


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	22-232	Meeting:	May 23, 2022
	Agenda Item:	41A	Roll Call:	22-0820
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Hold hearing for approval of vacation of excess City right-of-way located in Gray's Lake Park (2101 Fleur Drive), approval of the ordinance on this vacation with reading waiver requested by Parks and Recreation Director, and a resolution approving naming and dedication of Gray's Lake wetlands project area as parkland.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the land vacated as excess City right-of-way located in Gray's Lake Park and the additional surrounding parcels as shown in Exhibit B be dedicated as parkland. The vacated parcels have been functioning as parkland since the inception of Gray's Lake Park and are improved as such. The additional surrounding parcels currently support park functions, related activities and were identified and recommended to be parkland in the adopted Southwest Infrastructure and Planning Study.

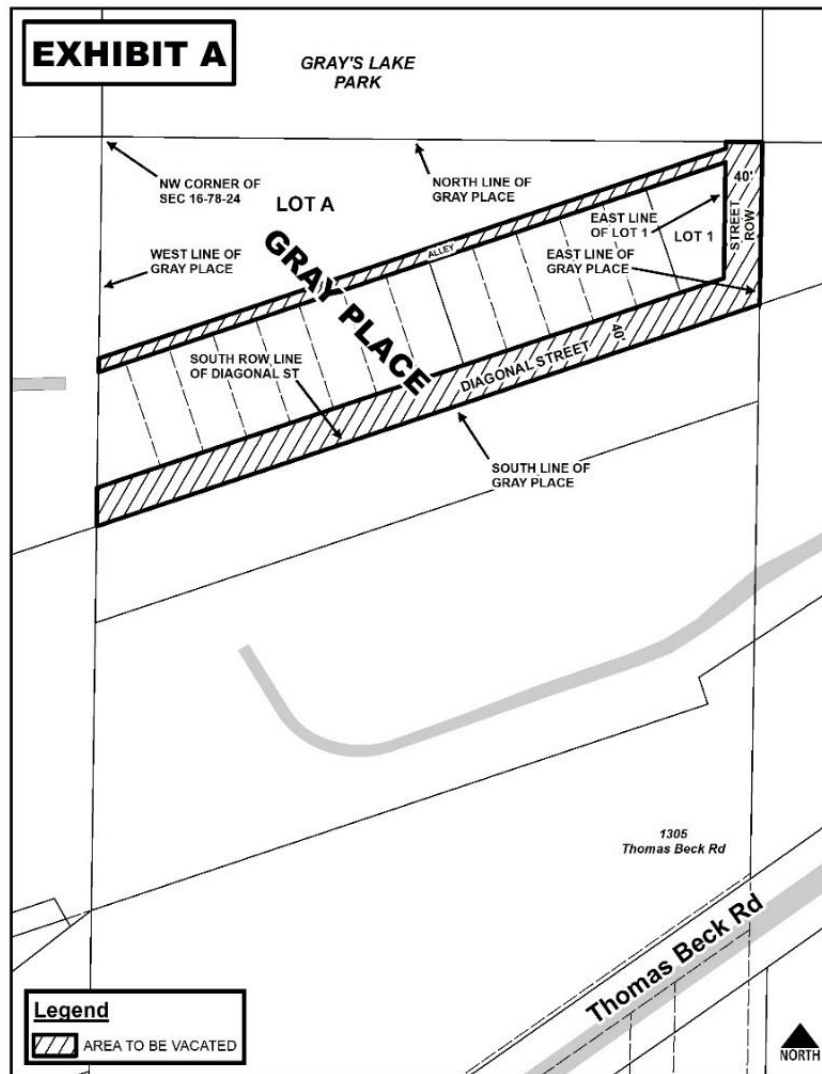
FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Gray's Lake Park is one (1) of Des Moines' signature parks and has been honored by the American Planning Association as one (1) of a limited number of *Great Places in America*. The park features a multitude of improvements that support both active recreation and passive enjoyment of nature in the City.
- On August 23, 2016, by Resolution No.16-065, the Parks and Recreation Board voted to approve the updated Gray's Lake Park Master Plan which identified the parcels shown in the exhibit below for wetland and supporting park improvements.
- Feasibility of this wetland feature was explored as part of the Southwest Infrastructure and Planning Study by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.
- On September 28, 2021, by Resolution No. 21-062, the Parks and Recreation Board voted 13-0 to approve supporting the adoption of Southwest Infrastructure and Planning Study, subject to the condition that the land adjacent to Gray's Lake Park be dedicated as parkland.
- On January 24, 2022, by Roll Call No. 22-0095, City Council, at the request of the Parks and Recreation Board, directed staff to prepare the necessary documentation to allow the City Council to dedicate such land as parkland at the time of the Council's approval of the Southwest Infrastructure and Planning Study.

