



MEMORANDUM

Date: May 9, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

From: Ronald Ramsingh, City Attorney

Subject: A proposed Ordinance to have a ballot question placed during the November 5, 2024 general election seeking the approval of the electorate to accept the transfer of ownership of two vacant parcels east of the MLK Pool from the Monroe County Land Authority to be used for recreational purposes.

Sponsor: Commissioner Clayton Lopez, District VI

Introduction

This Ordinance is being brought to the City Commission for consideration to place a ballot question on the November 5, 2025 general election seeking the approval of the electorate to accept the transfer from the Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Land Authority (Land Authority) of 2 parcels of land at 306 Catherine St. and 307 Louisa St; approximately 3,700 and 4,000 square feet each. Use of the parcels shall be deed restricted to parks and/or recreational use. Consideration of \$10.00 per parcel will be given.

Background

The two parcels in question are depicted in the attachments to the accompanying Ordinance to be considered at the May 9, 2024 City Commission meeting. The two parcels are immediately to the east and adjacent to the MLK Pool, and visually considered a part of Willie Ward Park. Commissioner Lopez has had recent conversations with Monroe County officials, where a desire to acquire two parcels from the Land Authority was discussed. Section 1.08 of the city charter requires approval by the voters to acquire any real property by any means. If this Ordinance is approved, it will be considered by the voters during the November 5, 2024 general election.

There will be first reading of a companion ordinance to this Resolution at the May 9, 2024 City Commission meeting. Assuming both Resolutions pass and the Ordinance passes second reading

in June, we will meet publishing deadlines to have this considered by the voters at the November 5, 2024 general election. The parcels are in the HHDR zoning district (Historic High Density Residential), where parks are conditional uses. If the conveyance is approved, it will carry a deed restriction limiting use of the parcels to parks and/or recreation in perpetuity. There are no plans to use these parcels for anything but parks and/or recreation. Legal consideration of \$10.00 for each parcel will be paid.

Procurement

This measure does not have any direct impact on procurement.

Recommendation

I recommend approval of this Ordinance to allow the voters to consider approval at the November 5, 2024 general election.