



City of Olympia | Capital of Washington State

P.O. Box 1967, Olympia, WA 98507-1967

July 31, 2015

Mayor Stephen Buxbaum
Olympia City Council
PO Box 1967
Olympia, WA 98507-1967

Dear Mayor Buxbaum:

Dr. Angela Bowen has been considering a donation of one or two pieces of property that she owns to the City of Olympia for future use as city parks. The properties are located at 1500 Springwood Ave. (3.19 acres) and 3537 7th Avenue SW (2.94) acres.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) considered each of these two potential property donations at its February 5, 2015 meeting. PRAC members reviewed fact sheets, aerial photographs, and site photos of each parcel. PRAC also reviewed a GIS-based map depicting areas of greatest park need in Olympia.

The advisory committee discussed the pros and cons of each property for park purposes. The committee learned that both pieces of property are found in areas currently under-served by existing parks and that both pieces of property are of a size and configuration that would accommodate park development. Development in both areas is expected to create an increasing demand for parkland in the future. There is no expectation that either of the two pieces of property would be developed into parks in the immediate future, but the properties would be held as open space.

PRAC voted on each property separately. In each instance the members voted unanimously to accept the donation, if offered. PRAC recommends the City of Olympia accept either or both donation(s) as park open space and "land-bank" the properties for potential future park development.

Sincerely,

Jim Nieland, Chair
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee