

# **SPESIA & TAYLOR**

## **MEMO**

To: City Council, Mayor Soliman, Ron Wiedeman, City Engineer/City Administrator

From: Spesia & Taylor

Date: 5/22/23

Re: Information regarding proposed easement from Lockport Township Park District regarding Easement for City Welcome sign on Prairie Bluff Golf Course Property on Illinois Rte. 53

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**Issue:** The City currently has a welcome sign on Illinois Route 53 which is located on Park District property along the west side of the road. Despite diligent search efforts, neither my office nor City Staff were able to locate any written documentation as to how the sign came to be located there. No easements were recorded on the property and the City was unable to find any other references to the sign being approved and/or its construction. I was asked by the City Engineer to draft an easement for the welcome sign, which will be upgraded as part of the current city-wide Welcome Sign project.

### **DISCUSSION**

Initially, the attorney for the Park District was suggesting to Bill Riordan that the best way to accomplish what the City was seeking would be to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement to cover the welcome sign. Upon further discussion with the Park District Attorney, I was able to persuade her that the best path forward would be the recording of an Easement.

I drafted the Easement, and after review, the Park District's attorney came back with a request for a termination provision upon one year notice. My response was that Ron Wiedeman and I would bring it to the City Council for discussion.

The redlined version of the easement is included in your packet. The termination right requires the Park District to provide the City with one year advance written notice of the intent to terminate, which would give the City a full year to remove the sign and return the easement location to its original condition.

Ron Wiedeman and I are looking for the Council's direction and input as to the Easement, which if approved by the Park District Board, would then be recorded on the property.

Ron can speak to the Financial Impact and cost of the proposed upgrade to the current City Welcome Sign on the Park District property.