

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(1)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: March 21, 2006

SUBJECT: Monument Application for a Deceased Guide Dog

DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.	PUBLIC HEARING: NO
ATTACHMENTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. ResolutionB. Matrix showing guidelines of monument policy and summary of applicants requestsC. Photo of proposed locationD. Policy for Monuments Located on Town PropertyE. Ms. Iredale's Application	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: George Seiz, Dir. Of Public Works (918-7427)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board of Aldermen to consider whether an application for a monument to a guide dog is consistent with the guidelines of Section 4 in the Policy for Monuments Located on Town Property, and whether or not to approve the installation of the monument.

INFORMATION

On the morning of October 5, 2005, Danielle "Aoife" Iredale and her guide dog, Inka, were standing at a bus stop on BPW Club Road when a car jumped the curb and hit them, injuring Ms. Iredale and killing her dog. Ms. Iredale has submitted an application requesting the installation of a 12x12 inch marble footstone in the public right-of-way at the exact spot where her dog died.

The proposed location for the monument is on the south side of BPW Road, approximately 7 feet from the back of curb, in a grassy area on the public right of way (see attached photo which shows a temporary memorial at the proposed location). The property line for the adjacent private property is about 12 feet from the back of curb. There is a nearby power pole approximately 8 feet from the back of curb. The only utilities in close proximity of the proposed location are some buried phone lines running parallel with the curb (within 5-7 feet of the back of curb).

The apartment complex next to this location (The Villages Apartments) agreed to allow her to place this memorial on their property, but Ms. Iredale would greatly prefer that the monument go exactly where the dog died, which in her view will also increase the communal benefit of the memorial.

The Board of Aldermen adopted a resolution on June 7, 2005 approving a policy to establish monuments on Town property. A copy of the policy is attached. Section 4 of the policy includes guidelines for the review of proposals for monuments. The attached matrix is a

comparison of the guidelines and the applicant's request.

FISCAL IMPACT

Pamela Gentry, a local artisan, is donating the marble and her costs for creation of the monument. Ms. Iredale will use private funds for cleaning and repair of the monument on an as needed basis.

RECOMMENDATION

With the stone being installed flush with the ground, there are minimal maintenance concerns in terms of mowing. There is potential for breakage from heavy mowers or service vehicles pulling off the roadway.

Although Ms. Iredale has indicated there will be private funds for maintenance, Town staff have concerns about the long term care for this monument. These concerns center on the possibility of those proposing the monument either moving away or not being able to obtain funding in the future. Town staff also raises the concern for the precedent that may be set with this type of request.

Town staff recommends that the Board consider Ms. Iredale's application.