

## Letter of Position

Pete Weir  
1097 Maxine Lane  
Van Wert, OH 45891  
May 29, 2013

Van Wert City Administration  
Van Wert City Council  
515 E. Main Street  
Van Wert, OH 45891

Dear Mayor, Safety Service Director and City Council members:

As you know, the properties at the soon-to-be former sites of Franklin Elementary School and Washington Elementary School will soon be vacant. It is possible (and hopeful) that these properties will become available. I think this is a great time to jump on this possibility and think about what can be done with these properties. I have done an informal survey of Van Wert citizens and it appears that the general desire is to have these properties converted into a) parks or playgrounds b) a dog park c) community gardens or d) a skate park (or any combination therein). What a wonderful thing this would be for our city! I fully support these ideas and suggest that we, as the elected representatives of the City of Van Wert, start now to formulate plans for these properties. I believe we need to have a town meeting to get a feel for what our communities want.

I, myself, would love to see a park at one location and a dog park at another. I recently read an article that stated that, "the number one cities...have "baseball diamonds, playgrounds, golf courses and dog parks." These things help our communities grow, help economic development, help property values and, most importantly, our youth need it. I don't think we should let this opportunity pass us by. Let's do something now.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Pete Weir