



# Mobile home park is spared by city

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DES PLAINES -- Des Plaines aldermen voted unanimously Monday night to protect about 220 residents of the Rand Road Mobile Home Community from the threat of development under the proposed "Five Corners" tax increment financing district.

About 30 of the park's residents erupted into applause outside City Hall after the surprise vote.

"Our residents can now get on with their lives," said Bernard Taming, whose family has owned the community since 1951. "The cloud is taken away."

Residents organized against a possible forced sale of the park after the TIF project was outlined late last year. Terry Nelson, a 35-year resident of the park, said affordable rents there have allowed working people, many of them retired, to thrive in a tight-knit community.

An irregularly shaped area proposed for the TIF zone surrounds the intersection of Lee Street and Rand and River Roads and includes single-family homes and about 100 businesses that were not affected by the vote Monday night, city officials said.

The 8-0 vote removed the park from an acquisition map due for release in the TIF's redevelopment plan, officials said.

"We're not going to try to acquire or condemn that land," city attorney David Wiltse said after the meeting.

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