

## **Park district closing today on property in Glen Ellyn**

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The Glen Ellyn Park District is expected to close on a property located at 921 Lenox Road today.

The roughly 1/3-acre area consisting of a home on two lots will be purchased for \$390,000.

In total, referendum dollars have helped increase the park district's Ackerman Park by more than an acre.

About two months ago, the district also purchased a home at 931 Lenox Road from the owners who live there. That land, about three-quarters of an acre, consisted of three lots purchased for \$450,000.

The houses on the two properties eventually will be torn down.

Residents gave the park district the OK in November to spend \$11.9 million on projects, including \$2.5 million designated for land acquisition. Officials plan to purchase more land with the remaining \$1.7 million in the future.

"We're not actively looking, but if something comes along, that's what the money's for," park district Executive Director Cory Atwell said. "And we're still looking for land next to a park."

Ackerman Park is currently 66 acres. The district began to purchase the land in 1966, and by 1973 had purchased 57 acres. Small parcels have been purchased since.

Atwell said that, short-term, the two new properties will have little contribution to the park. In the future, another board might decide to purchase more homes along Lenox Road and might develop the area into additional soccer fields or Frisbee parks.

"Long-term is where they'll have the most impact," he said.