## **Case Study**

RIVERSIDE PARK REPLACES OLD AND UNSAFE PLAYGROUND WITH NEW PLAY ENVIRONMENT



## RIVERSIDE PARK

Mount Airy, North Carolina

**THE CUSTOMER:** Riverside Park has been serving the children and adults within the Mount Airy community since 1977. This long-standing park was renovated in 2004 and 2009 to better accommodate the community with updated picnic shelters.

restrooms, lighted soccer field, playground, and open green space. To keep the park looking its best, the Mount Airy Parks and Recreation Department decided to replace an old wooden structure with a new and improved play environment.

**THE CHALLENGE:** Riverside Park had a 15-year-old wooden playground that was in desperate need of repairs. Many parts had been replaced and others were still broken. Children's safety while playing on this structure was a big concern.

What's more, the existing playground was built and paid for by the community, so replacing it was a sensitive issue as some people were very opposed. To help ease tensions, the Mount Airy Parks

and Recreation Department had a specific list of must-haves in choosing their new playground.

"We wanted to make sure to come back with a new and improved playground with the WOW factor. Interactive, bright colors, safe, durable, and something for everyone," Assistant Director Darren Lewis said.

**THE SUPERIOR SOLUTION:** Superior Recreation of the Carolinas, an SRP Certified Partner, worked with the park management to provide them with the best playground solution that included everything on their wish list while staying in budget.

"It was important to them that the new play environment be fun, safe, have curb appeal, and add play value. In the end, our design and value we gave them won us that opportunity," Design Consultant Cobie Ellington said.

The Superior solution consisted of a play environment suitable for all ages. There's a 2-5 structure, 5-12 structure, and numerous freestanding play elements. The new playground that was dedicated on July 1, 2016 was a huge success and very well received by the community.

"The community is very happy with the new playground and it has been a great addition to our park. The facility is safe, colorful, and offers lots of activity for kids of all ages," Lewis said.

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Jordan Brannock Photography

"Cobie was outstanding to work with and walked us through each step of the project from price, design, quotes, scheduling, building, etc." Lewis said.

From this great success, Superior is now their go-to supplier for recreational equipment. We've already provided benches for their new greenway project and gym. There are preliminary discussions of adding an inclusive structure.

"Thanks again to Superior and Cobie for their excellent professionalism and product." Lewis said.

-Darren Lewis Assistant Director