From:	Lisa C. Kunz
То:	Bob Kelly; Mary Sheehy Moe; Owen Robinson; Rick Tryon; Tracy Houck
Cc:	Krista Artis; Greg Doyon; Charles Anderson; Steve Herrig
Subject:	FW: Kranz Park
Date:	Monday, December 14, 2020 3:26:17 PM
Attachments:	<u>Scan 2020-12-14 15.03.10.pdf</u>

Good Afternoon – see comments below and attached letter from Cheryl Reichert for consideration – Agenda Item 10.

*Lísa* City Clerk/Records Manager 406.455.8451

From: Lisa C. Kunz
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 3:25 PM
To: 'cheryl reichert' <montanapathdoc@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Kranz Park

Good Afternoon – thank you for your comments, Cheryl, that will be shared with the City Commission and appropriate staff for consideration during Item 10 on tomorrow evening's agenda.

Best,

# Lísa Kunz

City Clerk/Records Manager City of Great Falls P.O. Box 5021 Great Falls, MT 59403 406.455.8451

From: cheryl reichert <<u>montanapathdoc@gmail.com</u>>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 3:20 PM
To: commission <<u>commission@greatfallsmt.net</u>>
Subject: Kranz Park

To whom it may concern:

Please distribute my letter about Kranz Park to the Mayor and City Commissioners. It is my understanding that City Commissioners are set to consider during their Dec. 15 meeting a public hearing for Jan. 5 for the exchange of city owned property in Kranz Park with property owned by Great Falls Public Schools near Loy Elementary. Incredulously, the school district wants to pave Kranz Park to create more parking.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Cheryl Reichert 51 Prospect Drive Great Falls, MT 59405

#### DR. CHERYL REICHERT M.D., PH.D.

Pathologist • 51 Prospect Drive Great Falls, MT 59405 Home Phone (406) 727-1964

Dec. 14, 2020

Mayor Bill Kelly and City Commissioners City of Great Falls

re: Kranz Park

Dear Mayor Kelly and City Commissioners:

Please do not sacrifice Kranz Park. This modest little jewel of a park is located in the neighborhood where I grew up. My mother, Arlyne Reichert, still lives a block and a half away from Kranz Park. Just this past week the two of us took a slow walk around that park with its huge old trees, mother with her cane and me with my dog. We didn't go for a walk around block of residences. We went for a walk around the Park, and I submit there is a big difference, despite both having the same number of steps.

Several years ago I was sad to see the Kranz tennis courts sacrificed for a construction parking lot, but I accepted that without protest because I know city budgets are tight and tennis courts are expensive to maintain, and not that many folks play tennis anymore. But maintaining an already established park is another matter.

It is a credit to Paris Gibson's vision that he recognized the value of parks. Parks are part of what makes Great Falls such a great place to live, and why I enthusiastically endorsed the recent park levy. I visit one of the three urban parks near by my current home virtually every day without exception. Odd fellows, Warden and Verde Park are all within easy walking distance of my home. They help me to maintain my sanity, especially during these challenging times. In contrast, there are not near so many options for families living in my old neighborhood near Kranz Park.

Big cities have become "inside out" with so much concrete and asphalt that people turn to indoor plants and rooftop gardens to try to maintain a connection to nature. These places, too, once had green space that was irrevocably lost to so-called progress.

I also note that the original rationale for disposing of Kranz Park is evolving as the city reevaluates the location of a new Aquatics Center. I do hope that now give a second chance the aquatics facility will be put closer to the heart of the city where it can more easily be accessed by townspeople. I learned to swim at the Natatorium, and I also mourn its loss. During junior high after swimming lessons I walked back to the school with teeth chattering in the middle of winter. I can assure you that in winter folks are not going to take a bus back and forth to an aquatics center that is located at the outskirts of town. An indoor pool is needed most in winter time. Virtually everyone stationed at MAFB has a vehicle. However, many folks in town do not have that option, either by budget, age, or infirmity.

Please table the Kranz Park issue. Please locate a new aquatic center closer to the townspeople. This and future generations will thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Renter

Cheryl Reichert

<u>Kunz</u>
elly; Mary Sheehy Moe; Owen Robinson; Rick Tryon; Tracy Houck
<u>Doyon; Charles Anderson; Krista Artis; Steve Herrig</u>
genda Item #10
lay, December 15, 2020 9:40:46 AM

See comments below from Carolyn Craven for consideration of agenda item 10 on this evening's Commission meeting agenda.

Lisa Kunz City Clerk/Records Manager 406.455.8451

From: Lisa C. Kunz
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:33 AM
To: 'Carolyn Craven' <lifeisgood4us@xmailpost.com>
Subject: RE: Agenda Item #10

Good Morning Carolyn –

Thank you for your comments that will be shared with the commission and appropriate staff for consideration of agenda item 10 on this evening's Commission meeting agenda.

Best,

# Lísa Kunz

City Clerk/Records Manager City of Great Falls P.O. Box 5021 Great Falls, MT 59403 406.455.8451

From: Carolyn Craven <<u>lifeisgood4us@xmailpost.com</u>>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:43 PM
To: commission <<u>commission@greatfallsmt.net</u>>
Subject: Agenda Item #10

Greetings,

Is #10 on the agenda about the trade of two properties related to having a swimming center near Malmstrom? I have not followed this well but remember reading something about it. I believe one of the properties is a park and, if so, I would like more information about what would be involved in the trade and if any changes would be made to the existing park or if that would be up to the new owner. If I am correct about this item, there is a note to decide whether or not to have a public hearing.

I am requesting a public hearing if this agenda item involves a park being traded for another property.

I look forward to your response.

Thank you,

Carolyn Craven Great Falls 406-868-4263 <u>lifeisgood4us@xmailpost.com</u>

December 15, 2020

Carolyn K. Craven 101 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Great Falls, MT 59405

#### **CITIZEN REQUEST**

Mayor Kelly Commissioner Houck Commissioner Moe Commissioner Robinson Commissioner Tryon

### RE: Agenda Item #10 December 15, 2020

Exchange Agreement between City of Great Falls and Great Falls Public School District Number 1. Action: Set or not set a public hearing on the Exchange Agreement of City owned property located at Lots 5-10 in the Tenth Addition to the Great Falls Original Townsite, Block 736 with Great Falls Public School District Number 1 owned property located at S2SWSW Sec 3 T20N R4E Mark 7B for January 5, 2021. (Presented by Steve Herrig)

Honorable Mayor and Commissioners:

I respectfully urge you to vote for a public hearing on this issue, as recommended by your staff. There is an abundance of evidence-based literature on the benefits of parks in urban communities that merit public comments. Kranz Park is a well-established park, valued and used by many residents of Great Falls.

Additionally, there are likely better land options than the property closer to Malmstrom. The aquatic facility is important to many citizens in Great Falls who may find the proposed location near Malmstrom to be very inconvenient to access. Great Falls has an older population and Malmstrom has a younger population, so Malmstrom users would far less inconvenienced by a location farther away. Please consider the citizens and taxpayers in the city of Great Falls for the new aquatic facility.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn K. Craven