

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STAFF REPORT**

**For Planning Commission Meeting of January 5, 2021**

**SUBJECT: Ruthven Nature Area Addition Rezoning (Project No. Z20-053)**

**PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION**

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the Ruthven Nature Area Addition rezoning from R1A (Single 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 Ruthven 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.

Ruthven Nature Area is located northeast of the intersection of Huron Parkway and Geddes Road. It now contains 28 acres and is an excellent example of glacial terrain. This addition was purchased from its former owner with support from the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

The project file contains the City Council [resolution](#) R-19-153 approving the purchase of park land and [deed](#).

Prepared by Alexis DiLeo  
Reviewed by Brett Lenart  
12/14/20

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

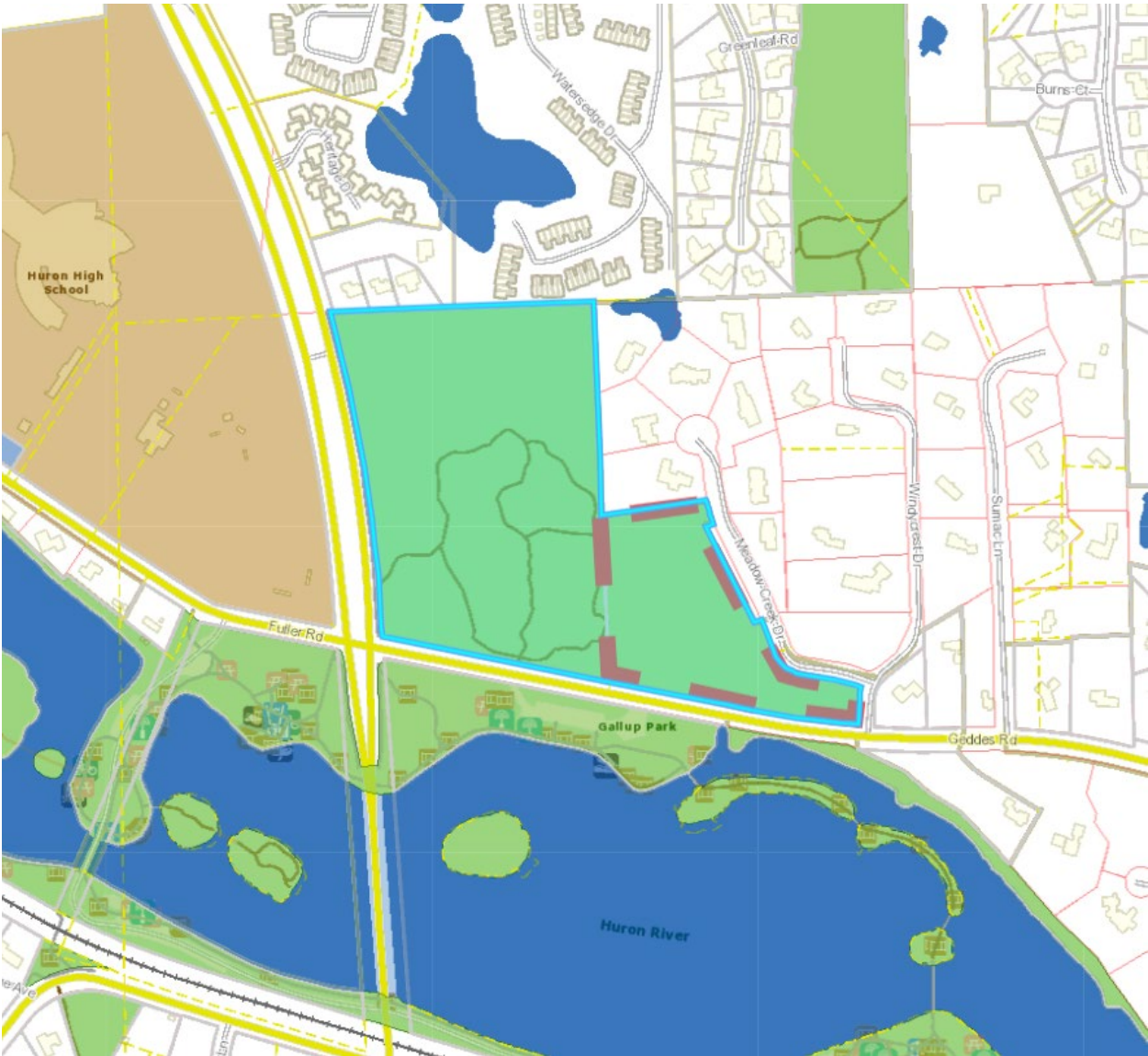


Figure A: Ruthven Nature Area (addition outlined in red dash)