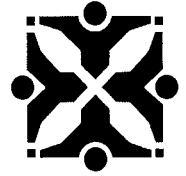


City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Agenda Item Number: REP 78-15

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: 8/3/2015

Re: Report - Barberry Park Neighborhood Connectivity Plan

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council Report

Supporting documentation included: Barberry Park Neighborhood Connectivity Plan and Photos

Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is providing this report to the City Council regarding the department's decision to delay constructing sidewalks along Barberry Avenue as part of the Barberry Park development. After meeting with the residents regarding their existing and future use of walkways, staff determined that utilizing internal walkways through the park would be the most economical and environmentally-friendly method to connect the two adjacent neighborhoods. At the February 16, 2015 City Council meeting, the plans for park development were submitted and approved by Council and included walkway connections to the neighborhoods on the east and west sides of the park property. The walkway plan includes a mixture of five-foot and ten-foot concrete walkways within the park to create the connectivity between the adjacent neighborhoods. Staff is recommending that the sidewalk along Barberry Avenue be delayed until the street is improved.

Discussion

The Parks and Recreation Department purchased 5.28 acres at 3405 Zinnia Drive in 2009 for the development of Barberry Neighborhood Park. The development of the park property was approved by the City Council on February 16, 2015 and includes many traditional neighborhood park amenities, such as a small shelter, playground, open playfield, fishing lake, basketball court and walking trails. The park was purchased to provide these amenities to the surrounding neighborhoods, and the plan presented to the City Council includes a concrete walkway infrastructure to connect the neighborhoods on the east and west sides of the park.

The plans approved by the City Council will provide connections to the adjacent neighborhoods by installing five-foot walkway connections at Grayson Drive on the east side of the park and Zinnia Drive on the west side of the park. The decision to propose this design of walkways and neighborhood connections allowed staff to minimize the environmental impact at the park property and was the most economical design based on the amount of money allocated to the project. The connecting walkways will also meet all necessary ADA requirements.

As shown on the attached photos, Barberry Avenue is a two-lane unimproved street with numerous utility poles and guy wires and does not have shoulders nor dedicated stormwater controls. By utilizing a combination of connecting walkways and the walkway around the small pond, staff is able

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to achieve the desired connectivity between the neighborhoods without major construction and tree removal along the street. During the design phase of the project, staff evaluated the need for an additional sidewalk along Barberrry Avenue and found that the current topography and existing vegetation make it difficult to add this walkway compared to other options for connectivity. As shown on the attached Barberrry Connectivity Plan, the sidewalk on the existing side street off Grayson Drive will be used for the walkway into the park, but currently does not create an easy connection to continue along Barberrry Avenue due to ADA requirements, necessary grading and fill, and existing trees and vegetation along Barberrry Avenue. Park planning staff and neighbors felt that it was more desirable to construct other amenities in the park instead of Barberrry Avenue sidewalk. While it is not included with the initial park development, park staff will consider the addition of this walkway if future funding is available or improvements to Barberrry Avenue are proposed and approved.

Due to the size of the adjacent neighborhoods, topography and current development at the park, staff feels that the proposed walkway additions at Barberrry Park will be sufficient to provide access to the park and serve as the primary route for through traffic between the neighborhoods.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The total project cost for the park development is \$125,000 and includes the construction of the proposed walkways within the park as shown in the map included with this report.

Long-Term Impact: None

Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Parks, Recreation and Greenways

Strategic Plan Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility

Suggested Council Action

Report is for information only.

Legislative History

Ordinance #22376, Barberrry Park Development, approved February 16, 2015

<http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Council/Commissions/downloadfile.php?id=16661>


Department Approved


City Manager Approved

City of Columbia

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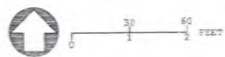


SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Barberry Park Neighborhood Connectivity Plan
and Photos



**BARBERRY PARK
NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIVITY PLAN**





Barberry Avenue

Connector Trail Alignment
*** 5-6 feet higher than road elevation**

BARBERRY PARK
PHOTO 1 - VIEWING EAST





Connector Trail Alignment
* 5-6 feet higher than road elevation
* Major utility relocation necessary

BARBERRY PARK
PHOTO 2 - VIEWING WEST





Connector Trail Alignment
* 3-4 feet lower than road elevation
* (2) Culvert crossings necessary

Barberry Avenue

BARBERRY AVENUE
PHOTO 3 - VIEWING WEST

