

# City Council Agenda Memo

**From:** Dusty Rodiek, P&R Director

**Council Meeting:** August 25, 2020

**Subject:** Resolution for Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Application

**Person(s) Responsible:** Dusty Rodiek, Parks & Recreation Director  
Darren Hoff, Recreation Manager

## **Summary:**

This resolution provides the support required to complete a Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Application. LWCF provides grant funding for outdoor recreation projects in South Dakota. The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department desires to utilize Land & Water Conservation Funds at the 50/50 grant match level to develop a 2.25 acre off leash dog exercise area (Dog Park) in an underutilized area of Sexauer Park. The total project budget is anticipated to be \$75,000 and would be completed in 2021 if grant funding is approved. Grant match funding was identified in the 2020 Budget.

## **Background:**

The Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a Federal Grant Program administered through the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks. LWCF provides grant funding for outdoor recreation projects in South Dakota. Historically, Brookings has benefited from this funding source, having received past grants for the acquisition and development of park areas. Past projects have included: Edgebrook Golf Course, Southbrook Softball Complex, Larson Park, Lions Park, Valley View Park, Southside Park, Nature Park, and Camelot Park. The City of Brookings has not received LWCF funds since 2012.

## **Item Details:**

The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department desires to utilize Land & Water Conservation Funds at the 50/50 grant match level to develop a 2.25 acre off leash dog exercise area (Dog Park) in an underutilized area of Sexauer Park. The total project budget is anticipated to be \$75,000 and would be completed in 2021 if grant funding is approved.

The selected site provides convenient access to residents in the north part of town, is near the SDSU campus, and is adjacent to the Sexauer Park Campground. Site amenities for the Dog Park would include boundary fencing/gates, potable water, picnic tables, trees, pet exercise features, and a shade structure.

Operational cost impacts would be minimal as the area is currently being maintained and the core user group has been proactive in the care of the existing dog area.

Partnership opportunities exist with the Brookings Regional Humane Society to host events and with current dog park users for improvement funding.

**Legal Consideration:**

None.

**Strategic Plan Consideration:**

This project would have no impact on storm water management, would be accessible by a future trail connection and serves the residents in the northwest quadrant of the city.

**Financial Consideration:**

The project would be financed through the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Program and the City of Brookings. Grant match funding was identified in the 2020 Budget.

**Options and Recommendation:**

The City Council has the following options:

1. Approve as presented
2. Amend
3. Deny
4. Move the item to a work session
5. Do nothing

Staff recommends approval of the resolution as presented.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Memo

Resolution

Sexauer Park Map