



Agenda Item:

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## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 01/24/05  
05-037

Communication No.:

Agenda Item Type: Resolution  
No.:

Roll Call

Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Park and Recreation Director

### SUBJECT—

Lease Agreements with South Des Moines Girls Amateur Softball Association (SDMGASA) for the use of Carney Softball fields.

### SYNOPSIS—

Approval of the Lease Agreement with the South Des Moines Girls Amateur Softball Association for use of Carney Softball Fields for the programs and services of their club.

### FISCAL IMPACT—

\$1.00 annual lease payment; savings in maintenance (labor-time) and utility costs estimated at \$1,500 annually.

### RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

### BACKGROUND—

On Tuesday, December 14, 2004, the Des Moines Park and Recreation Board recommended approval of the Lease Agreement with the South Des Moines Girls Amateur Softball Association. With the opening of the Greater Des Moines Softball Park, the Park and Recreation

Department has limited use of the Carney Softball Fields and is interested in leasing these fields to the South Des Moines Girls Amateur Softball Association (SDMGASA). Under the terms and conditions of the Lease Agreement, the SDMGASA would be responsible for all maintenance and utility costs in exchange for use of these fields. The term of the Agreement is for one-year with three (three-year) options to renew for a total of ten years.

The City would have blackout dates for the use of these fields due to the number of participants within our programs and/or schedule conflicts at our other softball locations due to State, Regional or National tournaments.

A public meeting was held on Wednesday, November 10, 2004, with a direct mailing to over 300 households in and around the Carney fields. Park and Recreation Department staff received four phone calls and one e-mail regarding this proposal. All were supportive of this Lease Agreement. The public meeting had no attendees.

Additionally, on Monday, November 15, 2004, this Agreement was presented to the Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association at their regularly scheduled meeting. Again, no concerns were raised and the general comment was that this was a good use of this property.

On December 23, 1968, by Roll Call No. 5953, the Des Moines City Council approved a Lease Agreement with the Board of Water Works Trustees of the City of Des Moines for the lease of 44.88 acres know as Carney Park in exchange for space in Drake Park for the erection of a water standpipe and, further, the right to construct, maintain, and repair a water main or mains through Gray's Lake. Under the terms and conditions of this Lease, the City has the right to sub-lease this parcel for recreational purposes, which the City will continue to use as a softball complex. Park and Recreation Department staff contacted Des Moines Water Works to inform them of this lease, and they expressed no concerns with the proposed Lease with SDMGASA.

I would like to disclose that I, Donald Tripp, have been a volunteer coach with SDMGASA since 2001 and will be a coach again in 2005.