

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS**

By Ostrow and Johnson

Resolution Supporting the Concept of a Park Dedication Fee and Directing Staff to work with MPRB on an Ordinance Consistent with this Statement of Principles.

Whereas, the Minneapolis City Council recognizes that the Minneapolis Park System is of critical importance to the vitality and well-being of our citizens and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, resources for capital improvements are woefully inadequate to address the park and recreation needs of new residents and, further, are inadequate to provide park amenities in anticipated growth areas of the City; and

Whereas, park and recreation amenities help to attract and retain small businesses and assist businesses in attracting and retaining talented employees; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board passed a park dedication fee ordinance on July 11, 2007, and state enabling legislation requires both the MPRB and the Minneapolis City Council approve any ordinance providing for a park dedication fee prior to its effective date; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis City Council wishes to convey its support for the concept of a park dedication fee and to further request that the MPRB review this resolution and proposed modifications to the park dedication fee ordinance in order that the City and Park Board can move forward;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the Minneapolis City Council supports the concept of a park dedication fee subject to the following considerations:

1. Any park dedication fee should not exceed \$3,000 for each residential unit. No park dedication fee shall be imposed upon any affordable housing unit which received affordable housing subsidies from the City of Minneapolis or Hennepin County.
2. The City of Minneapolis supports an amendment to Laws of Minnesota 2006, Chapter 269, which would expand the authority to impose a park dedication fee to include commercial and industrial property. In the event that the MPRB takes action to support this expanded authority, the City will add the expansion of this authority to its 2008 Legislative Agenda.
3. The City Council requests that the Park Board provide additional information to the City Council and City staff regarding the amount of the proposed fees on residential, commercial and industrial property in order that the Council might further consider the amount of the fee upon final adoption of the ordinance. The City Council recommends that the fee be indexed for inflation.
4. Proceeds from the park dedication fees shall be used for new parks, renovations or expansions, but under no circumstances shall the proceeds be used for basic maintenance and repair.

5. The City requests that prior to the return of any revised ordinance to the Council for its consideration that the MPRB provide a comprehensive maintenance plan, identities for any new resources, park amenities constructed with proceeds from the park dedication fee ordinance.

6. The City of Minneapolis supports an amendment to Laws of Minnesota 2006, Chapter 269, Section 2 which would conform the legal uses for park dedication fees in Minneapolis to uses set forth in M.S. 462.358 and would specifically allow the use of park dedication fees for trails and green space in addition to the existing authority granted by the Special Law. It is understood that some of the permissible expenditures would not fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the MPRB.

7. The City of Minneapolis requires that as to each park dedication fee, a “nexus” must be established showing that the specific land development causes a need for the amenity and that the amount of the fee is no greater than the amount needed to alleviate the infrastructure need generated by the development. The City of Minneapolis opposes the use of the park dedication fee to support park amenities that are too distant from the development to provide a direct benefit and further opposes the imposition of fees for the purpose of a fund to be used elsewhere in the City.

8. The park dedication fees imposed must be used to fund improvements consistent with the City’s Comprehensive Plan and MPRB’s comprehensive plan and green space plan as adopted and amended.

9. Use of the park dedication fee shall be subject to interdepartmental and legal review by both the MPRB and the City. On an annual basis, the MPRB and City Council shall review and approve the overall plan for the use of park dedication fees in the City.

10. The City of Minneapolis respectfully requests that the MPRB review the ordinance passed by the MPRB in 2007 and consider revisions not inconsistent with this resolution. The City Council further requests that the MPRB consider changes in its legislative agenda consistent with this resolution. The City Coordinator and Director of Community Planning and Economic Development are further directed to work with Park Board staff on revisions to the ordinance not inconsistent with this resolution.