



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: February 5, 2018

Re: Columbia Public Schools - Sinclair Property Acquisition - LWCF Grant Application Approval

Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting authorization to submit a grant application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for partial funding to purchase land near Sinclair Rd. The property is located east of Sinclair Rd., approximately one-half mile south of W. Nifong Boulevard. The available 11.35 acre property is owned by Columbia Public Schools and is willingly offered at \$46,000 per acre for a total price of \$522,100. The proposed property is adjacent to land being developed for a new middle school. Park staff will submit a grant application requesting the maximum funding of \$250,000. The local match of \$272,100 will be provided by the 2010 Park Sales Tax. LWCF application guidelines require a resolution authorizing the grant application and ensuring commitment to maintain public access to the project in perpetuity.

Discussion

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is currently accepting applications through February 16, 2018, for the Land and Water Conservation Fund FY-18 program. In Missouri, LWCF is currently open to local governments and public schools for the acquisition, development and renovation of outdoor recreation sites. The maximum grant match for the program is \$250,000, not to exceed 50% of the projected cost of a project. One of the projects identified for funding by the 2010 Park Sales Tax ballot is Annual Land Acquisition for Parks, Greenways and Natural Areas.

A successful grant application will leverage Parks Sales Tax funding to allow the Parks and Recreation Department to purchase 11.35 acres from Columbia Public Schools for a total cost of \$522,100. The proposed land purchase is adjacent to property where development is underway for a new middle school scheduled to open August 2020. The source for the grant match of \$272,100 will be the 2010 Park Sales Tax.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is federally funded through the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service and is administered in Missouri by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high-quality outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

LWCF grant applicants are required to have City Council approval to apply for a grant and ensure commitment to maintain public access to the project in perpetuity. The department is requesting a resolution authorizing the grant application. Park staff will return to Council at



a later date to request approval to acquire the property from Columbia Public Schools and appropriate the grant funding, if awarded.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: If the grant is awarded, the Parks and Recreation Department would appropriate the funds as part of the Council approval process to acquire the property. Total estimated cost for the land acquisition is \$522,100 and will be funded by the LWCF grant and Park Sales Tax. The grant funding would total \$250,000 and the portion of funding provided by the 2010 Park Sales Tax would total \$272,100.

Long-Term Impact: Prior to the planning process, park staff anticipates an increase in annual maintenance of the undeveloped property. Staff will provide an estimate of maintenance costs when the property acquisition goes through the City Council approval process. Future potential park development will be discussed as part of the planning process for the 2021 Park Sales Tax renewal.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Economy, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Land Use & Growth Management, Secondary Impact: Infrastructure, Tertiary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities

Legislative History

Date	Action
12/20/2010	R 257-10 Resolution (adopt Park Sales Tax Implementation Plan); Department Report - December 13, 2010 https://www.como.gov/ParksandRec/Council_Agenda_Items/documents/council_2010_12-20_pst_implementation.pdf
12/20/2010	B 308-10 Ordinance (reimposing 1/8 cent park sales tax), Law Dept. Report - November 29, 2010 https://www.como.gov/Council/Commissions/downloadfile.php?id=19810

Suggested Council Action

Approve a resolution authorizing city staff to apply for a Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grant, in the amount of \$250,000, to leverage 2010 Park Sales Tax funding for the purpose of acquiring property on Sinclair Rd.