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**HUDSON** 

ADMINISTRATION • 115 Executive Parkway, Suite 400 • Hudson, Ohio 44236 • (330) 342-1700

March 9, 2018

Dear Hudson Park Board Members:

As a follow-up to the February 26th 2018 Park Board meeting, I wanted to take the opportunity to offer some clarification on a number of the meeting topics and discussion points. I can certainly appreciate concerns regarding communications between the Park Board, City staff and City Council as well as between the many other boards and commissions Hudson is so fortunate to have serving the community. I am certain that we can all agree that continuous improvement efforts in the area of communications are something we can all help foster.

General or routine communications between the City Council and respective advisory boards and commissions is designed to transpire through individual Council liaisons assigned by City Council. If a board should wish to present a specific topic or request specific discussion with the Council such requests should be presented to the liaison and/or City staff and the City Manager to be brought before the Council for consideration.

Another discussion point that was touched on was the design and construction of the Veterans Trail Phase I. Regarding this particular section of the overall trail and pathway plan, City Council decided to pause on its design and construction until there is a better understanding of the development of the former YDC property. In this case, the City may work together with the developer to include a portion of a city trail within the development project that would benefit both parties. The City had also been informed by the Summit County Metro Parks that there are no official plans to make any improvements to the adjacent property on the north side of Hines Hill Road for at least 5-10 years. That said this timeframe could change upon further discussions between the City and the Metro Parks under City Council direction. An update of the trail and pathway plan will be discussed at a City Council Workshop in the coming months.

Lastly, the board discussed the 2016 Leadership Hudson project, whose goal is to install exercise equipment along the inner loop trail at Cascade Park. The discussion specifically addressed the funding of the project and the Park Boards consensus to contribute to the overall project cost. Although this is certainly a good project, City Council prefers not to be financially involved in these types of projects. However, if the board wishes to contribute to the cost of an unfunded project or redirect funds, it can bring such requests to staff and/or the City Manager to be presented to City Council for consideration.

Staff appreciates the board's engagement and the value of its advisory role in making the Hudson Parks the best they can be. I am hopeful that this information has been helpful and will assist in improving communications and process for positive open dialog between the Board and City Council. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.



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