

Proposed Text for Section 106 History Nebraska Review:

The City of Lincoln is licensing/will lease a small area of Peter Pan Park to the Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties ("Community Action"). The agreement allows Community Action to fence off the licensed/leased area to provide outdoor play space for a pre-school program, effectively prohibiting the public from using this passive area of the park.

Peter Pan Park is encumbered by federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF) restrictions, based on a 1973 federal grant to improve the park. Federal law requires that once an area has been funded with L&WCF assistance, it is continually maintained in public recreation use unless the National Park Service approves substitution property of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location and of at least equal fair market value. Fencing off the leased area in Peter Pan Park, and thereby prohibiting the general public's access to the area, triggers this "conversion" process.

The City plans to purchase approximately 35,000 square feet of property from Lincoln Public Schools as the substitute/"replacement" property for the 2550 square feet of "converted" property in Peter Pan Park. The replacement property is located in the North Hills Neighborhood of Lincoln, near the intersection of N. 18th Street and Folkways Boulevard. The City will then develop this site into a new neighborhood park.

The conversion process requires a Proposal Description and Environment Screening Report, which have been submitted to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for review.