



CITY OF NOVI CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 3, 2023

SUBJECT: Approve revised land exchange agreement between the City of Novi and Novi Community School District, subject to approval of final form by the City Manager and City Attorney's Office

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: City Manager's

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the November 14, 2022, City Council meeting, Council unanimously approved the Property Exchange Agreement by and Between the City of Novi and the Novi Community School District. A due diligence period was provided to address issues raised by the transfer of City park areas. Since then, the City and the School District have agreed upon a few revisions to address the concerns shared by surrounding neighborhoods. Of particular note is the inclusion of the First Right of Refusal language at the end of the document that allows either party to reacquire the property if the other one decides to sell. Both public entities remained steadfast that the affected properties are intended to remain public property and to continue to be used as recreation/athletic facilities.

The City properties involved (being transferred to the School District) are a portion of the City's Wildlife Woods Park adjacent Novi Middle School (about 23 acres) and an area at the Civic Center/Ella Mae Power Park currently used for School athletic field purposes (about 46 acres). The School properties involved (being transferred to the City) are a small piece of land near Fuerst Park (roughly 1.77 acres) and the so-called Bosco Fields, at 11 Mile and Beck Roads (about 70 acres). There is no compensation or monetary consideration proposed. This is intended to be an exchange of deeds.

The City is still proceeding with the revision process for the Future Land Use Map changes tied to this proposed swap. That 42-day review and comment period will end on April 11, 2023. The City is also starting the text amendment process to confirm the Schools' use of the Civic Center/Ella Mae Power Park property.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve revised land exchange agreement between the City of Novi and Novi Community School District, subject to approval of final form by the City Manager and City Attorney's Office