## February 27th, 2014

To the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor and the Ann Arbor City Parks and Recreation Department,

The Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues greatly supports and appreciates the Rotary Centennial Playground Project at Gallup Park. Our Commission was appointed by the Mayor to address issues related to disability that affect citizens of Ann Arbor.

We commend the Rotary Club and the Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Department for their commitment to provide safe, universally accessible and inclusive playground areas for all citizens. We believe that forward thinking collaborations such as this will provide people with disabilities the opportunity to fully engage in the many opportunities our City has to offer. In addition to providing universal access, this collaboration will also further educate the community about the needs of people who have disabilities as well as the need to include everyone in all aspects of community life.

We would like to thank both Colin Smith from the Parks and Recreation Department and members of the Rotary Club for their presentation at our January 2014 meeting to our Commission and offer our full support as you move forward with this project. We believe that the development of an accessible playground is a step in the right direction toward full and equitable participation for all citizens in the city of Ann Arbor. The city needs more improvements like this, and we encourage you all to strive for more. Should you have any questions or comments you would like the Commission on Disability Issues to address, please email our City Liaison, Amy Seavitt, at <u>aseavitt@a2gov.org</u> or myself at <u>linnie231@hotmail.com</u>.

Sincerely, Linda Evans Chair Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues