



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Councilors

From: Rich Olson, City Manager
Bobbi White, Parks and Recreation Director

Date: May 23, 2013

Re: Consideration – Offer of Property Donation in Old Oak Subdivision

BACKGROUND:

Last week, the City was contacted by Ms. Sandra Swanner, a resident of the Old Oak community. Ms. Swanner was representing the Old Oak Homeowners Association and their desire to donate a parcel of property to the City. This property is located at the corner of Hastings Lane and Old Oak Drive. It is approximately .47 acres and has a City pumping station in the middle of the property. (See attached map.)

ANALYSIS:

The Parks and Recreation Department and the City Council desire to have more recreational facilities and opportunities for our citizens. The property that the Homeowners Association would like to donate is in a neighborhood that has many young children. This area can eventually be developed into a beautiful neighborhood park very similar to the parks located at Elizabeth Street, Edgewood, Chalk Street and Enfield. We estimate that it will take an additional 30 to 45 minutes each week to cut and edge this area. It will increase our maintenance budget by \$2,500 annually.

Staff did discuss this property donation with the Recreation Advisory Board during their May 16, 2013 meeting. The Advisory Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Council accept the property donation to be used as a neighborhood park. If accepted, the Parks and Recreation Department will maintain the area as a passive park. Staff will ask for funding in the fiscal year 2014-15 budget to purchase and install playground equipment, mulch, fencing, benches and picnic tables.

The Finance Committee discussed this matter during their meeting on May 23, 2013 and recommends acceptance of the property.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, authorize acceptance of the property donation along Hastings Lane and Old Oak Drive from the Old Oak Homeowners Association for future development of a neighborhood park.

RCO/vdw