

Council Agenda Item 0752R



MEETING DATE: August 24, 2026

SUBJECT/TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF REAL PROPERTY FROM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 709 TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE HILLSIDE SPORT COURT.

SUBMITTED BY: Danielle Erjavec, Senior Property Services Specialist

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: N/A

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTIONS:

23-0617R – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HILLSIDE SPORT COURT PARK PLAN.

24-0164R – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR A GRANT OF UP TO \$350,000 TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HILLSIDE SPORT COURT PARK PLAN.

25-0634R – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT OF \$350,000 FROM THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HILLSIDE SPORT COURT PARK PLAN.

26-0249R – RESOLUTION AWARDED A CONTRACT TO RACHEL CONTRACTING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE HILLSIDE SPORT COURT PARK SITE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,369,367.50.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this resolution is to authorize and accept the donation of certain real property in the Central Hillside Neighborhood (the "Property") from Independent School District No. 709, a Minnesota public corporation and political subdivision ("ISD 709") to be used in connection with the Hillside Sport Court.

The City acquired the real estate comprising the site of the Hillside Sport Court, formerly known as Franklin Park, from ISD 709 in three transactions from the 1970s, two of which were with ISD 709. It appears that the Property was inadvertently excluded from the ISD 709 transactions in the 1970s. The City is implementing the Hillside Sport Court Park Plan, which improvements are being funded through two grants and parks capital funding. The grants have certain real estate requirements associated with use of the funds, one of which was a review of the City's real estate records for the site. During that review, it was discovered that the Property

was not included in the earlier transactions. ISD 709 is willing to convey the Property to the City at no cost via quit claim deed without restrictions. The City has been continuously using and maintaining the Property since the 1970s as it was unknown that the City did not own it.

The City is implementing the Hillside Sport Court Park Plan, which improvements are being funded through two grants and parks capital funding. One of the grants has certain real estate requirements associated with use of the funds, one of which was a review of the City's real estate records for the site. During that review, it was discovered that the Property was not included in the earlier transactions. ISD 709 is willing to convey the Property to the City at no cost via quit claim deed without restrictions.

Full implementation of the adopted Hillside Sport Court Park Plan calls for improved accessibility throughout the park, removal of a dilapidated building, installation of a pavilion and picnic area, renewal the sport court, replacement of the playground, improved parking, improved neighborhood connectivity, tree removal and replacement, repair or replacement of other park assets such as fencing, signage, bicycle racks, retaining walls, stairs, etc., and maintaining a balance between open green space and space for a community garden.

The Property and the Hillside Sport Court are depicted on the map attached as Exhibit A.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT: There will be nominal costs associated with the donation for deed tax and recording fees, estimated around \$100; fees shall be paid out of Fund No. 205-130-1220-5530-CM205-HILLSC-PIP (parks fund, community resources, parks capital, improvements other than buildings, capital maintenance fund 205, Hillside Sport Court Park, park implementation plan).

OPTIONS: Approve resolution and acquire the Property or the City will not own property it is currently maintaining and be in violation of the grant requirements

NECESSARY ACTION: Approve resolution to authorize acceptance of the donation/acquisition of the Property

ATTACHMENTS: Exhibit A, Map