

# Jonesboro State Bank/Pledge 10 Awards Grant for Library Park



The Jackson Parish Library is excited to announce our collaboration with Jonesboro State Bank and Pledge 10 for the new library park at the Jonesboro Branch location. Pledge 10's grant will provide the conga sets for the musical section of the park. Sensory play is crucial to every child's development and growth and the conga sets will provide the auditory sensory play experience that every child needs.

"The Veteran's park and the library are critical assets to our downtown, and we are thrilled to partner with the Library and Jackson Parish Police Jury on this project," said Thurston Allen, President of the Jonesboro State Bank.

"We are honored to accept this grant from Mr. Thurston Allen, President of Jonesboro State Bank, Mrs. Christie Weeks, Pledge 10 Director and Jonesboro State Bank's Pledge 10 panel," said Floyd Knox, Library Director of the Jackson Parish Library. "We believe this park will be a huge asset for the community and we are happy that Jonesboro State Bank believes in our vision."

"I am pleased to inform you that the Pledge 10 grant panel recommended full funding in the amount of \$8,312 for the Jackson Parish Library Park-Inclusive Play Equipment project," read the email from Mrs. Christie Weeks, Pledge 10 Director for Jonesboro State Bank to the Library Director.

"Although proposal requests exceed this fall's pool of grant funds, we are happy the grant panel recommended funding at this level. We look forward to hearing about the impact of this funding."

The Jackson Parish Park will allow for a multigenerational place to gather and play regardless of disability. In the Jackson Parish Journal on September 14, 2022, it stated that Jackson Parish is ranked number 5 in the state for seniors. This park will offer adequate benches and ADA surfacing for seniors to come sit and read outside. During Covid, many seniors were homebound and not able to socialize. This park would offer a safe place to get together. Also featured is a "Happy to Chat" area where people are able to socialize. The national average of children with disabilities is 12%. In the Jonesboro-Hodge area there are 13.2% with disabilities. This park is completely inclusive so that all children can play, both with and without disabilities.

"Pledge 10 seeks to promote four specific areas of focus within the bank's geographic vicinity: Education, Youth Development, Financial Literacy, and Community Enrichment. Pledge 10 is an expression of the promise we make to our customers and community."

"The Jackson Parish Library is a service institution that seeks to inform, educate, entertain, and culturally enrich the lives of all people, from early childhood to senior citizens, through the use of books and other materials, technological innovations, facilities and professional services.