

ITEM: 12  
DATE: March 4, 2008

## COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING LOT IN CHARLES CALHOUN  
MEMORIAL PARK**

### **BACKGROUND:**

In 2004, the family of Charles Calhoun donated four acres to the City of Ames with the understanding that the land be utilized for park purposes and be named Charles Calhoun Memorial Park.

The location of this parcel between Highway 69 and Dawes Drive is strategic because of its proximity to the southeast corner of Ada Hayden Heritage Park (Attachment A). The 2007/08 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) calls for the development of this parcel to serve as a trailhead and passive park at the southeastern edge of Hayden Park. Development plans include a 20-stall parking lot, a small shelter house, grills, and sidewalk.

The parking lot will be constructed to address storm water runoff in an environmentally conscious way. This will be accomplished by designing one half of the lot to drain into porous pavement and the other half to drain into a bio-retention swale. These engineering practices are being utilized at this location to prevent storm water pollution from the parking lot from entering the drainage way between the lake at Hayden Park and the Skunk River. The shelter will be constructed by staff and is not included within these plans and specifications.

The Parkland Acquisition and Development Fund is the source identified within the CIP to fund this project. The \$137,500 budgeted cost is expected to be used as follows:

Design / Engineering	\$ 13,850
Construction: Parking Lot / Sidewalk	\$111,000
Construction: Shelter House	<u>\$ 12,650</u>
Total	\$137,500

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the Plans and Specifications for the construction of a 20-stall parking lot in Charles Calhoun Memorial Park. Establish March 27, 2008 as the bid due date and April 8, 2008 as the date of award of contract.
2. Delay this project.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The southern portion of Ada Hayden Heritage Park has been difficult to access due to the lack of parking at the southeast corner of the site. The development of Charles Calhoun Memorial Park with the construction of a 20-stall parking lot and a small shelter will allow and encourage increased utilization of the southern areas of the Ada Hayden Heritage Park by anglers, hikers, and joggers.

Therefore, it is recommended by the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1 approving Plans and Specifications for the construction of a 20-stall parking lot at Charles Calhoun Memorial Park.