

**PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, June 17, 2019**

The meeting of the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee was held on Monday, June 17, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Office Building. The following members were present: Commissioner Bynum, Chairman; Commissioners Philbrook, Markley, Kane, Johnson and BPU Board Member Groneman. The following officials were also in attendance: Gordon Criswell, Melissa Sieben and Emerick Cross, Assistant County Administrators; Misty Brown, Deputy Chief Counsel; James Bain and Kathryn Devlin, Assistant Counsel, Dave Clark, Project Engineer, John Droppelmann, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal, Jeremy Rogers, Director of Parks & Recreation; and Angel Obert, Recreation Division Manager.

Chairman Bynum called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and all members were present as shown above.

Chairman Bynum said there is one revision on tonight's agenda. Item No. 3 has been added which is a request to construct a national fitness court at Fisher Park.

Approval of standing committee minutes from April 22, 2019. **On motion of Commissioner Kane, seconded by Commissioner Markley, the minutes were approved.** Motion carried unanimously.

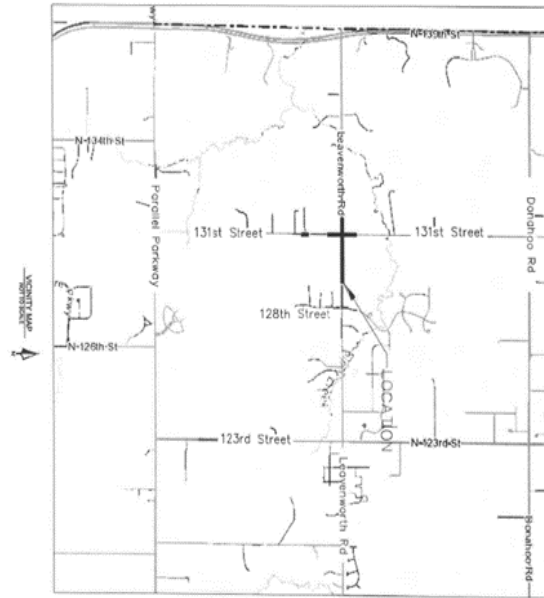
Committee Agenda:

Item No. 1– 19791...RESOLUTION: 131ST & LEAVENWORTH ROAD IMPROVEMENTS FOR PIPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - CMIP 1615

Synopsis: A resolution declaring the necessity and authorizing a survey of lands for the 131st & Leavenworth Road Improvements for Piper Elementary School, CMIP 1615, submitted by James Bain, Assistant Counsel.

James Bain, Assistant Counsel, said as stated this is a resolution authorizing the survey for the

131st & Leavenworth Road Improvement Project. With me is Project Engineer, Dave Clark, to show the map and answer any questions.



Dave Clark, Project Engineer, said the improvements are at 131st & Leavenworth Road. They will include an overlay of the existing pavement, new curb and gutter, a multiuse path, new storm sewers and new street lightening.

June 17, 2019

Commissioner Kane asked how far to the east and how far to the west are we going to go? **Mr. Clark** said it will go, well, just where those black lines basically indicate, just along the frontage of the new school. **Commissioner Kane** said okay, but don't you think that we need to go a little bit further both ways, especially to the west? I mean you're talking about an area that's going to have lots of traffic in short order two times a day. I would think that that would not be enough ground to accommodate everybody turning in and turning out of the school. **Mr. Clark** said well, this is my understanding what's on the scope at this—**Commissioner Kane** said that's not what I asked. I guess what I'm asking staff, Melissa, hello. **Chairman Bynum** said, Commissioner, we have the Deputy Public Works Director. **Commissioner Kane** said perfect. **Melissa Sieben, Assistant County Administrator**, said, Commissioner, I would just go ahead and state what your question directly is. I'm assuming it's about traffic and stacking.

Commissioner Kane said west of 131st Street where it looks like we're only going to go a little ways; I think we should go a significant distance further than that just to allow for the people to turn off of 131st Street and into and out of the new school. **David Young, Deputy Public Works Director**, said we agree, we would love to do more in this area. We have a limited budget. We're willing to go back and look at alternative proposals, maybe taking away some curb and gutter and doing more pavement but this is a very expensive project. I'm happy to have a conversation with you specifically. **Commissioner Kane** said maybe we could chat with the school district to see if they could help us a little bit on that. I mean it's their school. If we need to come up with some more monies, because what's going to happen is, once they open then we're going to identify an issue pretty damn quick and then we're going to say, well, we should have done the rest of it in the first place. I would hope that we would try to find some more monies for that. **Mr. Young** said point taken Commissioner.

