

## Selling off park land would be a crime

**Posted: Friday, May 23, 2003 12:00 am**

Editor,

What in the world is happening in Benton Harbor to Jean Klock Park?

I grew up in Benton Harbor and Jean Klock Park was my favorite place to be in the summer. The city has received thousands of dollars in grants over the past few years for this park and now city leaders want to sell land to "ensure that the more than \$675,000 worth of improvements to the lakefront park remain in excellent condition."

Last year the park was closed all summer with a sign, "temporarily closed due to construction." Summer is almost here, and the park is still closed with the same sign, but no construction is under way. In fact, I didn't see any construction going on last summer either.

Since they blocked off the north entrance and installed a tall fence around the park, a person can't even drive by the park and watch the waves or view a sunset. There are hundreds of places to build "upscale homes," but only one Lake Michigan; and Benton Harbor was lucky enough to have been given beachfront land by the Klock family for future generations to enjoy.

To sell this land would be a crime. I plan to attend the meeting next Tuesday, May 27, and hope there is a good turn out.

Pat Hill

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