## CHAPEL HILL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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## MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mayor Foy and Council

GWI HC

FROM:

Pam Hemminger, Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission

RE:

Use of Payment in Lieu Funds from the Rosemary Village Development

DATE:

February 17, 2005

At the February 16, 2005 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Commission voted 8-1 to recommend that all payment in lieu funds from the Rosemary Village project be used for improvements at Hargraves Park.

We recommend that the Council vote to support the following list of proposed improvements using the Rosemary Village payment in lieu funds and possibly CDBG funds. The list is in a priority order by category of need with safety issues listed first. These are followed by basic drainage improvements throughout the park. Last come replacement of outdated facilities and equipment. The design consultant would likely identify other needs as well.

<u>Replace Outdated Equipment</u>: This would include replacement of most equipment on the grounds with the exception of the tennis courts. Items to be replaced include:

- Bleachers should be replaced this year.
- The internal sidewalk in the play area should be replaced this year.
- The play area is outdated and requires a modern fall surface. We would replace the entire structure and add a modern poured in place fall surface.
- We would replace several sets of stairs on the park site due to erosion problems.
- The original ballfield fence and backstop installed in the 1970's would be replaced. We would replace the fence with black, vinyl coated wire mesh which would greatly improve its appearance.
- Almost all of the site furniture on the site is past its useful life including most benches, grills, and picnic tables.
- We want to replace the 1970's wood poles with concrete or steel poles. We would install new energy efficient light arrays. New equipment and poles would enable us to reduce light overspill onto neighboring properties, improve the appearance of the site, and save energy costs.
- The main parking lot is deteriorating and should be resurfaced this year.

Site Improvements: Work would also include improvements to the site.

• Several areas in the park drain poorly or drain through areas of active recreation. We would design and install infrastructure that would improve drainage including areas near and in the play area and the ballfield, among others.



We would replace trees and shrubs to increase the attractiveness of the site, improve security, and
provide more space for expansion of the play area. Work would include replacement of poor
soils so that turf can be established in areas that are now bare.

New Features: We would also try to accomplish the following tasks.

- Add water fountains near play areas.
- Enhance the baby pool with some play features.

We believe that the payment in lieu of recreation funds would pay for about 30% of the park needs that have already been identified.

Mr. Schwartz dissented.

The Commission appreciates the opportunity to provide a recommendation regarding use of payment in lieu funds.

Present
Pam Hemminger, Chair
Bob Broad
Cory Brooks
Paul Caldwell
Faith Nager
Jerry Neville
Andrea Rohrbacher
Pete Schwartz
Diane VandenBroek

Absent Terri Tyson, Vice Chair Terry Blalock