

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELLensburg, WASHINGTON, declaring its intent to pursue acquisition of property to establish a public park in the central commercial district of the downtown area.

WHEREAS, the City of Ellensburg ("City") is currently the sublessee of property identified by the Kittitas County Auditor and legally described as Lots 6, 7 and 8, Block 10, ELLensburg ORIGINAL, at the northwest corner of West 4th Avenue and North Pearl Street in downtown Ellensburg (Parcel No. 146933), hereinafter referred to as "Rotary Plaza"; and

WHEREAS, the City's sublease for Rotary Plaza will expire on January 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Ellensburg City Council has identified establishing a public park within the central commercial district as a high priority through the adoption of the 2016 City Park Plan, 2017 City Comprehensive Plan, and the 2015 Downtown Marketing Study; and

WHEREAS, public parks located in central business districts add to the vibrancy of the downtown by providing opportunities for the public to gather both formally and informally; and

WHEREAS, Ellensburg has a long established history of community events taking place at the Rotary Plaza;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. It is in the City's best interests to create a public park in the core downtown central commercial area.

Section 2. The Rotary Plaza area is situated in an ideal location for a downtown public park because of its central location, open layout and design, and its prior and current use for a variety of community-oriented events.

Section 3. City staff is hereby directed to pursue the acquisition of Rotary Plaza for use as a downtown public park through negotiations with the owner or owners of said property. The city manager is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are customary and necessary to support negotiations for acquisition of the property, such as agreements for appraisal services, acquisition consulting services, and legal counsel. Provided, however, that this resolution does not authorize condemnation of the property or the initiation of eminent domain proceedings.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg this 7th day of May, 2018.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk