A RESOLUTION

setting a public hearing to consider the extension of the one-eighth of one percent local parks sales tax.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. A public hearing will be held before the City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri in the Council Chamber in the City Hall Building, 701 E. Broadway, Columbia, Missouri on Monday, August 2, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to consider an extension of the one-eighth of one percent local parks sales tax. All citizens and interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

SECTION 2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to cause notice of this hearing to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Boone County, Missouri.

ADOPTED this _____ day of __________________________, 2010.

ATTEST:

______________________________  ______________________________
City Clerk Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

______________________________
City Counselor
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City Council is currently considering placing an extension of the existing 1/8 cent park sales tax for capital projects on the November 2, 2010, ballot for consideration by Columbia voters. A detailed proposal (attached) which recommends how the funds generated by the sales tax extension are to be used has been drafted.

This resolution, if passed by Council, schedules a public hearing on the ballot issue proposal for the August 2 City Council Meeting

DISCUSSION:

In November of 2005 Columbia voters passed a ballot measure extending the existing 1/8 park sales tax for a period of five years to fund a number of improvements/additions to the City’s park system. That five year extension expires March 31 of 2011. The projects included in the 2005 ballot issue have been completed, are currently under construction, or are in the final stages of design.

In order to continue funding improvements to the park system, the City Council is currently considering placing an extension of the sales tax on the November 2, 2010, ballot. An extension of the 1/8 cent tax for five years is expected to generate approximately $12 million. A detailed proposal as to how those funds would be allocated to various park improvements has been drafted. That proposal currently allocates funds among four major categories: land acquisition/preservation, improvements to existing parks, trails and greenbelts, and new park development. Specific projects which would be completed if the ballot issue is approved by voters have been identified in the improvements to existing parks, trails and greenbelts, and new park development categories.

To place the ballot proposal on the November 2 ballot, an ordinance authorizing such action will need to be passed by Council no later than the August 16 Council meeting. Prior to final consideration of that ordinance, Council has directed staff to schedule a public hearing on the ballot proposal for the August 2 Council meeting. This resolution takes such action.
FISCAL IMPACT:

The scheduling and holding of the public hearing will have no fiscal impact. Should the proposal to extend the 1/8 park sales tax ultimately be placed on the ballot and approved by the voters, approximately $12 million would be generated for improvements to the City’s park system over the five year period from April 2011 through March of 2016.

VISION IMPACT:

The proposal to extend the 1/8 cent park sales tax directly addresses goals 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, and 12.4 of the Vision plan. Those goals call for the development of a park system which features a network of attractive well maintained parks, exciting and diverse recreational facilities, an extensive network of greenways, and an extensive, safe network of trails. Vision implementation task #41 specifically identifies the need to “develop and pass a ballot issue for the renewal or expansion of the park sales tax.”

SUGGESTED COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Approve the resolution scheduling a public hearing on the proposed extension of the 1/8 cent park sales tax for the August 2 City Council meeting.
Draft
2010 Ballot Proposal
1/8 Cent Park Sales Tax Renewal

Acquisition/Land Preservation - $1,800,000

Acquire land for community and neighborhood parks, trails/greenbelts, and natural area preservation. Priorities to be determined by Council based upon city-wide growth patterns, availability of land, potential for full or partial donation, existing natural features, and staff recommendations. $1,800,000

Improvements To Existing Parks: $4,990,000

**Park Improvements ($3,515,000)**

Albert-Oakland Park – New Restroom $125,000
Albert-Oakland Park – Athletic Fields Renovation $150,000
Armory Renovation – Activity/Meeting Room Flooring $75,000
Atkins Park Phase II – Restrooms, Concessions, Ballfield $850,000
Cosmo-Bethel Park – Light Tennis Courts, Trail $150,000
Cosmo Park – Football/Lacrosse Field Improvements $150,000
Cosmo Park – New Restroom Soccer/Football Fields $125,000
Cosmo Park – Steinberg Playground Renovation $500,000
Douglass Park – Playground Renovation, Fitness Stns. $100,000
Downtown Optimist Park Renovation $50,000
Fairview Pk – Shelter Replacement, Playground, Parking $175,000
Nifong Park – Maplewood Barn, Parking $200,000
Shepard Boulevard Tennis Courts Renovation $75,000
Stephens Lake Phase II – Shelter, Parking $225,000
Trail Restroom Improvements – Garth, Grindstone, MLK $315,000
Twin Lakes Recreation Area Improvements $250,000

**Annual Improvements ($1,475,000)**

Annual Roads and Parking Improvements $750,000
Annual Joint City/School Playground Projects $125,000
Annual Park Improvements- Major Maintenance $600,000

$4,990,000
**Trails and Greenbelts: $2,070,000**

- Grindstone Trail Development – Grindstone Nature Area to the Confluence: $1,570,000
- Annual Trail Improvements – Major Maintenance: $500,000

**New Facility/Park Development - $2,540,000**

**Neighborhood Parks ($375,000)**
Develop three new neighborhood parks:

- Barberry Neighborhood Park: $125,000
- Jay Dix Neighborhood Park: $125,000
- Strawn Road Neighborhood Park: $125,000

**Community/Regional Parks ($2,165,000)**

- Gans Creek Rec Area/Philips Park – Phase I Development: $1,750,000
- Norma Sutherland Smith Park – Phase I: $250,000
- Waters-Moss Park Phase I: $165,000

**Contingency**

Contingency of 5%: $600,000

**Ballot Issue Total**

$12,000,000