



# MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**From:** Rich Olson, City Manager  
**Date:** November 10, 2016  
**Re:** Consideration – Dog Corner Basketball Court

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***BACKGROUND:***

In March 2012, the City Council agreed to fund construction of a basketball court at Dog Corner Park. This was in response to removal of the basketball court at Fish Court Park because of the issues of constant flooding and not enough parking. Public Works Director Paul Fredette drew the plans and McDowell and Associates surveyed the park and produced a topographic map to assist with the plans. Bids to construct the court ranged from \$29,242 to \$39,200. Parks Land Development constructed the court for \$29,242. The total cost for the project was \$34,717, which included court construction, benches, goals/backboards, and trash receptacles.

Within a year, the south end of the basketball started sinking. Staff consulted David Parks for a solution to the sinking problem. Mr. Parks was not able to give us an answer as to why half of the court was sinking toward the creek, nor was he able to give a solution other than removing the sinking half of the court and starting over.

Last fall, GET Solutions was hired to conduct a complete soil evaluation of the area; and it was determined that the soils under the south end of the court are not stable enough to support the weight of the concrete court. The GET report also indicates that the soils get better closer to Southern Avenue, but these soils are still poor and may not support the weight of concrete.

It was suggested that staff contact JES Foundation Repair from Virginia for a free estimate to lift and PolyLevel the basketball court. JES gave us an estimate of \$17,145. Due to the unknown circumstances below the concrete slab, JES suggested lifting the entire slab. However, lift and levelness were NOT guaranteed. JES also recommended applying a top coat or self-leveler to seal cracks, which may appear during the PolyLevel process.

***ANALYSIS:***

Staff has looked at four options to build a new full court basketball court at Dog Corner. However, due to the unstable soil conditions in that area of the park,

staff recommends removing the sinking southern end of the basketball court and leaving the rest of the basketball court. We would remove the fencing as well as the basketball goal and bench in order to have a half court for children and adults to play short sided or half court games. A CAMA Permit will be required to do any demolition or work on the court due to being built close to Charles Creek. Plans to build a future second court in the area are not recommended if the soils will not support the structure.

It should be noted that staff included \$35,000 in the FY 2016-17 budget to repair the present basketball courts at Enfield Park.

***FINANCIAL:***

The Finance Committee discussed this matter during their meeting of November 9, 2016. During the discussion, staff advised that the Enfield Park basketball courts are used much more frequently than the one located at Dog Corner. Upon motion made by Councilman Donnelly, seconded by Mayor Peel the Committee recommended approval of staff's recommendation to remove the south end of the basketball court and make a half court; move the fencing, goals, backboards, and benches to support the half court and retain the \$35,000 in the FY 2016-17 budget to repair the present basketball courts at Enfield Park.

***STAFF RECOMMENDATION:***

By motion, instruct staff to remove the south end of the basketball court and make a half court; move the fencing, goals, backboards, and benches to support the half court and retain the \$35,000 in the FY 2016-17 budget to repair the present basketball courts at Enfield Park.

