

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

99-559

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

DECEMBER 20, 1999

To receive and file the master plan for Martin Luther King Jr. Park and the recommendation to vacate and convey the pocket park at East 19th and Cleveland upon completion of Martin Luther King Jr. Park improvements.

SUBJECT:

MARTIN LUTHER
KING JR. PARK
MASTER PLAN AND
CLOSING OF
POCKET PARK AT
EAST 19TH STREET
AND CLEVELAND

FISCAL IMPACT -

The preliminary cost estimate is \$495,000.

RECOMMENDATION -

Receive and file.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

BACKGROUND -

On November 23, 1999, the Des Moines Park and Recreation Board approved the master plan for Martin Luther King Jr. Park and directed staff to pursue closing the pocket park at East 19th and Cleveland upon completion of the improvements to Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

SUBMITTED BY:

DONALD M. TRIPP
PARK AND
RECREATION
DIRECTOR

Over the past year Park and Recreation staff has been working with the Martin Luther King Jr. Park Neighborhood Association on the conceptual master plan for their park. The recommended site improvements and related recommendations include:

- Public rest rooms with an open air shelter.
- Enclosed shelter for 75 persons with kitchen facilities (donated).
- Wading pool to replace existing pool at Crowley Park with Park staff on duty
- Sand containment with an additional module playground.

- Walking path with new bridge.
- Security lighting.
- Two additional grills.
- Removal of existing fence. New fence around playground and water playground areas.
- Recommendation to close pocket park on East 19th and Cleveland.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Park Steering Committee, at a special meeting on September 9, 1999, approved the above recommendations. A public meeting was held on Tuesday, October 12, 1999, at Logan Community Center/Boys and Girls Club. The neighborhood was in favor of the above recommendations. Staff's recommendation to close the pocket park at East 19th and Cleveland is based on the close proximity of this area to Crowley Park and Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

The recommendation to close the wading pool at Crowley Park and build a new water playground at Martin Luther King Jr. Park is based on the neighborhood's desire to have staff present in the park to increase supervision and security. The Wading Pool Citizen Advisory Committee agrees with the neighborhood recommendation to relocate the water playground.

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