



Sedro-Woolley, Washington
April 16, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The City of Sedro-Woolley announces the acquisition of 9.5 acres of land to its inventory of publicly owned land for future use as park, playfields and open space.

This land was partly purchased and partly donated by the owners in honor of Winnie Houser. “Winnie Houser was very involved in softball, athletics and coaching throughout her life,” stated Mayor Mike Anderson, “It is a great honor that the Houser family has decided to donate and sell this land so future generations may share Winnie’s love for sports.”

The City paid \$200,000 for this property, roughly half of its market value. Funds for this purchase came from the City’s park impact fee fund, which is limited by state law for acquisition and development of new parks and park features.

The property is currently zoned for industrial uses but is actively farmed by local potato farmers. “The city will seek to rezone the property to public use as part of the 2012 Comprehensive Plan updates,” said Eron Berg, City Supervisor. He also stated, “Since the land is currently being farmed, the City Council and the City’s Parks Commission will have time this year to plan for future use and development of the park.”

As part of the transfer from the Houser family to the City, the property is deed restricted to be used as park, playfields and open space in perpetuity. The new park will be named the Winnie Houser Park & Playfields.

The property is located within the city’s limits on Rhodes Road at the western entrance to Sedro-Woolley. A dedication ceremony will be held soon; more information about that event will be released in the coming weeks.

For more information, contact Eron Berg at 360-855-9922.

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