



Item Number: 3

# CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS AGENDA ACTION REQUEST

**DATE:** June 4, 2024

**TO:** Mark Washington, City Manager

**COMMITTEE:** Fiscal Committee

**LIAISON:** Molly Clarin, Chief Financial Officer

**FROM:** Asante Cain, Assistant to the City Manager  
Executive Office

**SUBJECT:** **Resolution allocating \$13,532.08 of GVSU's Belknap property voluntary payment funds to Neighbors of Belknap Lookout for community benefits**

On February 9, 2016, the Grand Rapids City Commission adopted a resolution (Proceeding No. 85392) approving three memoranda of understanding defining the community benefit relationship between Neighbors of Belknap Lookout (NOBL), Grand Valley State University (GVSU) and the City of Grand Rapids. One of those memoranda was the Initial Memorandum of Understanding (IMOU) between GVSU and the City. The IMOU set forth the relationship between GVSU and the City and included a provision regarding a voluntary payment by GVSU to NOBL for residential property GVSU owns and leases in the NOBL neighborhood. This voluntary payment is then used by NOBL towards community benefits for NOBL residents.

1. Each year, the City reports the current amount of the voluntary payment due for NOBL, any prior year balance of unspent funds and the total amount available for NOBL projects.
2. NOBL drafts an improvement project or program.
3. The projects or programs are reviewed by the NOBL/GVSU/City Work Group.
4. NOBL requests payment from the City for the approved projects or programs.
5. The approved program is presented to City Commission for their approval.
6. The City pays NOBL the amount approved from available voluntary funds.

7. NOBL completes the project and files a report on the outcome – including a budget vs. actual statement.
8. Funds paid to NOBL but not expended for the project are reserved by NOBL for the next year or are returned to the City for future projects.

The payment amounts under the IMOU as calculated by the City Treasurer were:

2022- \$13,532.08 Tax period (7/1/22 – 6/30/23) Fiscal year FY23  
 2021- \$14,620.24 Tax period (7/1/21 – 6/30/22) Fiscal year FY22  
 2020- \$14,666.03 Tax period (7/1/20 – 6/30/21) Fiscal year FY21  
 2019- \$16,193.89 Tax period (7/1/19 – 6/30/20) Fiscal year FY20  
 2018- \$18,074.43 Tax period (7/1/18 – 6/30/19) Fiscal year FY19  
 2017- \$18,165.76 Tax period (7/1/17 – 6/30/18) Fiscal year FY18  
 2016- \$20,750.12 Tax period (7/1/16 – 6/30/17) Fiscal year FY17  
 2015- \$22,847.36 Tax period (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Fiscal year FY16  
 2014- \$24,873.24 Tax period (7/1/14 – 6/30/15) Fiscal year FY15

Funds for this payment have been included in the FY2024 budget and are available for this purpose.

The NOBL Board of Directors has developed the following project plan for investment of those funds:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Community Garden Improvements	\$3,200
Community Garden Coordinator Stipend	\$2,000
Feral Cat Program (Spay/neuter, feedings)	\$1,200
Curb Appeal Projects (native plantings, power washing, front door painting)	\$4,800
Playground mulch at 704 Clancy Ave NE	\$200
Belknap cookout community barbeque	\$1,500
Printing	\$532
Quarterly Community Conversations	\$100
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$13,532</b>

This investment plan was reviewed and approved by the NOBL/GVSU/City Work Group. The attached resolution would authorize disbursement of \$13,532.08, the balance of the 2022 GVSU Belknap voluntary payment funds, to NOBL for the investments listed above. Funding for this would come from Department 261, 1010-261-1000-8010.

Your FISCAL COMMITTEE recommends the adoption of the following resolution allocating \$13,532.08 of GVSU's Belknap property voluntary payment funds to Neighbors of Belknap Lookout for community benefits.

WHEREAS:

1. Grand Valley State University ("GVSU") has made voluntary payments since 2014 for its residential property in Belknap Lookout Neighborhood ("GVSU's Belknap Property"); and
2. The Neighbors of Belknap Lookout ("NOBL") is the recognized neighborhood association for the Belknap Lookout Neighborhood (the "Neighborhood"); and
3. On February 9, 2016, the Grand Rapids City Commission adopted a resolution (Proceeding No. 85392) approving an Initial Memorandum of Understanding (IMOU) between GVSU and the City. The IMOU set forth the relationship between GVSU and the City and included a provision regarding a voluntary payment by GVSU for property it owns in the NOBL neighborhood; and
4. The amount of the voluntary payment by GVSU for 2022 is \$13,532.08; and
5. The IMOU states "The City will use the portion of the PILOT [the voluntary payment made by GVSU for its Belknap property] it distributes to itself for improvements in the Belknap Lookout Neighborhood"; therefore

RESOLVED:

1. That the City Commission authorizes the payment of \$13,532.08 to NOBL according to the IMOU dated February 9, 2016, for the projects approved by the NOBL/GVSU/City Work Group; and
2. That the Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to issue payments consistent with this resolution.

CORRECT IN FORM  
  
CITY ATTORNEY