



February 5, 2013

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 fifth 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 lifestyles opportunities for people of all ages has been a top priority for the city.

In the last year, city council has invested more than \$400,000 to improve and expand local parks. For example, we are remodeling nearly 40-year old Fairfax Park, the first community park built in Commerce City. The renovated facility will feature new basketball and Futsal courts, a perimeter walking trail, new group shelters and open space for families and youth to play and interact. We also planted over a hundred trees in park areas and completed a variety of small upgrades and maintenance items in pocket and neighborhood parks throughout the city.

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.