

## City Council turns thumbs down on proposed course in Macedonia, Ohio

MACEDONIA, Ohio — The City Council recently rejected a developer's bid to turn 104 acres of unused parkland into an 18-hole golf course.

The developer, National Golf Operations Inc. of nearby Mayfield, offered to invest \$2.5 million in the project, run the golf course and pay the city parks department \$10,000 a year in exchange for keeping more than 96 percent of the profits.

However, according to Mayor Joseph Migliorini, the city wants to reap more revenues from the deal.

Some still want a course built in Macedonia, as Migliorini explained to the *Akron Beacon Journal*: "The city can't do anything with this land other than use it for recreational purposes."

Nick Molnar, a City Council member, added, "I think it [the course] would be a plus for the city."

## Fla. municipality to get executive track

DELAND, Fla. — Despite criticism by private operators that government would be competing with private business, the County Council has approved a preliminary proposal to build an 18-hole golf course atop the former Plymouth Avenue Landfill.

A development firm will now look over the proposed \$3 million project to determine a final price tag. If an executive-length "short course" can be built for less than \$3 million, the project could be a "financial winner," according to the development firm.

Private golf course operators questioned the project's viability. Dick Gardner, vice president of Southridge Golf Course, told the *Daytona Beach News-Journal*: "There's absolutely no demand. There's an excess supply of golf courses."

The National Golf Foundation's consulting subsidiary, which developed a marketing and feasibility study for the county, disagrees. Its report concludes there are plenty of championship-quality courses in the area, but not enough shorter courses.

## Branson could get new golf layout

BELLA VISTA, Ark. — Cooper Communities Inc. has proposed building at least one golf course and 1,650 homes in a 3,100-acre residential development outside the border town of Branson, Mo.

Roger McMennamy, president of Cooper Communities, said the development will proceed if certain conditions are met. He hopes neighborhood improvement bonds can be issued by the county and state to finance infrastructure construction.

Branson is one of the nation's hottest vacation and resort areas. With a population of just under 4,000 people, Branson attracted more than five million last year.

As a sign of Branson's growth, there were 12,000 theater seats in 1990. By the end of this year, town officials predict there will be 41,600.



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