



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: December 7, 2020

Re: Donation and Purchase of Land for Neighborhood Park in Cross Creek/Ward 2

Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting Council approval of a real estate contract that will allow the City to acquire four lots in the Cross Creek Subdivision located adjacent to Silver Mill Drive. Lots 110, 111 and 112 will be purchased for a total price of \$90,000 and in return, lot 301 will be donated. The four lots will provide a future 2.40-acre neighborhood park and will meet the need for a neighborhood park as identified as a #1 priority in the *2013 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*. As part of the 2015 Park Sales Tax renewal, staff allocated \$150,000 for each potential neighborhood park acquisition sites. Staff will propose funding for future development of the park as part of the renewal of the Park Sales Tax in 2021. Park staff has been working on a future park with the owners, Silvermill Park LLC, since their development was announced. The department currently has \$379,427 in the park acquisition accounts, all funded by the Park Sales Tax.

Discussion

In the *2013 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*, and previous plans before it, park planners have identified a need for a neighborhood park in the area north of Brown School Road, west of highway 763 and east of N. Clearview Road. This area has seen rapid development and is underserved with publicly-owned green space. The property is located in Ward 2.

The Director of Parks and Recreation discussed the needs of a neighborhood park with Mr. Tom Mendenhall once the development of the Cross Creek Neighborhood was brought forward. Originally, lot 301 was proposed for the park, but after reviewing the proposed layout, park planners wanted to avoid the problems caused by a "stem" access to a park and negotiated the purchase of three additional lots: 110, 111 and 112. This will allow further options for development of the park. It was at this point, the owners agreed to donate lot 301 in return for the \$90,000 purchase of the three lots.

The department currently has \$379,427 in the park land acquisition fund and anticipates that there will be additional funds appropriated in FY-2022. At this time, the amount to be appropriated in FY-2022 is designated as "to be determined" pending the actual collection of Park Sales Tax revenue. The other pending park land acquisition is for the proposed 4-acre neighborhood park located off of Sinclair Road adjacent to John Warner Middle School per the City/School development agreement approved by Council on July 16, 2018. Estimated cost of this purchase is \$180,000.

The 2.4-acre future park will provide for an excellent neighborhood park potentially consisting of traditional park features, such as a playground, small non-reservable shelter,



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basketball court and open space play area. The site is gently sloping, nearly flat providing numerous park planning options once the process gets started.

Funding for the future development of the park will be proposed to Council as a project in the proposed extension of the existing Park Sales Tax, tentatively scheduled for November 2, 2021. If the ballot passes, park planners will begin working with the neighborhood residents on the park development plans, including a proposed name for the park.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Acquisition of the four lots at a cost of \$90,000, funded by Park Sales Tax
Long-Term Impact: If/when developed, maintenance of the park to cost approximately \$2500-\$3500/year

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Social Equity, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Land Use & Growth Management, Secondary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
NA	NA

Suggested Council Action

If the Council concurs that the acquisition of the described park land is appropriate, then it is requested that Council approve the legislation authorizing the City Manager to sign the Contract for Sale of Real Estate.