ORDINANCE No. 183711

Authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with Portland Public Schools and Friends of Grant Athletics regarding athletic facility improvements at Grant Park and Grant High School. (Ordinance)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

- 1. Park space is a valued and finite resource within Portland. It is incumbent on the city to facilitate the most effective use of this limited resource.
- 2. The community has expressed its desire to see a high level of coordination and sharing of assets between public agencies, in particular between parks and schools. The public also supports innovative funding partnerships that minimize demands on general tax revenues.
- 3. Neighbors, schools and parks must continue to invest in the children of our community. With gangs, chronic childhood health conditions brought on by insufficient activity, and risk for substance abuse, supporting youth athletic programs to develop leadership, teamwork, and physical fitness is in the public interest.
- 4. The "Grant Bowl," owned by Portland Parks & Recreation (PPR), and the "Upper Field" between the Bowl and Grant High School, owned partly by PP&R and partly by Portland Public Schools (PPS) are used by Grant High School and other PPS sports teams. Both areas are also used extensively by the community for organized sport league play, as well as informal recreational use
- 5. An initiative to improve the outdoor playing surfaces at Grant Park and Grant High School began several years ago with the formation of a Grant High School parent group known as Friends of Grant Athletics (FGA).
- 6. The FGA formed a community advisory group, with representatives from the surrounding neighborhood associations as well as neighbors of the Park/School, to hold meetings and workshops to gain public response and feedback. In response to the feedback, which, among other things, indicated that permanent seating, lighting and fencing of the Bowl was not desired, the FGA scaled back its original proposed improvements and presented them to PPS and PPR.
- 7. After further consideration of neighborhood interests and park use standards, PPR and PPS further revised the list of proposed project elements and, in 2007, circulated the "Proposed Plan" for public review.
- 8. Additional open houses and meetings were held to give the public further opportunity to comment on the proposed improvements, and, from that feedback, the parties agreed to a list of improvements that reasonably reflect most of the interests of the parties to the MOU and the neighborhood.
- 9. Planned improvements, as described in Exhibit A to the MOU, include installation of a new track surface, all-weather turf in the Grant Bowl and on

- the upper south baseball/soccer fields, new backstops and benches for the little league fields, safety improvements such as railing and path lighting, street trees, and refurbishment of the turf and irrigation system of the Hollyrood soccer field.
- 10. The scope of the planned improvements is not expected or intended to result in increased intensity of use. Neither PP&R nor PPS will increase sports programming for these fields beyond what has been historically allowed by park permit. PP&R has confirmed with BDS that the planned improvements fall below the threshold for a Conditional Use Permit.

11. The use of all-weather turf is an appropriate and desirable surface in certain settings, particularly fields that are used year round for organized and competitive league play.

- 12. The Memorandum of Understanding between FGA, PPS, and PPR outlines the roles and responsibilities that each party will play in making the proposed improvements. FGA will lead the fundraising efforts. PPS will manage the project, while PPR will provide plan review services and continue to be involved in public outreach.
- 13. FGA requested a signed agreement be in place to ensure that funds, once raised, will be able to be utilized for their intended purpose.
- 14. The MOU does not obligate development or additional maintenance funds from the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Council Directs:

a. The Commissioner in Charge of Portland Parks and Recreation is authorized to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Portland Public Schools and Friends of Grant Athletics, outlining each party's role in making improvements at Grant Park and Grant High School sports fields. Such Memorandum of Understanding will be substantially similar to the attached MOU and will be approved as to form by the City Attorney.

Passed by the Council: APR 21 2010

Commissioner Fish

Prepared by: Eileen Argentina: ds

LaVonne Griffin-Valade

Auditor of the City of Portland

By Juran Jan Deputy



Agenda No.
ORDINANCE NO.

183711

Title

Authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with Portland Public Schools and Friends of Grant Athletics regarding field improvements at Grant Park and Grant High School. (Ordinance)

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Commissioner Fish	CLERK USE: DATE FILED APR () 9 2010			
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL	LaVonne Griffin-Valade Auditor of the City of Portland			
Mayor—Finance and Administration - Adams				
Position 1/Utilities - Fritz Position 2/Works - Fish Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman	By: Suran Parsons Deputy			
Position 4/Safety - Leonard	ACTION TAKEN:			
BUREAU APPROVAL Bureau: Parks & Recreation Bureau Head: Zarl Santner	APR 1 4 2010 PASSED TO SECOND READING APR 2 1 2010 9:30 A.M.			
Prepared by: Eileen Argentina Date Prepared: April 1, 2010				
Financial Impact Statement Completed Amends Budget Not Required				
Portland Policy Document If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. Yes No				
Council Meeting Date APril 14, 2010				
City Attorney Approval				

AGENDA		
TIME CERTAIN Start time: 10:15am		
Total amount of time needed: 20 minutes (for presentation, testimony and discussion)		
CONSENT [
REGULAR Total amount of time needed:(for presentation, testimony and discussion)		

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1, Fritz (1851) 1857A	1. Fritz	/	
2. Fish	2. Fish	V	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	/	
4. Leonard	4. Leonard	V	
Adams	Adams	/	