

From: [Dean Wagner](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [#CI-StPaul_Ward7](#)
Subject: RES PH 21-62
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RES PH 21-62

I write in opposition to the "land swap" at Pig's Eye Park.

I visited the park recently on a warm day in early April, and it does indeed feel like trespassing. But when I was there, I saw wide prairies and observed Battle Creek flowing into Pig's Eye Lake. I saw trees that had recently been cut down and gnawed on by beavers. I witnessed a juvenile eagle flying to a distant perch. I saw a pair of wood ducks and a couple of sandhill cranes as I left the park. It was incredible to me that all of this wilderness and wildlife could be viewed within the city limits of St. Paul.

And now the City of St. Paul is prepared to decide to sacrifice some of this park as a home to sewer sludge. Pig's Eye has been a park for decades and yet the city has not made even the most basic efforts to improve or even preserve it. Why was a wood chipper or a sewage sludge dump ever allowed on this site in the first place? And now an expansion of the sludge site is proposed. We are told that, at least, we might get a parking lot and a sign out of this exchange. Why didn't the city provide a parking lot, or even a sign, decades ago? And now we're supposed to settle for these bare scraps in exchange for further desecration of this island of wilderness within our city? I'm sure the proposed soccer fields at Highland Park will feature plenty of parking and ample signage without the obligation to have sludge dumped in their park as compensation.

Pig's Eye Park is a natural oasis within the City of St. Paul. Do not agree to a decades-long lease that will contaminate this park for generations to come. It may be the easy thing to do, but it is not the right thing to do.

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Ward 7