

Resolution No. 2144

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REMOVAL OF THREE UNDERUSED
BASEBALL FIELDS AT ARCHIE ANDERSON PARK

WHEREAS, by Council Resolution No. 1983 the City Council of the City of Longview adopted the Archie Anderson Park Master Plan to contribute to the orderly development of the park; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 1983 recognized that the park master plan would be developed over a number of years and “needs to be flexible to best represent the needs of the community at the time of the development phases”; and

WHEREAS, the Archie Anderson Park Master Plan, as subsequently amended by Resolution 2077, addresses the upgrade of existing facilities to introduce new facilities and programs into the park system. At that time it was the home of the Central Youth Baseball League, which utilized, improved upon, and maintained the baseball portion of the park year round. When the park plan was being prepared, decline in participation in youth baseball was already underway in Longview. In 2013, Western Youth Baseball and Central Youth Baseball combined to form one league, Longview Youth Baseball, with the hopes of gaining additional registration and volunteer help; and

WHEREAS, Longview Youth Baseball’s use of Archie Anderson Park was very minimal and almost no use occurred in 2014. During 2014 it became increasingly difficult for Longview Youth Baseball to continue the standard of maintenance needed to uphold their Facility Use Contract, and mid to late last year the parks division took over maintenance of the facility; and

WHEREAS, due to lack of registration and participation in their organization, Longview Youth Baseball is no longer able to maintain two park complexes and would like to focus its efforts solely on John Null Park. Tasks that were previously performed by the youth baseball organization are now time constraints and additional costs to the city for the maintenance and upkeep of the facility; and

WHEREAS, with Archie Anderson Park no longer being used regularly for baseball, it has become a place for unwelcome individuals to loiter/sleep in dugouts and other hiding areas throughout the park and for other unwanted activities to occur and the City has received complaints about them from neighbors and visitors to the park; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Neighborhood Association endorses the changes as they believe it will provide more opportunities for general play and recreation while deterring the unwanted use from individuals with ulterior motives.

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

In support of the foregoing concerns, City Council supports the removal of three of the baseball fields at Archie Anderson Park and further supports possible revisions to the Archie Anderson Master Plan to consider potential use of the new open space.

PASSED by the City Council of Longview, Washington, and approved by its Mayor this _____ day of _____, 2015.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk