

Appendices

Appendix A: Letter from Ron Olson, Superintendent, Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Department



June 23, 2003

Paul Garriepy
Director of Properties
Catholic Diocese of Lansing

Dear Mr. Garriepy:

I am writing to give an update on the city's potential interest in adding Dicken Woods to the Ann Arbor City park system. The following gives you a rough sense of the timelines regarding the city's process steps.

The Park Advisory Commission has approved obtaining an appraisal of your property to establish an estimate of its value as required by the city policy. This will be presented in a closed-door meeting July 15, 2003 to the Park Advisory Commission. The Commission will then deliberate upon this parcel in light of other competing land acquisition priorities for the Ann Arbor Park Acquisition Millage funds. Following these discussions, the city staff will be given guidance about pursuing this property and negotiations may be forthcoming. Should there be successful negotiations, the Park Advisory Commission would recommend to City Council to approve a sales agreement for the property, pending a successful Class One Environmental Assessment. If the City Council approves of the purchase, a closing would be scheduled based upon the execution of the approved sales agreement.


Below is our estimate of the tasks and the timeframes:

Estimated Date	Task
June-July	Appraisal of property
July 15	PAC review in closed door session appraisal and discuss support
July-August	City staff pursue advice and recommendation from PAC regarding the property
September	If successful, recommendation to City Council for approval of a sales agreement contingent upon a successful environmental assessment
October	Close on the property

We appreciate the effort that Friends of Dicken Woods have invested in making this a park, as well as your willingness and interest in working with us on this venture. We believe that this may result in a mutually beneficial outcome to the Catholic Diocese, the City of Ann Arbor, and the Dicken Woods neighborhood.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about these projected timelines and tasks.

Sincerely,

 Ronald A.
Olson

Ronald A. Olson
Associate City Administrator/ Supt. Parks and Recreation
Phone: (734) 994-2780
Email: <mailto:rolson@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us>

CC : Park Advisory Commission
Dave Borneman, Natural Area Preservation Manager
KC Bemish, GIS Specialist
Gerry Clark, Consultant