

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-108

RESPONDING TO THE RESOLUTION PASSED BY  
THE MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL RELATING TO  
PARK DEDICATION FEES

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) 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 new parks and capital improvements for existing parks are inadequate to address the park and recreation needs of existing residents and, further, are inadequate to provide park amenities for future residents 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 enhance the livability of our city;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD wishes to respond as follows to the resolution passed by the Minneapolis City Council relating to park dedication fees by outlining the following process and parameters for the fee and process moving forward:

1. The Park Dedication Fee (PDF) shall be set at \$2000 per new residential unit, excluding units that receive affordable housing subsidies from the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County or Federal Government that include projects at or below the 50% Metropolitan Median Income. The MPRB asks the City Council to review and reconsider its previous action, which recommended excluding all housing units in any project with any affordable housing units due to the adverse impact of such a policy on the ability to collect park dedication fees on residential property. The PDF shall be adjusted for inflation every five (5) years, according to the Key Economic Indicators of the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau, provided to the Economics and Statistics Administration at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

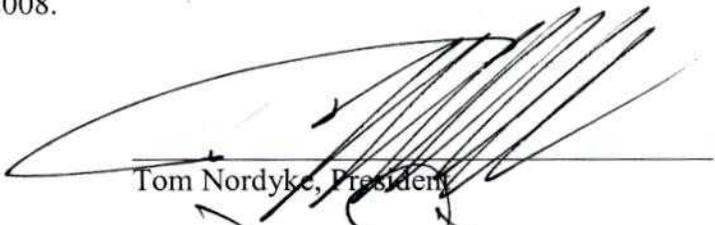
2. The PDF shall include all new Commercial and Industrial projects, at a rate of 1% of the project's total development costs. The MPRB and the City of Minneapolis agree to work together for the legislative changes necessary during the 2008 session to include Commercial and Industrial in the Park Dedication Fee statute.

3. The PDF's collected shall be deposited in a "Park Dedication Special fund." All PDF's collected shall be used solely for the acquisition, development, redevelopment or improvement of lands, facilities or trails dedicated to public use as parks, recreational facilities, playgrounds, trails, wetlands or open space purposes. Interest earned on the Special Fund will remain with the fund.

4. A nexus of 6 blocks shall allow that the PDF park improvements are within a distance close enough to the development to benefit the residents and/or employees of that development. Historically, the MPRB has used a 6-block distance (approximately ½ mile), or nexus, from each residence to establish and maintain parkland, trails and recreational amenities and provide the greatest benefit to that residence. If a park project cannot be completed within the 6-block nexus, the MPRB and City may look to the Neighborhood or Community as defined by the City, or, if necessary, to the nearest Regional Park that serves the residents. In all cases, the Minneapolis City Attorney and the attorney for the MPRB must agree that the nexus requirement has been met.

5. The MPRB and the City Council have joint authority to approve projects proposed for Park Dedication Fee funding, and project approvals shall be subject to interdepartmental and legal review by both the MPRB and the City. The Park Dedication Fees imposed must be used to fund improvements consistent with the MPRB's Comprehensive Plan, and the City's Comprehensive Plans as adopted and amended, and shall be used for new parks, improvements or park expansions and cannot, by state statute, be used for on-going operations or maintenance.

Adopted by the Park and Recreation Board  
in formal meeting assembled on April 2, 2008.



Tom Nordyke, President



Don Siggelkow, Secretary

Approved:

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R.T. Rybak, Mayor