

To: **Mayor and City Council**
Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
From: **Dave Schletty, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director**
Date: **May 28, 2019**

Consider Installing Basketball Hoops in Haskell & Oakdale Parks

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In May 2005, the City Council made the decision to remove the basketball hoops from Haskell Park after complaints from neighbors about noise, gangs, and drug activity around the basketball courts. This was a 180-day test. In the fall after a follow-up meeting with neighbors, the Council voted to leave them down permanently, given that the removal solved the problems that had been occurring. In May 2006, the exact same problems occurred at Oakdale Park, with the same solution and outcomes. Over the 2007-08 summers, similar problems occurred at Emerson, Harmon and Weschcke Park basketball courts. At the time, a decision was made to use police and police reserves to increase patrols and attempt to control the problem activities. The Harmon court was eventually removed with the redevelopment of the park and one hoop at Weschcke was removed. There continues to be minor issues at Emerson, but they have been addressed with increased police action.

Over the past year the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) has been discussing adding one hoop back into each of Haskell and Oakdale Parks. At the April meeting the PRAC made a recommendation to reinstall one hoop at each park along with new signage about use and enforcement (sample sign attached). They also recommend staff (both parks and PD) monitor and enforce activities throughout the summer. An evaluation should be made after 1 year to determine if the hoops should stay or be removed forever. The City Council had a similar discussion at the May 13 OCWS and decided to move it forward for a vote at the May 28 regular meeting. For additional consideration aerial photos, of each WSP park with basketball along with the proposed new parks, are attached as well as meeting minutes from City Council and PRAC from 2005 and 2006 when the hoops were first removed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There would be some additional cost associated with hoops going back up. The poles at both parks are still in place, but the backboards and baskets that were removed 14 years ago have either been used at other parks or used for parts to repair other hoops. New backboards and baskets would cost around \$1300 each. Signage for each park would be about \$100. Additionally both courts are in need of resurfacing if basketball activities are to remain. The future cost for resurfacing each court would be between \$8-10k. The resurfacing amount would have to be added to the CIP for 2021 or 2022. Currently there is no money budgeted for any of these changes in 2019.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is looking for discussion and direction on reinstalling one basketball hoop at each of Haskell and Oakdale Parks.

Attachment: Minutes of the March and April PRAC meeting; Aerial Photos of WSP Parks with basketball; 2005 & 2006 City Council and PRAC meeting minutes; Sample Rules Sign