


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	24-091	Meeting:	March 4, 2024
	Agenda Item:	44	Roll Call:	24-0352
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director, Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer, and Cody Christensen, Director of Development Services		

AGENDA HEADING:

Second reading of documents for the vacation of a portion of the Masonic Temple Cemetery, located southwest and interior to the intersection of 48th Street and Franklin Avenue, and conveyance to ChildServe Habilitation Center, Inc. (ChildServe) for the purchase price of \$600,000.

SYNOPSIS:

The City of Des Moines took title and possession of the Des Moines Masonic Cemetery in January 2024 through a process of voluntary transfer. Staff recommends approval of these actions to vacate and convey approximately five (5) acres of the recently acquired 40-acre cemetery to ChildServe. The area to be vacated and conveyed is located in an unused portion of the cemetery at the north end of the property.

ChildServe is proposing the construction of a 20,000 square-foot facility to provide childcare, outpatient services and related services to children with special healthcare needs. Proceeds from the sale will fund improvements and maintenance of the cemetery.

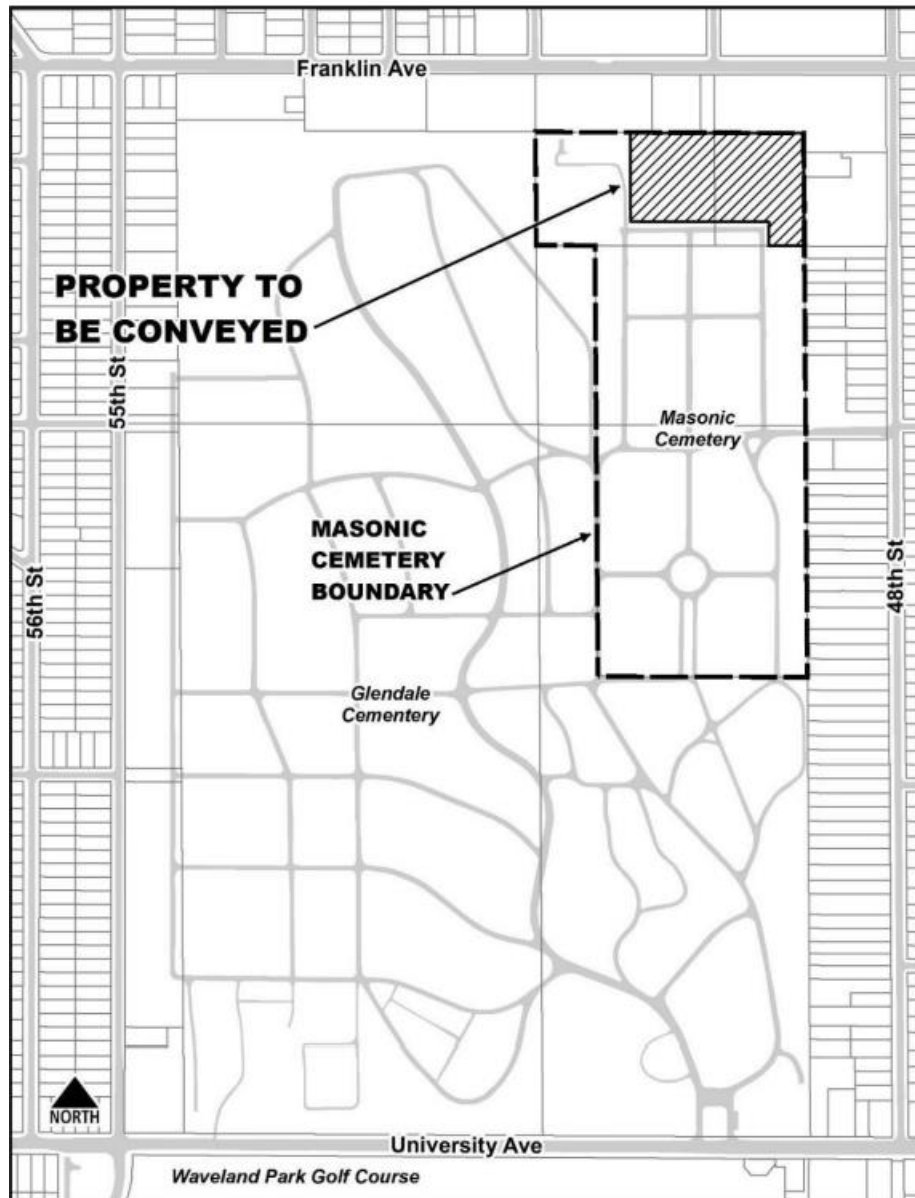
FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$600,000 (Revenue)

Funding Source: Land sale proceeds will be deposited into the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 75, Cemetery Infrastructure and Improvements, PK138

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- In 2023, the Masonic Cemetery Association requested transfer of ownership, management, and assets to the City through a voluntary transfer, a process recommended by the Iowa Insurance Division which oversees Perpetual Care Cemeteries through the Iowa Cemetery Act.
- The portion of the cemetery proposed for vacation and conveyance is considered excess land that is not needed for future cemetery operations.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 19, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-0269](#) & [24-0270](#)

Action: On vacation of a portion of the Masonic Temple Cemetery, located southwest and interior to the intersection of 48th Street and Franklin Avenue, and conveyance to ChildServe Habilitation Center, Inc. for the purchase price of \$600,000. ([Council Communication No. 24-082](#)) Moved by Coleman to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 6-0.

(A) First consideration of ordinance above. Moved by Coleman that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 6-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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