

Dear Councilwoman Heater,

We are writing this letter to you in order to request that you review and present it to Council as the Park Board Liaison.

As we continue to review our budget for the next 5 years and beyond, we are working to address requests we are receiving from our community for upgrades as well as new features within our parks. Unfortunately, we are entering into a period in which the available revenue, which is allocated to the Parks in our community, has been committed for the foreseeable future to debt service for previous projects and future connectivity plans. This has placed us in a situation where it is difficult for us to plan for any large future expenses. Upon review of our latest budget submission, you will find a number of projects which we have listed as “unfunded future projects” due to this issue. This leads us to the reason for this correspondence.

We, members of the Park Board of Hudson Ohio, ask that Council consider funding one or more of the connectivity segments from a city source other than the Parks Budget in order to free up resources for community needs and requests. Currently these needs and requests include improvements to current facilities to allow for inclusivity of use for individuals with disabilities, installation of potential future lighting, improvements to baseball/softball fields including dugouts, development of a dog park, and any other potential projects which may arise over the next 5-10 years.

If it is not acceptable to Council to change the funding for any of the current connectivity segments allocated to the Park fund, then we would ask that you review potentially delaying the expense to reduce the total debt services and allow additional projects to be funded during this period.

Best Regards,

Hudson Park Board.