

MEMORANDUM

TO: Park Advisory Commission
FROM: Ruth Thornton, Greenbelt Program Manager, The Conservation Fund
DATE: December 15, 2017
SUBJECT: Resolution to recommend naming the property purchased from the Joseph Donald Brokaw and Earldine R. Brokaw Foundation as "Brokaw Nature Area"

Attached for your review and action is a resolution to recommend the naming of the property acquired from the Joseph Donald Brokaw and Earldine R. Brokaw Foundation as "Brokaw Nature Area."

In October 2013 the City of Ann Arbor purchased the 24.45 acre parcel from the Joseph Donald Brokaw and Earldine R. Brokaw Foundation. An old house on the property had to be demolished before the park could be deemed safe for public use. The demolition was recently completed, and parks staff will start ecological restoration efforts and build a trail system that will minimize erosion.

The property contains an oak-hickory forest, and a wide variety of plant and animal species have been observed on the property. Three types of plant communities have been identified, including wet mesic forest, mesic forest, and old field.

The wet mesic forest includes an intermittent stream, and swamp white oak, bog clearweed, skunk cabbage, swamp goldenrod, jewelweed, jack-in-the-pulpit, and green dragon have been found here. The mesic forest is located on drier soils in the higher areas of the property and features gorgeous views of the Huron River and seven species of oaks. Shingle oaks are found in this plant community, and the property is one of only two Ann Arbor city parks where this oak species is located. The wildflowers wild bergamot, common mountain mint, St. John's wort, common milkweed, and purple meadow rue are found in the old field plant community of the property.

Given that the property was donated by the Joseph Donald Brokaw and Earldine R. Brokaw Foundation, along with an endowment to help fund the house demolition and stewardship activities on the property, park staff recommends that the property be named "Brokaw Nature Area."

Attachment: Location Map

BODY

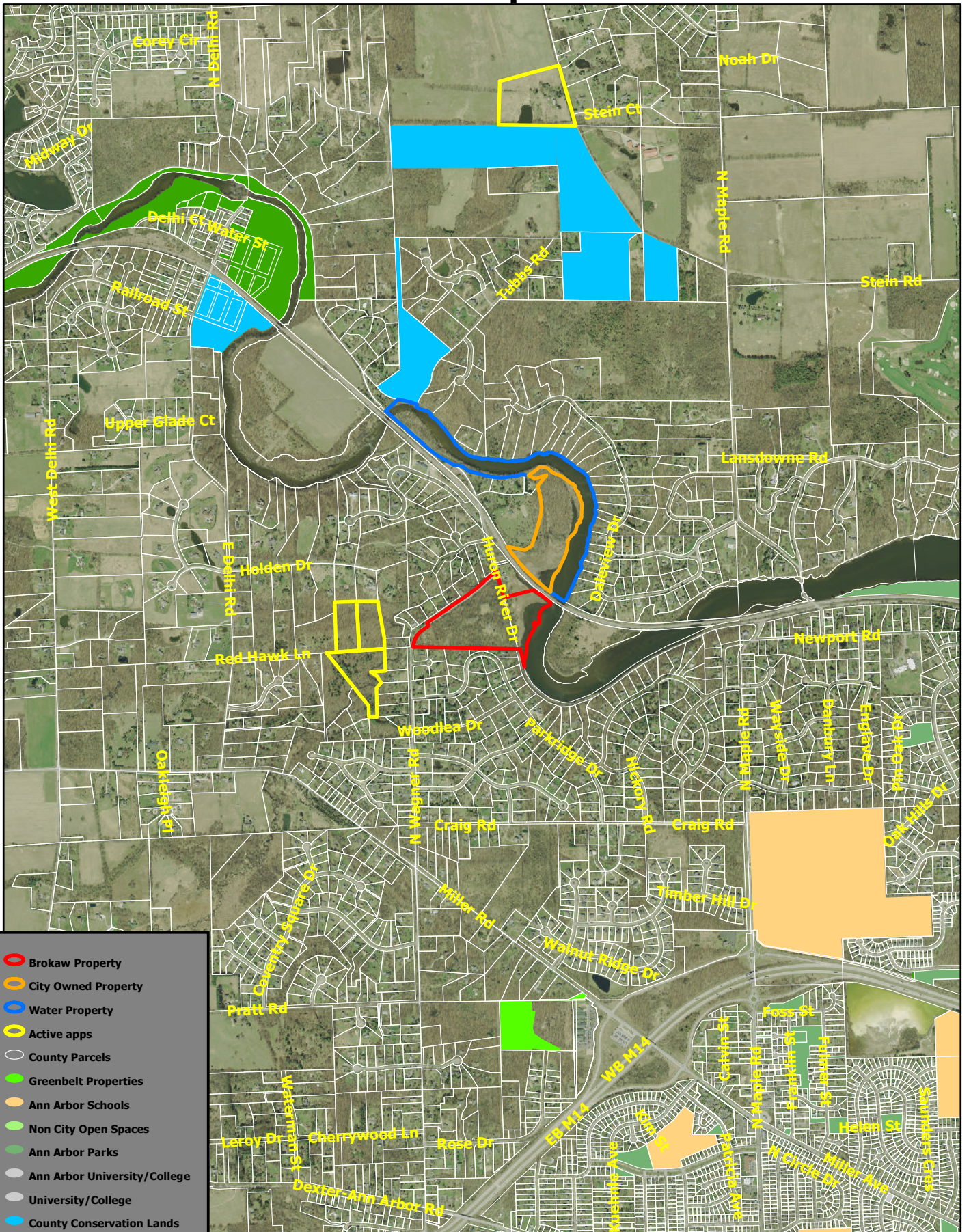
Whereas, The property was acquired as parkland by the City of Ann Arbor in October 2013;

Whereas, The property contains high quality ecological features; and

Whereas, The property and a stewardship endowment was donated by the Joseph Donald Brokaw and Earldine R. Brokaw Foundation;

RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommends Mayor and City Council approve the park purchased from the Joseph Donald Brokaw and Earldine R. Brokaw Foundation be named "Brokaw Nature Area."

Owner: Joseph Brokaw



- Brokaw Property
- City Owned Property
- Water Property
- Active apps
- County Parcels
- Greenbelt Properties
- Ann Arbor Schools
- Non City Open Spaces
- Ann Arbor Parks
- Ann Arbor University/College
- University/College
- County Conservation Lands
- County Parks/Preserves

