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Tire-derived Products Grant Awarded to MCCPRA for Improvements to All Public Playgrounds within Colquitt County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2024 – (MOULTRIE, GA) – The Moultrie Colquitt County Parks and Recreation Authority (MCCPRA) was recently awarded a \$67,171.65 grant to create a poured-in-place play area at Main Street Park and to provide swing and slide mats to ten public playgrounds across the county.

Poured-in-place (PIP) is a surface that will make a new play area at Main Street Park more accessible and safer for children with disabilities and young children to play outside, improve their health and social inclusion. The nature of this tire-derived product also allows for easier maneuverability for those using wheelchairs, walkers and braces. This PIP playground surfacing will increase safety and reduce maintenance for Main Street Park while also creating a play space for younger children. The slide and swing mats will improve the public playgrounds across the county including five playgrounds in the city of Moultrie, one in the City of Berlin, two in the City of Funston, and two in the city of Doerun.

The Tire-derived Products grant was achieved thanks to partnership across the county from the Colquitt County Board of Commissioners, the Colquitt County Solid Waste

Department, the City of Moultrie, Doerun, Funston and Berlin as well as the Colquitt County Special Olympics. Colquitt County citizens also played a role when many participated in the Tire Amnesty Events held in January and June 2023 by the Colquitt County Solid Waste Department. Programs like the Tire Amnesty Event aid in environmental sustainability of tire recycling and in turn those tires can be used in projects like this one. "The Poured-in-place project will provide the first and only play space of it's kind in Colquitt County," said Maggie Davidson, Executive Director of MCCPRA, "The partnership that we have seen from the County and cities alike will create an inclusive and safe playground for children of all abilities and will make all public playgrounds in the county safer and easier to maintain. That is an exciting feature to be able to offer the families of Colquitt County as well as visitors."

The Tire-derived Project is already underway and is scheduled to be completed in July 2024.

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MCCPRA is a Municipal Authority supported taxpayer funds from Moultrie and Colquitt County residents, program fees, rental fees, and grants. A board of directors composed of both Colquitt County and Moultrie representatives manages the Authority. MCCPRA operates and maintains parks and recreational facilities in Colquitt County, as well as sports, aquatics, and other community wellness programs.