

ORDINANCE 2023 – 88

**DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURSUE
RECREATIONAL SYSTEM PLANNING TO INCLUDE GOULD PARK**

WHEREAS, the City of Mason has approximately 301 acres of developed parkland distributed throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason acquired approximately 50.74 acres of additional parkland at 5475 Mason Road in 2003 at a purchase price of \$1,826,640 (\$36,000/acre) to secure future park development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 Park Master Plan & New Park Design was developed through a community engagement process considering then current recreation participation trends to accommodate future demands for development of additional parkland; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 Park Master Plan & New Park Design suggested developing the former Gould property as a park with one softball field, one volleyball court, one basketball court, two tennis courts, one restroom building, one playground, 4,200 feet of bicycle trail, 3,400 feet of walking trail, three separate parking areas for seventy-five cars total, one retention pond, one 15-station fitness course, three separate picnic areas and an event lawn; and

WHEREAS, on December 11 of 2023, the City of Mason will host an official event on site to name the property as “Gould Park” and preview a new public seating area connected to the citywide pedestrian network of sidewalks; and

WHEREAS, Council recognizes that developing Gould Park will increase connectivity of areas surrounding the park to the Downtown Mason Mile for pedestrian and bike traffic from residential neighborhoods through Gould Park which enhances the City of Mason’s mission to build a “Culture of Wellness”; and

WHEREAS, the Mason City Council recognizes the need to update citywide recreation system planning to identify areas of investment needed both within existing parkland and for development of additional parkland; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Mason, Ohio, seven members elected hereto concurring:

Section 1. That the City Manager is hereby directed to pursue recreational system planning, including future development of Gould Park.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 13th day of November, 2023.

Mayor

Attest:

Clerk of Council