

February 9, 2011

Parks Advisory Board
City of Oshkosh
805 Witzel Ave.
PO Box 1130
Oshkosh, WI 54903-1130

RE: Possible Pocket Park for Middle Village

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is to show our support for implementing a pocket park at a lot now occupied by an abandoned home on the corner of Ida and Frederick in Middle Village. At this point in time, we live next door to this property at 622 Frederick, and we would be excited and relieved if this property could be put to use in such an exciting way.

While the former owners occupied this residence, the property was well maintained and we enjoyed living next to them; however, since they left, the condition of both the home and the property has continued to rapidly decline. We have continued to perform some of the yard and property upkeep by mowing the lawn and shoveling. We feel that this continues to be an ongoing issue that is not only affecting property values in our neighborhood but also becoming a safety concern. We have witnessed on several occasions people sitting on the porch, dumping garbage in the driveway, running through the yard, etc.

We completely support any efforts to establish a new use for this property. We estimate that there are approximately ten children who live on the short two blocks of Frederick between Irving and Parkway. Unfortunately, these children either have to attempt to cross Jackson Street or walk to Menominee Park in order to have a playground facility available to them.

The children of our neighborhood desperately need access to a playground and/or park closer to home. It is unrealistic to think that we would ever allow our seven year old to go unsupervised to Menominee Park, and we would not allow him to cross Jackson Street on his own. For our son to have the ability to go such a short distance, along with other children in the neighborhood, to play and enjoy a facility so close to home would not only ease the minds of all the parents but it would also allow the children to have a sense of pride and freedom that, at this point, they lack.

Additionally, we as a neighborhood community are serious and committed to changing the image of our neighborhood. This includes allowing for the growth and development of such a facility that would strongly establish our sense of community. We see this possibility of a pocket park as a necessity to continue with our much

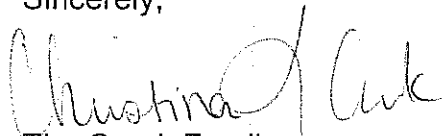
needed efforts to show our neighborhood and our area that we are able to make a change that is positive for us and also supported by the City.

The opportunity to add something so wonderful and so relevant into an area that many feel should be forgotten would show not only the City of Oshkosh, but other cities as well, the importance of listening to the people who live in that neighborhood. It would also show that the City not only adequately addresses the basic needs of each neighborhood, but also supplies the needs that make a neighborhood a richer and better place to live.

The pocket park would not only be for the neighborhood children but also for the neighborhood in general. It would offer a sense of pride in our neighborhood that is lacking at this point and give us yet another reason to keep working toward the common goal of making the Middle Village a great place to live and raise children and would help us continue to be great citizens of Oshkosh.

We appreciate your consideration regarding the above. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christina Crook".

The Crook Family
(Brad, Christina, Bryce and Liam)
622 Frederick Street
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920-809-2881

cc: Mr. Ray Maurer- Parks Director