

To: City Council Members, Wards 2 and 3
City of Ann Arbor

From: Matt Postiff, Pastor
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I am writing to inquire about purchasing one of the city's parks. The immediate occasion for this inquiry was that Bader Park came up in the news as one of a few parks that were low use and low visibility that could be considered for sale to help the city budget. We would like to be on the short list of prospective buyers. I am the new pastor of the church that is adjacent to the park and we are already a welcoming conduit to the park for residents south and west of the park. Residents to the north likely use the existing official park entrance on Provincial Dr.

With this letter, I want to outline a proposal to purchase the park and the benefits of the proposal for both parties.

The proposal: We propose that the City sell Bader Park to Fellowship Bible Church, with the condition that the church maintains a publicly accessible park on the same site for use that is typical of a city park.

The benefits to the city:

- A permanent park and green space in the Ann Arbor Hills neighborhood
- Zero ongoing maintenance and capital expenses
- Positive cash flow to the parks and/or general fund through the sale
- Preservation of the present character of the immediate neighborhood

The benefits to the church:

- A permanent park and green space for children from our church and the Ann Arbor Hills school
- Pride of private ownership in excellent maintenance and security for the neighborhood
- Opportunity to expand our role as good neighbors in the community
- Easing of setback requirements if the church wishes to expand

We know that this proposal will be a hard sell for a number of reasons, and would have to go before the citizens for a vote. But if the city is interested in saving money and having free park space, the church is willing to help, and this would be a win-win situation for all parties. We feel it is worthy of serious consideration.

Thank you,



Pastor Matt Postiff
Fellowship Bible Church