Commissioner Philbrook said real quick question, so in this drawing I see what you're showing. Is that a legal description somewhere in there about exactly how far east and how far west we're going, just asking, you know involved in this particular drawing, or are you just looking to see, if you get permission, to look at the properties so you can widen it or both? **Mr. Young** said we do have engineer prints with us for the project, but basically these are the bounds of the project, but what we're requesting is the ability to start down the path of engineering. We would come back,

identify everything and do the procurement process. **Commissioner Philbrook** said okay.

Chairman Bynum said tonight's agenda item is a survey for what's planned for right now. Keeping in mind that Commissioner Kane makes a good point that we may want to see what more we can add to the scope, as that would allow us to move forward tonight.

Commissioner Kane said Angela may have been here. Several years ago, we set several million dollars aside to do the work at 131st & Leavenworth Road and when the school bond issue didn't pass, somebody ate the money, but we had it set up in the first place. This ain't your fault. This was long before you got here, but this was a heck of long time ago, to where we said we're going to do this with the school district just like we need to do at 99th & Parallel. It's the same thing. We need to work in conjunction there and here.

Chairman Bynum said if I'm hearing staff correctly, you are willing to go back and see what additional scope can be added given again the constraints of the budget and then as Commissioner Kane, maybe it's a sit down with Piper School District to see if they can add any funds to the extension of street improvements, curb, guttering and sidewalks. I would ask that we do that fairly quickly so that we can know how much extension we can have, but then in the meantime, I would also ask this committee to approve the survey that's on tonight's agenda.

Commissioner Philbrook said just for clarification, to make sure we're going in the direction or at least of knowledge that we're after, how much extra would it cost us to look at with the survey to expand those, just in the survey to see what's available? How much it'd cost us if you expand it east and west, just asking? **Mr. Young** said the process that we're using, we go through, we identify the scope of the project and the project budget. That's been put forward and approved. The next step is to go out and do survey on the property and identify what land needs to be—any easements or acquisitions for right-of-way. That's the stage we're at now. During this stage we can come back and put together an additional budgetary estimate and identify additional funding. That would not change the project. It would still go through the same process. We would come back then with an addendum to this. If we're going to further north, further west, whatever, we would still go through the same process.

Commissioner Philbrook said I was just trying to make sure that other folks understood as well as myself, excruciatingly plain, the extent that we have to go through to do this kind of work. There's a lot of steps to it. It's not just one step. We've already approved this particular thing so now we can move forward. We would have to approve an additional expansion before we could do anything else. Is that correct? Okay. **Mr. Bain** said well, just to clarify that question, we do not—at this stage we do not have to identify the exact properties. This is authorizing the survey that will tell us what properties that we may need to acquire. **Commissioner Philbrook** said if you decide to add some length on to that, it would fit within this scope to look. **Mr. Bain** said yes, it would. **Commissioner Philbrook** said are you hearing me, Mike. Okay. I just wanted to make sure that we all understood that.

Action: **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were six "Ayes," Groneman, Philbrook, Markley, Kane, Johnson, Bynum.

Item No. 2 – 19793...RESOLUTION: EASTERN KANSAS MULTI-COUNTY TASK FORCE AGREEMENT

Synopsis: A resolution approving a Reciprocal Investigation Intergovernmental Local Agreement with the Eastern Kansas Multi-County Task Force, submitted by John Droppelmann, Fire Marshal. This task force provides investigative assistance for large, complex fire incidents.

Kathryn Devlin, Assistant Counsel, said we are here asking for a resolution authorizing Mr. Bach to engage in an interlocal for the Eastern Kansas Multi-County Task Force. The purpose of this task force is to assist other jurisdictions with fire investigations and if you have any questions, Mr. Droppelmann is here.

Commissioner Philbrook said but it's a reciprocal type thing. If we get really busy, they'll come in and help us. **John Droppelmann, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal,** said exactly. This has existed since the 90s. Municipalities have come and gone and every time that's happened we've had to—every jurisdiction that's left has had to resubmit this for the Mayor's signature to approve that.

Shawnee, who the fire marshal there who runs the Eastern Task Force, their attorneys got together and figured out a better way to do this in the future that it doesn't have to go through—Katie can explain that. **Ms. Devlin** said this is an interlocal agreement between municipalities which doesn't require AG approval and in the past, they had required AG approval. **Mr. Droppelmann** said they found a different way to submit it. Now, it won't have to be signed again unless we want to back out of it. If any, Miami—wants to join this time. This kind of started this whole thing up now. Interlocals will be able to join us or separate from us without everybody having to resubmit all this over and over again. **Commissioner Philbrook** asked who, the attorney general. Is that what you said. **Mr. Droppelmann** said yes, the attorney general. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I just wanted to make sure everybody understood what you were talking about. The state. Okay. That means we get to handle things between us. Amen.

