

... meeting community needs... enhancing quality of life."

PARKS, RECREATION & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Dean R. Gazza, Director

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TO:

Municipal Services Committee

FROM:

Dean R. Gazza, Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities Management

DATE:

1/13/2015

RE:

Proposed Roundabout at John Street and East South River Street

The Department of Public Works has made our department aware of an option that would require the acquisition of property at Mead Park/Pool if a roundabout at John Street and East South River Street was chosen.

Upon evaluation of this option, we have concerns that we feel would have some immediate and long-term challenges for Mead Park/Pool. These challenges include:

- 1. The proposed roundabout places the sidewalk and street very close to the pool and impacts the current berming and vegetation used to screen the pool from the street and also reduce the street noise on the pool patrons.
- 2. The loss of park/pool property would provide limitations for future pool renovations and/or improvements. The site is very limited now, so the reduction of park/pool property makes future improvements even more challenging.
- 3. Both the south and north entrances to the pool parking lot are very close to the roundabouts. How would this impact traffic flow into and out of the park/pool parking lot?
- 4. If the property is taken, will the Department be compensated for the loss of park space?

We understand that minimizing the cost of such project is a goal. Unfortunately it is difficult to quantify the impact on the park/pool in a monetary manner to draw any comparisons. I would ask that other alternatives be weighed carefully before choosing this option.

Please contact me at 832-5572 or dean.gazza@appleton.org with any questions.