

March 12, 2008

Great Falls City Commission
P.O. Box 5021
Great Falls, MT 59403

Dear Mayor Dona Stebbins, Commissioner Bill Beecher, Commissioner Bill Bronson,
Commissioner Mary Jolley, Commissioner John Rosenbaum.

At several of our previous Council of Councils meetings, we agreed that our city parks need additional funding for capital improvements and development. We believe the funding for many of the necessary capital improvement projects could come from the development funds received in lieu of land that have been placed into the Park Trust Fund and also through available grants. 2007 was a record year for development in Great Falls, which means that it should also be a record year for the amount of funds we spend towards the capital improvement of our neighborhood parks. We respectfully request that you, as a body, review the 1995 Park Master Plan and how the funds are being used from the Park Trust Fund for the purpose of targeting capital improvements to our city parks, especially those situated in neighborhoods where residential development has expanded the area's population. We are also respectfully requesting that a minimum of 2% be used solely for capital improvements in the neighborhood parks.

We realize that capital funding for city park improvement may require a change in the City's current policy, but we ask that you consider taking whatever action is necessary to create parks that welcome our current and future citizens.

Sincerely,

Jesse O'Hara, Neighborhood Council #1

Phyllis Hemstad, Neighborhood #2

Tim Austin, Neighborhood Council #3

Sandra Guynn, Neighborhood Council #4

Nancy Anderson, Neighborhood Council #5

Carl Donovan, Neighborhood Council #6

Aaron Weissman, Neighborhood Council #7

Karen Grove, Neighborhood Council #8

Gary Schoenthal, Neighborhood Council #9