



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** April 6, 2026
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. Park Maintenance and Operations is in full swing on a variety of regular maintenance tasks as park use significantly increases with the spring weather. Restrooms, pavilions, playgrounds and trails are some of the main maintenance focal points for the crews that perform general park maintenance.
- B. Tree planting and replacements will be taking place over the next month throughout the parks and facilities. This tree planting will include locations such as Walker's Creek Park, the Richland Tennis Center, City Hall, Richfield Park, Linda Spurlock Park, and several others.
- C. Irrigation crews have been diligently inspecting irrigation systems at parks and facilities to make sure they are operating as efficiently as possible as they begin to be reactivated for the upcoming seasons. Additionally, irrigation crews dewatered the water fountains throughout the parks near the end of February. The target date to turn the water fountains back on is March 1, but staff also use the long-range weather forecast to make the safest decision for when to turn them on.

Athletics

- A. Athletics seasons are in full swing. The Richland Youth Association had their Opening Day event for baseball on March 21. The soccer season is going well and the robot paint machine has allowed staff the time to be able to perform other needed maintenance items. Staff are maintaining a total of 28 fields daily for youth and adult sports.

Infrastructure Maintenance

- A. The bridge was closed for one week at Walker's Creek Park as the bridge deck was replaced. The project was quick and has already received many positive comments on its improved condition. Additionally, in-house Parks staff replaced the longest bridge deck at Ironhorse Golf Course that was in need of replacement.

- B. A fence was replaced along the Barfield trail where it leaves the east side of Northfield Park. The fence is in the flood plain and has washed over many times since the trail was installed about 12 years ago. Staff worked with the adjacent property owner to make sure things went as smoothly as possible. The replacement involved much more substantial components that will be able to sustain flood waters for years to come.

- C. Drainage improvements were completed along the Calloway Branch Trail near Liberty Park. Recent rains have also identified another drainage improvement need along the Cotton Belt Trail. Staff will develop plans for implementing a project to resolve this drainage issue.