JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CLEARWATER AND THE CLEARWATER CEMETERY DISTRICT

In a joint effort between the City and the District, the City has agreed to purchase a 48 acre piece of property located west of the co-op on 135th Street and south of 95th Street. **(#1 on MAP 1)**. Once purchased, this property will be sub-divided with 39 acres being exchanged with the Clearwater Cemetery District for property north of Chisholm Ridge **(#2 on MAP 1)**.

In January 2014, the Clearwater Cemetery District Board (consisting of the Trustee of Ninnescah Township, the Trustee of the Ohio Township, and the City of Clearwater Mayor), purchased the 42 acre piece of property for the future expansion of the current cemetery.

As the reality of expanding the cemetery became more of a need, the topic of revisiting where the new property was to be located became a discussion between the current Cemetery District Board and the current City Council. It was determined having the future cemetery more closely located with the current cemetery (#3 on MAP 1) would be of long-term benefit to all past and future residents of the City and surrounding area. Beginning in 2018, the City and the District, began considering the need acquiring property that would allow the current cemetery and the future cemetery expansion to be colocated. In 2020, both the City and District agreed to move forward with an effort to acquire property near the current cemetery.

On February 22, 2021, the District and City entered into a formal agreement, that if the City were to purchase property that met the needs of the District, the District and City would exchange property, enable the current property owned by the District to become City owned property. The District would then receive a like amount of property in the new location.

Once completed, the District will begin the planning of a future cemetery at the new location. The City will have about 10 acres that will face 135th street and the 42 acres north of Chisholm Ridge available for future residential or commercial growth.

The new property also provides access for new water sources should the City need it in the future and for a future city street that would connect Janet to an extended Yvonne Drive. **(MAP 2)** This connector will allow for a complete route to bypass the intersection of 4th and Ross from the north to east of Clearwater.

I appreciate the full corporation between the City Council and Clearwater Cemetery District for their vision and planning for the future of Clearwater.



