

City Council Introduction: June 12, 2017

BILL NUMBER: 17R-151

Public Hearing: June 19, 2017

Date Factsheet Prepared: May 25, 2017

## FACTSHEET

**Instructions:** If a question does not apply, just put "NA". Please try to keep it to **ONE** page only. Submit **one original**, with your Request Form, to City Clerk.

**TITLE:** Interlocal Agreement regarding Recreation Facilities on Former Arnold Elementary School site at 5300 W. Knight Street

**BOARD/COMMITTEE:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

**APPLICANT:** Lynn Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED:**

**SPONSOR:**

**OPPONENTS:**

### REASON FOR LEGISLATION

The proposed resolution approves an interlocal agreement between Lincoln Public Schools and the City of Lincoln to allow the City to place and maintain outdoor recreation facilities on the Former Arnold Elementary School site at 5300 West Knight Street.

### DISCUSSION / FINDINGS OF FACT:

Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) demolished the former Arnold Elementary School on West Knight Street when the new Arnold Elementary School was constructed on West Cuming Street. Demolition of the school resulted in loss of a playfield and outdoor playcourts in the Arnold Heights neighborhood.

The City owns Eagles View Park located on the south side of West Knight Street across from the subject LPS property. The City also owns Arnold Heights Park immediately north of the subject LPS property.

Arnold Heights residents have expressed concern regarding the lack of outdoor recreation opportunities for older elementary school age and middle school age children. They have also indicated that older children tend to congregate at the playground at Eagles View Park displacing younger children from playing there. The purpose of the proposed interlocal agreement is to allow the Parks and Recreation Department and Lincoln Public Schools to partner in providing outdoor recreation facilities on the former Arnold Elementary School site to serve older students living in the neighborhood.

The agreement allows placement of a basketball goal in the former school parking lot, and placement of a standard neighborhood park shelter on the former school site. (This shelter will replace the aged park shelter located at the top on the hill in Arnold Heights Park which has frequently been the location of inappropriate and illegal activities including vandalism and drinking alcoholic beverages in the park.) The agreement also allows LPS and Parks and Recreation Department to cooperate in development of an informal playfield on the former school site. The Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for maintenance of the basketball goal and the park shelter, and mowing of the play field.

The interlocal agreement has a term of 20-years, and either party may terminate the agreement prior to the expiration date.

**POLICY OR PROGRAM CHANGE:**  X  Yes      No

LPS and the City have numerous cooperative efforts. This is first time that the parties have agreed to partner in placement of outdoor recreation facilities on a vacant school site.

**OPERATIONAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:** The operational impact on the Parks and Recreation is minimal. The site will be regularly inspected on the same cycle as the playground in Eagles View Park. The proposed park shelter is replacing an existing aged shelter. The mowing boundaries between long grass areas and regularly mowed areas in Arnold Heights Park will be adjusted to accommodate regular mowing of the new play field. (It should be noted that nearly all of Arnold Heights Park is managed as long grass because the sloping topography limits suitability for active recreation use.)

**COST OF TOTAL PROJECT:** \$28,500

**RELATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS:** Additional operating costs are not anticipated.

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:**

**CITY:** \$28,500, FY 2015/16 CIP (Primarily for the replacement park shelter.)

**NON CITY:**

**FACTSHEET PREPARED BY:** Lynn Johnson

**DATE:** May 25, 2017

**REVIEWED BY:**

**DATE:**