

Cicero needs more parkland



Written by Jason Michael White, Posted on 10-01-2007 08:29

Cicero needs more than 52 acres of additional parkland in the next 10 years to meet the needs of future residents, according to a consultant.

And the town has about 11 fewer acres of parkland than it needs for residents now, according to consultants Lehman and Lehman.

Cicero officials are considering charging developers an impact fee to pay for future parkland development.

Developers would pay \$920 per rooftop, parks superintendent Charlie Cambre said. Town officials would then use the money to build new parks and trails in areas where new residents live.

Consultants determined the acres of parkland needed by taking into account the town's population, Cambre said.

About 11 acres of parkland are needed for every 1,000 residents, Cambre said.

The town's 2007 population is more than 5,000, Cambre said. The 2016 estimated population is more than 9,000, he said.

Town plan commission members on Oct. 10 will review the park impact fee proposal. They will give the plan a favorable, unfavorable or no recommendation, and forward the proposal to the town council.

Town council members have final say about whether the park impact fee ordinance goes into effect.

Local communities such as Fishers, Noblesville, Carmel and Westfield already have a park impact fee in place.

By the Numbers

Town parkland: 45.6 acres

Parkland needed: 56.77 acres

Parkland deficiency: about 11 acres

Additional parkland needed by 2016: 52.03 acres

By Jason Michael White

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