



**REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: November 6, 2007

SUBJECT: Certificate of Appreciation for Karen Langford

**Report in Brief**

Woodland resident Karen Langford is donating exercise equipment to the City of Woodland for installation in her local neighborhood park, Joseph Schneider Park. Staff believes that the City's public acceptance of this generous donation is appropriate given Mrs. Langford's sincere interest in improving a park that serves her neighborhood.

Staff recommends that the City Council recognize and accept this donation with a Certificate of Appreciation.

**Background**

A small set of exercise equipment was installed at Schneider Park several years ago, but age and vandalism eventually took their toll on this equipment. In addition, hindsight proved that the original location for the exercise equipment within the park was not ideal and use patterns were low, so there were no immediate plans to replace this equipment by the department.

Earlier this summer, staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission were approached by Mrs. Langford with several comments on how we could improve the appearance of her neighborhood park. Among these suggestions was an offer to purchase and donate a new set of exercise equipment for the park, if the City would install it. The product she had selected is from a company recognized as a leader in the industry of both playground equipment and park furniture, and a new location within the park has been selected for the installation. Mrs. Langford reports that several other neighbors and park users have been told about the pending donation and are excited to have the new equipment installed.

**Discussion**

Feedback and participation regarding how our neighborhood parks are maintained is an important part of developing and maintaining relationships between our department and the community. The Parks and Recreation Department has a history of reaching out to our community through our recreation programs, senior programs, park improvement projects, scout and church projects, and special events to name a few. Historically, the response from the community has been very positive.

Therefore, donations such as this for new exercise equipment are a beneficial and reinforcing statement to the level of commitment the community has for our programs and facilities.

**Fiscal Impact**

Mrs. Langford is offering to pay for the exercise equipment, taxes, and shipping to the City of Woodland. The total donation equals \$8,743.35. The City share will be the costs associated with the installation and will total approximately \$2,000.00 for labor and materials.

**Public Contact**

Mrs. Langford has discussed the pending donation with several other neighbors and park users and the progress is being followed closely. The matter was discussed at an earlier Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and generated some interest, as well.

**Commission Recommendation**

The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the donation of exercise equipment for Joseph Schneider Park at their meeting of August 27, 2007 and recommended approval by the City Council.

**Recommendation for Action**

Staff recommends that the City Council recognize and accept this donation with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Prepared by: George Ahlgren  
Park Superintendent

Reviewed by: Dan Gentry, Director  
Parks and Recreation

---

Mark G. Deven  
City Manager