



# City of Olathe

## COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

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**MEETING DATE:** 5/4/2021

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**FOCUS AREA:** Quality of Life (Parks & Recreation)

**STAFF CONTACT:** Mike Sirna / Brad Clay

**SUBJECT:** Consider a request for naming two new neighborhood parks

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**ITEM DESCRIPTION:**

Consideration of O.M.C. 2.40.060, Resolution No. 07-1030 (City Council Policy A-5) request for the naming of two new neighborhood parks. The park next to Indian Creek Library new name Indian Creek Park and the second park located at 11795 S. Langley St. to Woodland Hills Park.

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**SUMMARY:**

The Parks and Recreation Foundation and staff recommends naming the two new neighborhood parks Indian Creek Park and Woodland Hills Park.

The property, 11795 S. Langley St., is part of a rich history in Olathe, KS as it used to be known as Tobener's Park. In the mid-1800s, Henry Tobener opened the first and largest tobacco factory in Kansas City, as well as a hotel and livery. After he purchased this land north of the Olathe, Tobener's Park was built in 1885. The park had many amenities, and it became such a popular outing for Kansas City's elite, that it became a regular stop on the Santa Fe Railroad. The railroad company even put up a large sign over the entrance. It is said that Tobener's Park is where the idea for Old Settlers Day was originated by Alice LaMasney and other Olathe pioneer women in the fall of 1898. After the property was sold, the park was later built into a farm and it was and eventually bought by W.A. Vering, who owned the property for much of the 20th century. Today the railroad has been moved east and Tobener's Park is now home to Woodland Hills and this park.

The construction of Indian Creek Park began with our in-house construction crew in early June 2018. Completion of the park is anticipated for the summer of 2021.

The Parks and Recreation Foundation voted to recommend naming the two new neighborhood parks to Indian Creek Park and Woodland Hills Park.

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**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

None.

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**ACTION NEEDED:**

Recommend approval of the two neighborhood park name changes to Indian Creek Park and Woodland Hills Park.

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**ATTACHMENT(S):**

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- A. Indian Creek Park Location Map
- B. Woodland Hills Park Location Map