



MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: April 1, 2014

REGULAR \$\$

ITEM #: 9

AGENDA ITEM: Approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the Great Stillwater School District for the establishment of a multi-use park at Oakland Junior High School

SUBMITTED BY: Dean Zuleger, City Administrator

THROUGH: City of Lake Elmo Park Commission

REVIEWED BY: Shane Weis, Chair, Park Commission
Stillwater School District Board of Education

SUGGESTED ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- Introduction of Item City Administrator
- Report/Presentation.....City Administrator
- Questions from Council to Staff..... Mayor Facilitates
- Public Input, if Appropriate Mayor Facilitates
- Call for Motion Mayor & City Council
- Discussion..... Mayor & City Council
- Action on Motion..... Mayor Facilitates

POLICY RECOMMENDER: Parks Commission, City Council

FISCAL IMPACT: \$80,000 from the Parkland Dedication Fund for the construction of three new tennis courts at Oakland Junior High. Annual maintenance of \$2,500-\$5,000 for park upkeep and equipment repair.

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUESTED: The City of Lake Elmo and the Stillwater School District are partnering together and sharing resources to establish a 3.7 acre park located on the northwest corner of the Oakland Junior High Campus to serve future development, the Cimarron community, and families in the adjacent areas. The park will be jointly maintained by both parties and public use will extend to two areas of the Oakland Junior High athletic campus during non-school hours. The City of Lake Elmo and the Stillwater School District request the approval of this Joint Power Agreement to be able to work together under the authority of the MN State Statutes. The recommended motion for this action is as follows:

“Move to approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the Stillwater School District for the creation of a multi-use park at Oakland Junior High School and the disbursement when invoiced of \$80,000 of parkland dedication funds for the construction of three new tennis courts.”

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: The City of Lake Elmo Park Plan and the Comprehensive Plan suggest a neighborhood park be located in this region of the City and this partnership allows for a park to be strategically located near a school, on a bike trail and near an affordable housing neighborhood.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION (SWOT):

Strengths: Partnership with the school district and a strategic location of a park

Weakness: Minimal use of Area A & B during school hours

Opportunities: Installation of 3 new tennis courts at an economy of scale rate and shared maintenance of the park

Threats: No suitable location for a park beside this site in the SE quadrant due to traffic, commercial use and lack of forested areas.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the following:

“Move to approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the Stillwater School District for the creation of a multi-use park at Oakland Junior High School and the disbursement when invoiced of \$80,000 of parkland dedication funds for the construction of three new tennis courts.”