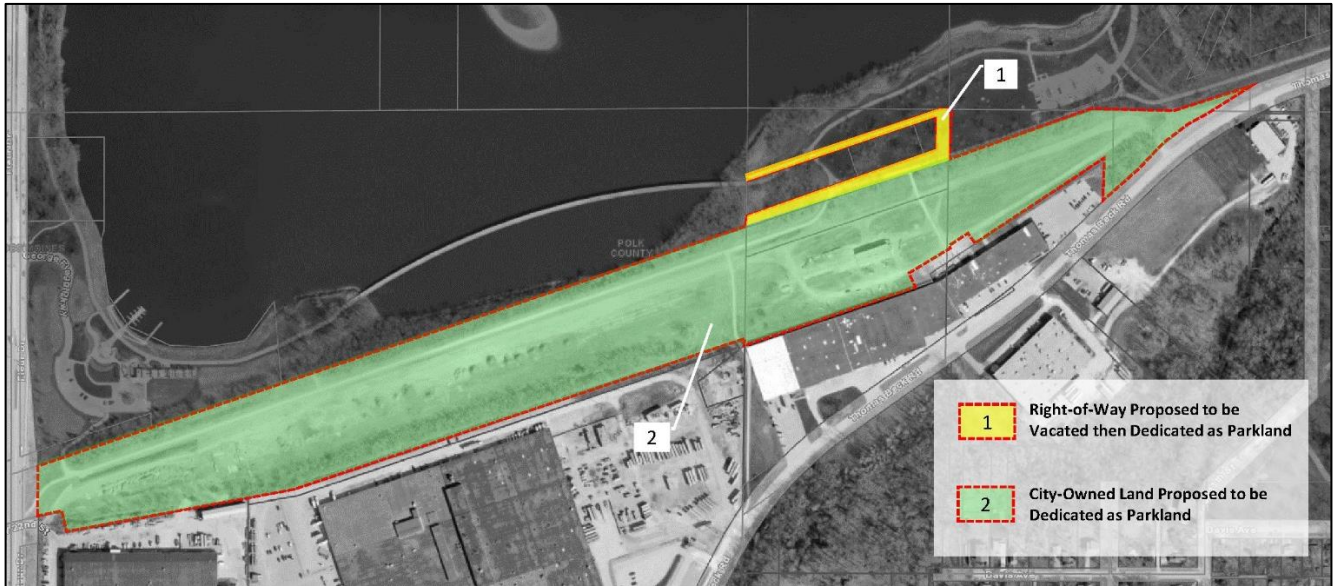
- This work led to the discovery of excess City rights-of-way located in Gray’s Lake Park that includes remnant platted alley and street fragments, which are fully surrounded by parkland and are not connected to any other right-of-way properties. These parcels have been functioning as parkland since the inception of Gray’s Lake Park and are improved as such.
- On May 9, 2022, by Roll Call No. 22-0687, the communication from Planning and Zoning to vacate remnants of street and ally rights-of-way within Gray’s Lake Park to be dedicated as parkland was received and filed.
- On May 9, 2022, by Roll Call No. 22-0690, the hearing to vacate the excess City rights-of-way in Gray’s Lake Park was set for May 23, 2022.
- On May 9, 2022, by Roll Call No. 22-0696 the Southwest Infrastructure and Planning Study was adopted by City Council.
- These three (3) actions on May 9, 2022, set the stage for the vacation of the remnant street and ally rights-of-way within Gray’s Lake Park and then for these parcels and the surrounding parcels that recommended to be parkland in the adopted Gray’s Lake Park Master Plan and the Southwest Infrastructure and Planning Study to become parkland.

Exhibit A



Excess right-of-way parcels including remnant platted alley and street fragments proposed to be vacated and dedicated as parkland, also shown in Exhibit B below in yellow.

Exhibit B



- (1) Remnant right-of-way (yellow) recommended to be vacated then dedicated as parkland.
- (2) City-owned land (green) recommended to be dedicated as parkland to support future potential wetland and related improvements.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 9, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-0687](#)

Action: [Regarding](#) request from City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department represented by Ben Page for vacation of remnants of street and alley rights-of-way within Gray's Lake Park, to be dedicated as Parkland. Moved by Boesen to receive and file the communication from the Plan and Zoning Commission, and refer to the Engineering Department, Real Estate Division. Second by Gatto. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Cownie.

Date: May 9, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-0690](#)

Action: [On](#) vacation of excess City right-of-way located in Gray's Lake Park, 2101 Fleur Drive, (5-23-22). ([Council Communication No. 22-203](#)) Moved by Boesen to adopt. Second by Gatto. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Cownie.

Date: May 9, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-0696](#)

Action: On City-initiated request to approve amending the PlanDSM: Creating Our Tomorrow Plan, Approving the Southwest Infrastructure and Planning Study as an element of the City's Transportation Master Plan, MoveDSM, (5-23-22). Moved by Boesen to adopt. Second by Gatto. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Cownie.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Plan and Zoning Commission

Date: April 21, 2022

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Motion by Garner to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 12-0.

Board: Parks and Recreation Board

Date: September 28, 2021

Resolution Number: 21-062

Action: Motion by Davis to approve the Southwest Infrastructure Plan subject to the land adjacent to Gray's Lake becoming part of parkland inventory.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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