



Town of Holly Springs

Town Council Meeting Agenda Cover Sheet

Agenda Item #: 7c

Requests & Communications

Title: Community Park Land Purchase

Strategic Priority Area: Engaged, Healthy & Active Community

Staff Resource: LeeAnn Plumer, Parks & Recreation

Action(s):

Ratify sales contract for the land purchase approved in closed session on December 17, 2019, for the acquisition of 55.9 acres of land located at 5401 and 5420 Cass Holt Road for \$3.8 million.

Explanation:

- After several months of land scoping, evaluation, and negotiation, the Town purchased 55.9 acres of land for a future park at the price of \$3.8 million.
- This action achieves one of the priority initiatives of the Town's Strategic Plan, to ensure that all areas of Holly Springs have equitable access to park facilities, greenways and open space.
- The location, Cass Holt Rd. across from Holly Springs High School, is situated in the fast-growing section of Holly Springs and will become the first Town Park west of NC 55.
- Next steps include developing a park master plan which will seek public input to identify amenities to be implemented in phases over the coming years.

Background:

- At the December 2019 Council work session, Town Council members reaffirmed three priority projects to be funded with the remaining 2011 park bond funds, park and recreation reserve funds and potential grant funds. Land acquisition for the development of a future park west of NC 55 was identified as one of those projects. The other projects include two greenway connection segments; the Arbor Creek Greenway Extension and the Holly Glen Connector.
- Staff evaluated several parcels in the targeted region for the future park location. Considerations included access, topography, tree coverage, utilities, parcel size and cost. This approximately 56 acre farm provided several advantages including its proximity to Holly Springs High School.

Funding Source(s):

- Parks and Recreation Reserves – Land Acquisition
- 2011 Park Bond Funds – Park Construction

Attachment(s):

- None