

June 4, 2020

Dear City Planning Commission Members,

Weigent Park is not a small neighborhood park, nestled out of the way in a quiet corner somewhere. Many parks are hard to find and primarily enjoyed by those within a few blocks away. We see those parks being enhanced with attractive shelters that increase their appeal for use.

Weigent Park spreads over an entire city block along a primary corridor, Cass St. Weigent Park is used by folks across the city for the features already there: tennis courts, baseball diamond, new playground equipment and ample green space. Neighboring organizations outside of Weigent-Hogan use the park such as the YMCA and the Aquinas High School. The park is also used heavily by our city's parks department for youth programming.

At Weigent Park, there is a storage shed. While it is often referred to as a shelter, the shed is currently sheltering equipment for the parks department. The structure does have an overhang for picnic tables but the lack of electrical hookup, water access and overall appearance of the shed make it an undesirable option. Furthermore, the bathrooms there seem to be in poor condition and there is no water fountain to keep the kiddos playing there hydrated.

The park is clearly an asset to our city, our neighbors and nearby educational organizations. The existing shed is an eyesore and is not in alignment with Weigent-Hogan's neighborhood plan or the neighborhood aesthetic. Please continue supporting the movement to enhance Weigent Park with a desirable park shelter.

Travis Stinar

Member at Large

Weigent-Hogan Neighborhood Association