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Park District seeks raised impact fee

Bob Goldsborough Published June 9, 2006

WHEATON -- The Wheaton Park District's board has unanimously decided to ask Wheaton's City Council to require an oversized cash contribution from the developer of a proposed 33-home subdivision on 14 acres on the southwest side instead of a land contribution.

The council will hold a public hearing June 26 on Lyons-based developer Wheaton Development LLC's proposed annexation and redevelopment of the soon-to-be-vacated site of the Sunny Ridge Family Center adoption agency at 2S426 Orchard Rd.

Commissioners voted to seek \$276,000 from the developer to cover the impact of the subdivision. While only required to pay slightly more than \$100,000, the developer has backed the higher impact fee in place of a land contribution. The property is next to the Park District's 7-acre Toohey Park.

Neighbors in the adjacent Arrowhead East subdivision had asked park officials to request a land contribution in the form of a walking path through the development to shorten their trip from White Birch Lane to Toohey Park.

"Staff looked at all of the potential uses for the property, and there would have been no functional use of that strip of land, other than that it would have increased the size of the park," said Commissioner Jeff Cook. "There was nothing specific that we could have done with it."



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