COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **AMES COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT DONATION OF ROOSEVELT PROPERTY**

BACKGROUND:

The Ames Community School District (ASCD) has agreed to transfer 1.3 acres of the former Roosevelt school property to the City of Ames for use as a neighborhood park. During the 2013/2014 Budget hearings the City Council committed $80,000 in the 2014/2015 Capital Improvement Program for developing this former school playground site as a neighborhood park.

All legal documents have now been finalized with ASCD for the transfer of the property. City staff has also confirmed that the property meets the "clean and green" requirement laid out by Council in order to accept the transfer to City ownership. ASCD completed the removal fencing and asphalt, graded and reseeded the area, repaired damaged sidewalk, and performed other maintenance to meet the "clean and green" requirement.

Neighborhood residents have been active supporters of the transfer of a portion of the Roosevelt property to the City for use as a neighborhood park. With completion of this transfer, it will be yet another positive benefit of the Ames Community School District and the City working together to benefit the residents of the City of Ames.

Parks and Recreation staff have begun meeting with the Friends of Roosevelt Park to gather input on the development of the neighborhood park for construction in 2014/15.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept the donation of 1.3 acres of land on Roosevelt Avenue from the Ames Community School District for the purpose of a neighborhood park.

2. Do not accept the donation of this land for the purpose of a neighborhood park.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The City and the Friends of Roosevelt Park are appreciative of the Ames Community School District's donating this land to the City for use as a neighborhood park. The "clean and green" requirements established by the City Council have all been fulfilled.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the Council accept Alternative 1 as stated above.