, highlighting the community-selected "games" theme, as well as a new neighborhood park, Fronterra Park. We have broken ground on two additional neighborhood parks, Turnberry and Villages at Buffalo Run East. The city is currently in the design phase of a new recreation center with an indoor pool at Second Creek Park, and will soon be requesting proposals for enhancements to the existing recreation center, including a new therapy pool. The 2013 ballot initiative that made these projects possible will also provide a dedicated revenue source to construct, operate and maintain road, park and recreation projects in the future.

The city continues to provide unique programming and activities that encourage play in the community. From geocaching classes to Music in the Park, more than 480,000 visits were recorded at our seasonal recreation programs, 25 miles of trails, award-winning golf course, and 700 acres of parks and open space.

Young or old, active lifestyle or enrichment options – Commerce City is committed to increasing the quantity and quality of play for all who live, work and visit our community. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions at 303-227-8808. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mayor Sean Ford
City of Commerce City, Colo.