Action: **Commissioner Philbrook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Groneman, Philbrook, Markley, Kane, Johnson, Bynum.

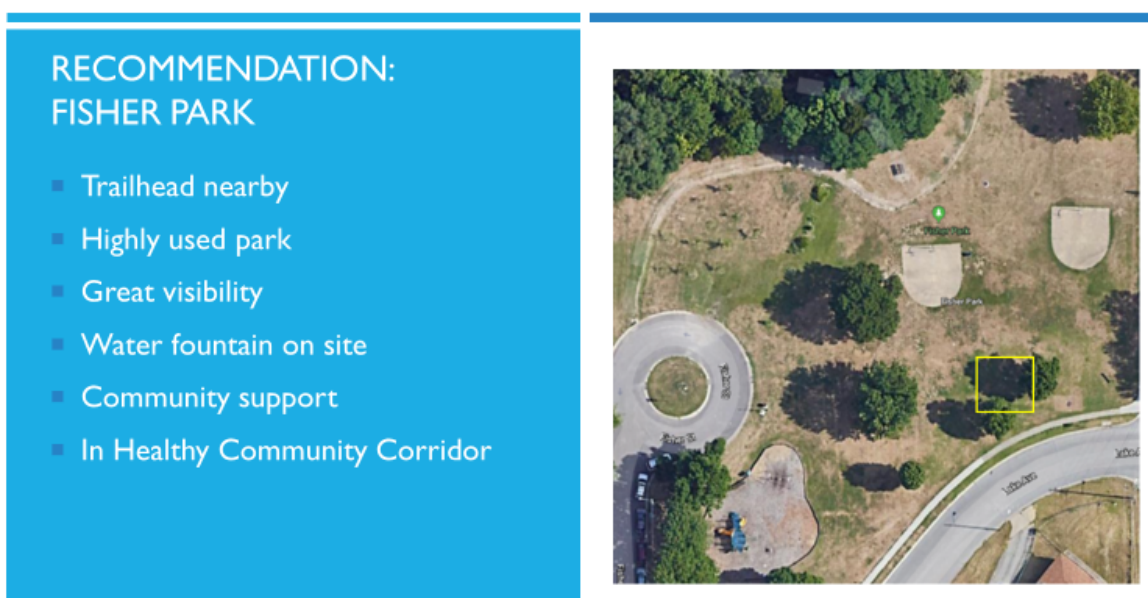
Item No. 3 – 19806... REQUEST: FISHER PARK FITNESS COURT

Synopsis: Request to construct a national fitness court at Fisher Park, located at 39th Street and Fisher Avenue, submitted by Jeremy Rogers, Director of Parks & Recreation. On May 9, 2019, the Commission unanimously voted to refer a similar request back to standing committee to find an alternate location besides Huron Park.

Chairman Bynum said I would just say last month, I believe it was last month, this committee did approve this fitness court in a different location and unbeknownst to me at that time the commissioner for the district and the neighborhood group in the immediate area, neither of them liked that idea. That is why we took action at a full commission meeting to rescind that. I apologize for that by the way. Then we had Jeremy and Angel go back and find us a new location which they have done so here we are tonight.

build this fitness court. We partnered with the Latino Health for All Coalition as well as several other groups in Wyandotte County and part of that partnership was to build this fitness court within the Healthy Community Corridor. That's the map right there. There's several parks within that district and with Wyandotte County finishing almost last in almost every health ranking, it's very important that we provide fitness, especially free fitness, to our citizens and that's what this does.

This fitness court allows individuals to use their bodyweight. There's an app for their phone that they scan and it takes them through different various stations and whatnot. After all of our evaluations of parks within this healthy corridor, we determined to put it at Fisher Park. I'll let Angel talk to you about Fisher Park.



Angel Obert, Recreation Division Manager, said some of the reasons why our recommendation is Fisher Park is there's a trailhead nearby. Part of the requirements for the National Fitness Campaign is that this fitness court be installed within close distance of a trail. It meets that requirement. Fisher Park's a highly used trail. It's great visibility as far as vandalism and we know we'll be seen from the street.

There is a water fountain onsite. We believe that there is community support here at Fisher Park for this fitness court and then it's also in the Healthy Community Corridor so meeting the requirements of the Latino Health for All Coalition.

