



## PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** The Office of the City Manager    **DATE:** October 7, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Parks Maintenance and Operations Update  
**PRESENTER:** Tanner Arwine, Assistant Director

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

Mr. Tanner Arwine, Assistant Director, will present an update on the following Parks Maintenance and Operations activities:

#### **General Park Maintenance**

- A small paver hardscape was installed at the entrance to the Senior Center. This hardscape will provide the public the opportunity to honor a loved one with the placement of an engraved paver hardscape in that person's honor.
- Signal boxes throughout the city will soon be replaced with updated artwork showcasing the beauty of "Texas Botanicals" blooming in this region of the state. The vibrant flowers will replace the current signal box artwork showcasing a wide variety of music legends. The current gallery has been in place for seven to eight years and is showing its age. The NRH Signal Art Program was implemented in 2007 to enhance the City's Art in Public Spaces Program. The program works with local artists and staff to design original artwork for various traffic signal boxes located throughout the City with rotating exhibits that change approximately every five to seven years. The North Richland Hills Signal Art Program has attracted national attention in the years since it commenced, with several North Texas cities now joining in to beautify byways and intersections with remarkable art. The NRH gallery is unique in its cohesive and creative themes with a professional design developed throughout the full gallery of locations. The Signal Art boxes serve as the City's "outdoor art gallery" in addition to being used as wayfinding markers and "selfie spots" by commuters, residents and visitors to the City. History of the NRH Signal Art Outdoor Gallery:
  - 2007 - No specific theme for the first gallery, but all original designs
  - 2013 - "Hollywood Cowboys" arrived in NRH
  - 2017-2018 - "Music Legends" hit the traffic signal stage in NRH
  - 2024 - Arriving Fall 2024! NRH will begin to BLOOM with "Texas Botanicals" in Nature Right Here. Funding for the signal art gallery is through public donations and the promotional funds.



- Staff has been working to prepare the holiday lighting ground decor for setup at the NRH Centre, Library, and Stormy Plaza. Fixtures are tested and repaired if needed to ensure correct operation and a quick install in November.
- Fall landscape improvements will soon be underway with the cooler temperatures. Tree plantings will be taking place at the Bedford Euless Greenway, Tommy and Sue Brown Park, and in the newly constructed medians on Ironhorse Blvd.
- With the fall season, Pavilion rentals are beginning to increase. There were seven rentals in August which is normally low due to heat. September had 40 rentals, and October already has 35 scheduled with more to come. Park staff does a great job of cleaning pavilion areas before and between rentals.

### **Infrastructure Maintenance**

- Staff and contractors completed the renovation at Tipps Canine Hollow Dog Park during the month of August. A variety of tasks were performed such as fence replacement, turf care, tree pruning, and installation of improved signage. Staff worked hard to accomplish this along with keeping up with their regular day to day operations.
- Drainage improvements were made along a section of the Cottonbelt Trail between Eden Rd. and Precinct Line. 700 linear feet of drainage pipe was installed to help remove nuisance water after rains.

### **Athletics**

- Baseball, football, soccer, and softball leagues have begun for the fall season. Staff has been busy prepping all 21 fields for practices and games.
- Fall fertilizer and pre-emergent have been applied to keep the turf in optimal condition. Staff also completed treatment for fire ants after rains increased fire ant activity.