

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STAFF REPORT

For Planning Commission Meeting of January 5, 2021

SUBJECT: Oakwoods Nature Area Addition Rezoning (Project No. Z20-054)

PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the Oakwoods Nature Area Addition rezoning from R4A (Multiple-Family Dwelling) to PL (Public Land).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the zoning petition be **approved** because, now that the addition to the nature area is city-owned land, the appropriate zoning designation is PL (Public Land) district.

DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND:

An addition to Oakwoods Nature Area was recently added to the City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation system. Purchasing or accepting land donations does not automatically change a zoning designation. Because the Zoning Map is a part of Chapter 55, Unified Development Code (UDC), only approving an ordinance to amend the UDC and Zoning Map can change the zoning designation of any land. The PL Public Land zoning designation is intended for publicly owned land used for public purposes. The proposed rezoning is consistent with the intent and purpose of the PL district and meets all applicable standards.

Oakwoods Nature Area is located on the north side of Green Road, east of Nixon Road, in between the Arbor Hills, Orion Northstar, Barclay Way and Owl Creek neighborhoods. It now has 55 acres and has many pond and wetland areas good for bird watching and frog listening. This most recent addition was purchased from the Owl Creek development.

The project file contains the City Council [resolution](#) R-20-105 accepting the park land donation and land [survey](#).

Prepared by Alexis DiLeo
Reviewed by Brett Lenart
12/14/2020

c: Park & Recreation Services – Colin Smith, Manager
Attorney’s Office – Michele Yanga, Legal Assistant Paralegal
Project File

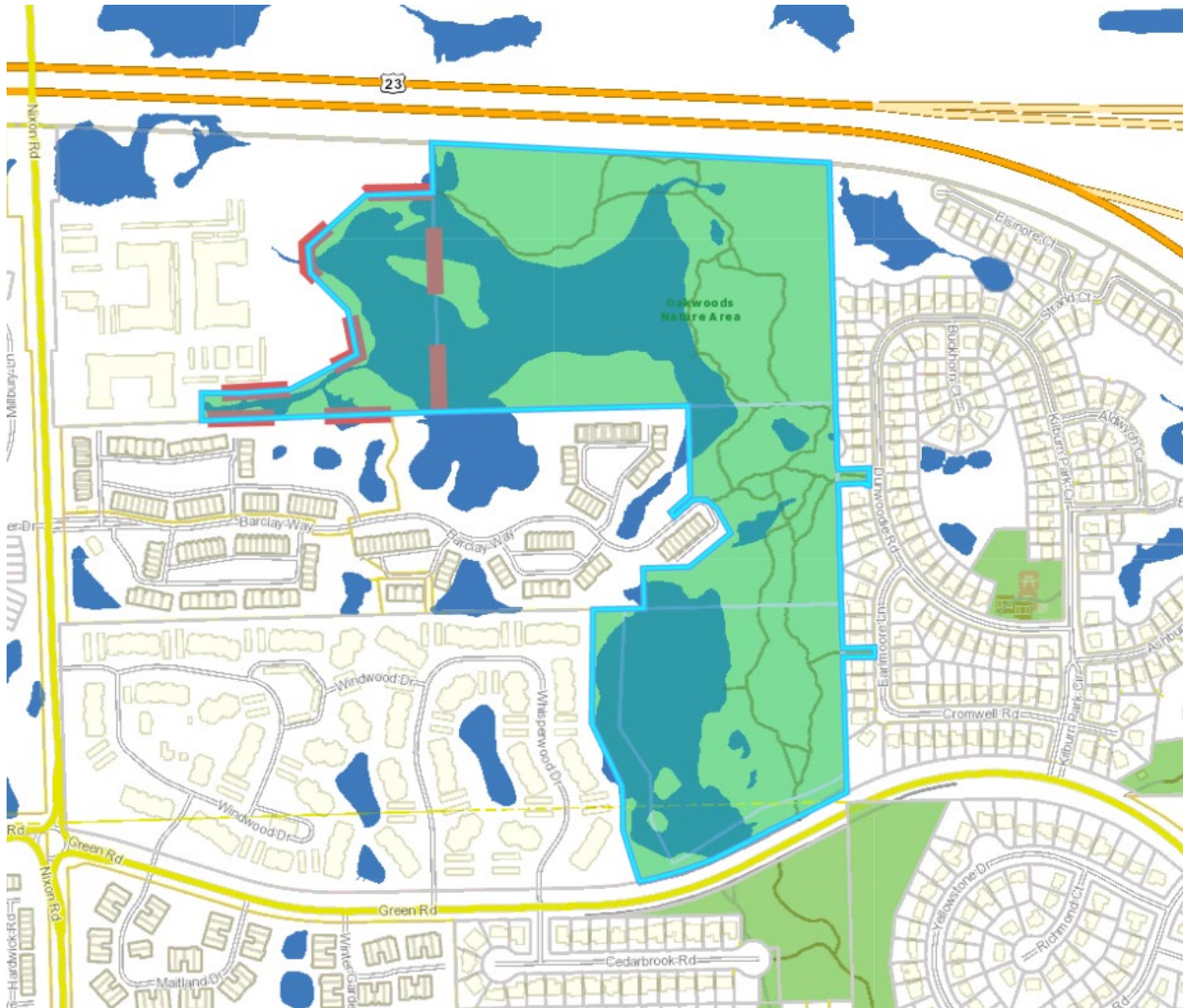


Figure A: Oakwoods Nature Area (addition outlined in red dash)