

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Village of Mahomet to Purchase Land for Future Recreation Facilities

Last week, Village of Mahomet Mayor Sean Widener and the Board of Trustees announced that the Village will acquire approximately 19 acres of property from Vertical Towers Partners, LLC for the future development of recreation facilities. Acquisition of this land is a pivotal moment for Mahomet Parks and Recreation Department's ongoing plan to develop a future indoor recreation facility. "This has been one of my top priorities, and I am excited to see it become a reality," said Mayor Sean Widener. "This land will improve the quality of life for Mahomet's residents for generations to come. I'm grateful for the board of trustee's support of our future vision to continue to provide and expand our parks and recreation opportunities."

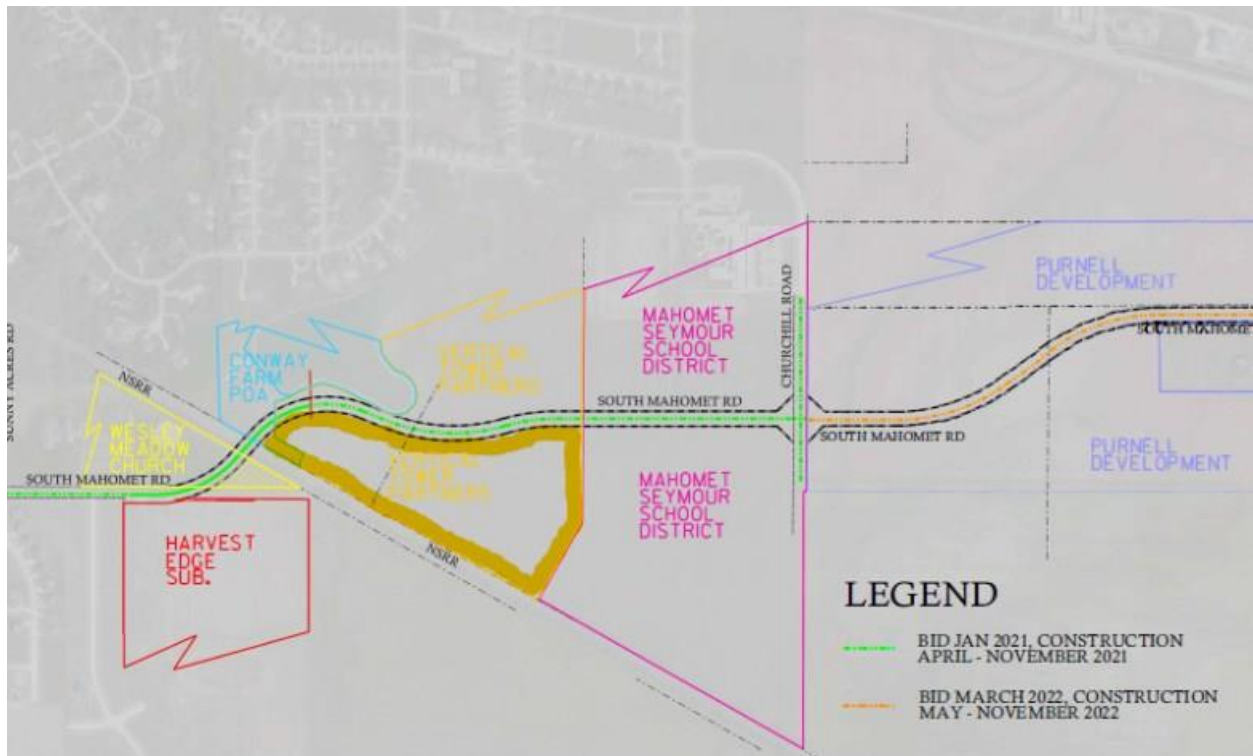
Planning for the acquisition has been several years in the making. In 2013, under the board's direction, staff formed the Mahomet Area Activity and Recreation Center (MAARC) steering committee, developed a preliminary site list, preliminary program statement and conducted needs assessment. Next, the BOT contracted the services of Williams Architects to conduct a Feasibility Study engaging the community. Community engagement included involving several key stakeholders, focus panels and a community survey. Based on the feedback, the study identified program/facility needs, analyzed cost and development of an indoor recreation center and supporting outdoor amenities. Several sites have been identified as high priority sites for such use. Funds have been set aside annually in the park's capital improvement budget for a future land acquisition that could support such a use.

The property, located along the future South Mahomet Road extension adjacent to the Mahomet Seymour School District land is owned by Darrin Peters and Vertical Towers Partners, LLC. The site is considered a high priority site due to its proximity to Village residents and accessibility. The Village will purchase the

property from Vertical Tower Partners, LLC for \$350,000. Although the property is valued at \$600,000, Darrin Peters and Vertical Towers will donate \$250,000 towards the purchase.

“Parks are a vital part of a thriving community, and we’re very pleased to be working with the Village of Mahomet Parks and Recreation Department, which has demonstrated the ability to deliver so many meaningful recreation programs that improve the quality of life for our community. The new park will provide much-needed additional space and recreational amenities for current and new area residents,” said Darrin Peters, owner of Vertical Towers Partners, LLC.

Future development will be contingent upon several potential funding sources including grants, fundraising and a bond referendum. “This is a monumental step towards better serving our community recreational needs into the future. Without the land to build upon, it's been difficult to envision a plan becoming reality. This purchase gives us the ability to expand recreational facilities and meet demands that will enhance and connect our community and ultimately make Mahomet an even better place to live and play”, said Dan Waldinger, Parks and Recreation Director.



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For more information about Mahomet Parks and Recreation Department, call (217) 586-6025 or visit www.mahometrecreation.com.