

Memo

To: Parks and Recreation Commission, Fields Planning Committee, Staff
Cc: Gary Riedner, City Supervisor
From: Dwight Curtis, Parks & Recreation Director
Date: February 19, 2008
Re: Newly *proposed* changes to West Palouse River Drive Ball Fields Project

Last week staff met with Mr. Rick Beebe, the owner of the property south and west of the ball field project site on West Palouse River Drive to discuss possible changes to the project. Connectivity, vehicle access to the south from West Palouse River Drive and interference with the ball field project has been an issue we've been trying to resolve for some time now. Mr. Beebe has made some very interesting proposed changes that we should consider.

Those changes are listed below with an attached "very rough" *conceptual* of the changes. Larry Hodge from Hodge and Associates and J.U.B. engineer and FPC member Cory Baune are putting the ideas to paper to see what is and isn't feasible. We should have a pretty good idea by the March 6th FPC meeting, if not earlier. Until I get something back from the engineers, I really don't have any more information to offer.

Proposed changes for the West Palouse River Drive Ball Fields Project:

1. Conestoga Extension would go through as previously drawn.
2. Possible road or right-of-way for a road, extending south from beginning of panhandle area.
3. Possible road west of property (*possibly* near the Clyde property entrance)
4. Soccer fields and some parking would be located south of the southern property line.
 - a. The land would be donated by the present owner.
 - b. This area would likely be terraced.
 - c. Access would be off of the Conestoga extension.
5. Some parking would be moved to where the soccer fields are presently located.
 - a. Access would be off of the Conestoga extension.
6. There would be no parking north of the river; that area would become a passive park area.
 - a. This area could host a Mayor's or Memorial Grove and fit very well into the arboretum scheme.
 - b. This area would serve as a great buffer between the ball park and northern neighbors.
7. Baseball field area would likely be spread out a little since they are presently so tight.
 - a. There would be considerably more open space than is presently planned.
 - b. This area would likely support a playground area.

Please refer to accompanying rough conceptual for a visual of these changes