

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: November 3, 2014
	Agenda Item No. 44 Roll Call No. <u>14-1740</u> Communication No. <u>14-530</u> Submitted by: Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director Pamela S. Cooksey, P.E., Interim City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Approve items related to improvements at the James W. Cownie Baseball Park (Baseball Park): (1) Acceptance of a \$250,000 Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Revitalize Iowa’s Sound Economy (RISE) grant; (2) Acceptance of Polk County donation of \$200,000 and authorizing the Mayor to execute donation agreement with Polk County for the same; and (3) authorization for the City Manager to negotiate and execute an agreement with the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines for private funding totaling \$550,000.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of items related to funding of the Baseball Park improvements including:

- 1) Accepting an IDOT RISE grant in the amount of \$250,000 for the roadway portion of the project.
- 2) Accepting a Polk County donation of \$200,000 for the improvement project.
- 3) Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute an agreement with the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines to access private funds totaling \$550,000, which have been allocated for the project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$1,200,000 – Estimated project cost.

Funding Source: Various funding sources as follows:

- \$250,000 IDOT RISE Funds
- \$200,000 Polk County Grant
- \$550,000 Private Funding
- \$200,000 2014-15 CIP, Page Park-16, Sports Complexes, PK176, G.O. Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Baseball Park has become a premier destination for Little League and adult baseball events. The facility’s existing parking lot has capacity for approximately 230 vehicles. The parking spaces required for the number of visitors that attend the various regular and tournament-play games at the facility far exceeds this capacity. When parking spaces are full, patrons illegally park along SE 22nd Street,

including on the recreational trail that parallels the street and also into the nearby residential developments. This results in vehicles and pedestrians entering and exiting the travel portion of SE 22nd Street from uncontrolled points, which presents major safety concerns.

A new parking lot with capacity for approximately 170 vehicles is proposed to be constructed on the west side of the complex as part of this project; the new roadway will provide access from SE 22nd Street to this parking lot. These improvements will allow for additional safe, legal parking for users of the Baseball Park and address safety concerns for those users, bicyclists, pedestrians, residents, and the traveling public.

Conceptual Site Plan



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 24, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0261](#)

Action: [Authorization](#) to submit a Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Grant application to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the James W. Cownie Baseball Park improvements. ([Council Communication No. 14-066](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: June 24, 2013

Roll Call Number: [13-1016](#)

Action: [Request](#) from Council Member Brian Meyer to discuss parking lot at the Cownie Baseball Park. Moved by Meyer to refer to the City Manager for review and recommendation and to consider additional police presence at SE 22nd Street and Hartford during busy times. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: June 24, 2013

Roll Call Number: [13-1016](#) and [13-1017](#)

Action: [Request](#) from Council Member Brian Meyer to discuss parking lot at the Cownie Baseball Park. Moved by Meyer to refer to the City Manager for review and recommendation and to consider additional police presence at SE 22nd Street and Hartford during busy times. Motion Carried 7-0.

(A) [Authorization](#) to proceed with design of a parking lot for the James W. Cownie Baseball Facility. Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Actions associated with the award of the construction contract for the work and acceptance of the project. To implement future improvements at the Baseball Park, to be prioritized by the Park and Recreation Director, using existing CIP allocations and remaining private donations.

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