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## Purchase of land puts city park on track

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The city's vision to create a park on Bristol Road adjacent to Heritage Village is starting to take shape.

The city on Oct. 10 purchased a vacant 10-acre parcel on the north side of Bristol Road for \$98,000 from the Nemer family, which owns **Woodside Builders**, the developer of Heritage Village. The Nemers already have said they would donate another 10 acres to the city to build the park.

"Parks are a good thing for the community," said David Nemer of **Woodside Builders**. "And there is an intrinsic value for us because a nice city park will help drive sales here."

The park will sit east of Heritage Village - next to the GM Service and Parts Operations - and will be accessible to homeowners there by bike and walking trails. Residents outside Heritage Village would access the park through another entrance on Bristol Road, Nemer said.

"Anytime you have a park and it gets kids off the streets, it's a good thing," said Swartz Creek resident Gail Kivett, 62.

Councilman David Hurt said the city will get community input before crafting the park's layout. He said it likely will include soccer and baseball fields. Elms Road Park currently is the only city-owned park with athletic fields.

"Elms is very well utilized," Hurt said. "There is pressure on it and we have to take that pressure off."

City Manager Paul Bueche said now that the city has acquired the land,

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they will seek state grants to build the park. The city has five years to build the park, otherwise it will revert back to the Nemers for the original cost plus 3 percent, Bueche said.

**CAPTION:** Proposed Heritage Park

Staff Map

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