Commissioner Philbrook said other than telling everybody where Fisher Park is, I'm giving the real address because not everybody knows where that is. **Chairman Bynum** said Fisher Park is located in Rosedale at 39th & Fisher and I will recognize Erin Stryka at the podium.

Erin Stryka, Rosedale Development Association, said I wanted to talk a little bit about Fisher Park in general and then this proposal. You may know the neighbors around Fisher Park and RDA have done a ton of investing in this park over the last few years. Angel mentioned the water fountain and the trailhead. Both of those are things that the neighborhood raised money for and built. We also put in a quarter mile crush gravel trail that Parks generously resurfaced this last year, a fruit tree orchard and then last year we built a brand-new playground here. The neighborhood loves this park. They use this park. They're really active here.

To that end, I do want to ask just a couple of questions that have come up from neighbors as we've gone—the neighborhood has already kind of identified our next priorities for the park and they are first, the swing set. We removed the swing set as part of installing the new Fisher Park playground. The plan was to put it back but then once it was out it was old; it wasn't very good. I wanted to ask if there was a way for the swing set to be reinstalled as part of this project since we're going to be doing construction stuff out there anyway.

The other one is to change those two half basketball courts you see there into a full basketball court. That's been on the dream list for a long time. Again, just wondering if there's a way, while we're building this, to build a full basketball court.

I also wanted to talk about—the footprint up there is pretty easy to see. Jeremy just told me that it was about 30x30 and that's pretty small, but I just want to ask that we're really careful to leave as much open green flat space as possible because that open green flat space gets used a lot for soccer, football, neighborhood picnics and all of that.

Finally, there will be a community meeting on Wednesday that Angel's going to come speak about this. We weren't quite able to pull that together before this meeting tonight. My other request would be if you make a motion, if you vote on this tonight, if it's possible to say something like pending the results of that neighborhood meeting to hold off on a final decision until we get to talk officially. **Chairman Bynum** said what I will say, and we'll have Legal weigh in, but if we vote tonight, it will move to a full commission meeting. There is still room between here and there, which does leave room for your community meeting. **Ms. Stryka** said and people will get

to speak at the full commission meeting. **Chairman Bynum** said I believe they would. It would probably land on a consent agenda assuming that it has a unanimous vote here, but those items can be pulled at full commission meetings. Go ahead and weigh in if there's something to add on that. **Misty Brown, Deputy Chief Counsel**, said you've got the process down correctly. I do not believe that you can vote to advance something contingent on the neighborhoods meeting. The process you outlined is most appropriate. **Chairman Bynum** said okay, but I still think we can live within the parameters you're trying to put forward and we want to hear from the neighborhood; there's no question.

Commissioner Philbrook said I'm going to drop this back in Jeremy's lap. Some of the changes they're talking about making this, because I really don't know how the footprint totally looks when they get done, if you would be prepared to answer questions as to how much these additional things would cost. We have to look at that because we're looking this year not to expand as much because we don't have as much money coming in, you know, overall. I just want you to, you know, if you can be prepared to address the issue that Ms. Stryka brought forward so we can talk money as well. **Mr. Rogers** said yes, absolutely, I'll be prepared for that. On average a full court basketball court of this nature would be around \$30,000. **Commissioner Philbrook** said and so you would—well, I don't know how it would end up laying looking at this because that's a half court she said. **Mr. Rogers** said there's two half courts. We'd take up both of those to make one full court. **Commissioner Philbrook** said okay.

Chairman Bynum said Angel is going to be at your meeting. I'm hoping that you can work with them and answer the questions that they bring forward and we are satisfied at a minimum to have this fitness court. This is a time sensitive item, which is why we're pushing it, and you know it's got a deadline attached to it. Go ahead if you wanted to add something to that. **Ms. Obert** said yes, I'll be able to answer those questions on Wednesday as well, but I do just want to make note of the yellow box of where we think is the best fit for the fitness court and I'm familiar with the greenspace area that Erin's talking about and I would like to just say that where this fitness court would be would not interfere with that greenspace area. It's going to be set between those two trees. You know if you are playing soccer out there that tree would be in your line of play. That, you know is not an issue there. The reason for this location too is it still allows for potential growth

in this park if they want to add other amenities as well. We can cover that Wednesday. **Chairman Bynum** said thank you so much. Okay, thank you Erin. **Ms. Stryka** said thank you.

Action: **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by BPU Board Member Groneman, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Groneman, Philbrook, Markley, Kane, Johnson, Bynum.

Adjourn:

Chairman Bynum adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

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