

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** August 3, 2020
SUBJECT: Parks Capital Projects Update
PRESENTER: Joe Pack, Senior Park Planner

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Mr. Joe Pack, Senior Park Planner, will present an update on Parks Capital Projects.

TRAIL AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

Trail and On-Road Safety Projects

This project will provide for the implementation of recommendations identified in the City Wide Trail and Route System study addressing safety enhancements at street crossings, warning signs and markings, 911 response location signs and trail and route connections. The recommendations for implementation are all designed to provide safe, friendly on-street bicycle transportation throughout the City.

- Concerning this project, the bidding preparation process is typically much longer with Federal funding than with City financial resources. As such, the bidding preparation process was expected to begin in August 2020. However, the TxDOT environmental review team is several months' late offering comments responsive to our Environmental Scope Tool that was created by our consultant in October 2019. In effect, the process to begin bidding is delayed until late November or early December. The actual construction will likely begin in late February to early March 2021 and should conclude by mid-summer 2021.

PARK RENOVATION AND ENHANCEMENT

Fossil Creek Park Mountain Bike Trails

This project will provide for the development of mountain biking/hiking trails within Fossil Creek Park. The 58.5 acre park contains beautiful natural areas comprised of mature hardwood trees, a mixture of grasslands and riparian habitats, all of which are ideally suited to hiking and mountain biking. Project improvements include approximately five (5) miles of trails serviced by a small parking lot and associated park use signage.

- Design services for the development of Fossil Creek Park Mountain Bike Trails began in March 2020 with Baird, Hampton and Brown (BHB) from their

Weatherford office. BHB led staff through a detailed design development process including an overview of the wildlife and natural amenities of Fossil Creek, a concept trail alignment, proposed signage and a schematic design plan for the mountain bike trails.

Senior Park Planner, Joe Pack, will deliver a brief presentation providing an overview of the final schematic design of the proposed trail system to include signage and a kiosk to be located at the entry point to the trail system.

Linda Spurlock Park Renovation

This project involves the redevelopment of the existing neighborhood park through the design and construction of existing and new amenities based on stakeholder input meetings. Recommended park elements for the renovation of the park include a new parking lot, a new pavilion, upgrade of playground equipment and support facilities.

- Design services for the renovation of Linda Spurlock Park began in October 2018 with Dunaway Associates of Fort Worth. Dunaway led staff through a detailed design development process including a consensus concept, schematic design, preliminary master plan, final master plan and construction documentation. The design process concluded with the acceptance by NRH staff of the final construction documents in May 2020. Bids were issued in late May with final Council action to approve a contract with Dean Construction to renovate Linda Spurlock Park on June 22, 2020. Work for the renovation project officially began on Monday July 20, 2020.

Senior Park Planner, Joe Pack, will deliver a brief presentation providing an overview of the final master plan and review information about the construction project which is expected to conclude in February 2021.

Park Infrastructure Maintenance (2020)

This project provides for maintenance of park infrastructure in response to use and age. Priorities for FY2020 include fall zone material replacement, trail panel replacement, playground equipment replacement, sport field bulb replacement, sport field infield refurbishment and Green Valley arch and soffit repair.

- This project is comprised of several sub-projects. The arch replacement, beam restoration and painting project for the Green Valley Park concession area is complete. Due to budget constraints, only the arch on one side of the breezeway can be replaced in a single year. The north side was replaced this year with the one on the south side likely scheduled in upcoming years. Playground safety surfacing was recently added to select playgrounds throughout the City.

Richland Tennis Center Infrastructure Maintenance (2020)

This project provides for the maintenance of the Richland Tennis Center Infrastructure in response to use and age. Funding in FY2020 will provide for the resurfacing of all 16 tennis courts

- **The Tennis Court Resurfacing project was completed for all 16 courts in May 2020. Along with the project, a Richland Tennis Center logo was painted on each end of the championship court. Additionally, a windscreen was placed at the east end of the complex next to the Richland High School athletic field. The new windscreen includes the RTC logo and website address. These projects have served for us to continue to maintain the facility as an attractive and functional asset for the citizens of North Richland Hills.**

BEAUTIFICATION AND CITY IMAGE

Park System Signage

This project provides for the design and construction of new, updated park signage that will provide a gateway to each park, consistent with the vision of “City as Park” as supported by the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. All park entry signs are scheduled to be replaced over a three-year period. Each year, as funding becomes available, Parks and Recreation staff will inspect and evaluate all signs, and respond with sign replacement projects in order of greatest priority.

- **All but two of the eleven new park entry signs are completed. The last two are currently under construction. New signs are located at Dr. Pillow, Dick Faram, Founders, JB Sandlin, Kay Granger, Liberty, Norich, Northfield, Adventure World Playground, and Tommy and Sue Brown Parks as well as the Richland Tennis Center. Additionally, a change order was approved for Turner Sign Systems to construct a new Iron Horse Golf Course Entry Sign on Meadow Lakes Drive and Skylark Circle and along Browning Drive at the north end of the golf course.**

Green Valley Raceway Historical Area

This project provides for the design and construction of a historical plaza adjacent to North Tarrant Parkway, east of Smithfield Road where the John Barfield Trail meanders through what once was the Green Valley Raceway. Proposed amenities include an attractive pedestrian and bicycle plaza with benches, trash receptacles and signage with information and photographs that celebrate the rich history of a bygone era in North Richland Hills.

- **Park Planning and Cultural Arts staff worked together to compile all of the information and photographs to be displayed at the historic plaza. The**



conceptual Master Development plan is complete. Construction documents are currently being developed, as well as an opinion of cost.

IRON HORSE GOLF COURSE Enhancements

Iron Horse Golf Course Improvements

This project provides for engineering and professional services for the renovation of Iron Horse Golf Course. The golf course is 30 years old and resides almost entirely in the floodway. Over the years flooding has deteriorated the fairways, bunkers and greens. Many of the fairways are scoured with loss of turf due to the velocity and amount of water on the course. Urban development north of the golf course has also changed how the water flows through the golf course, causing additional flooding issues. The irrigation system is 30 years old and parts are hard to find because of new, more efficient technology. So that the golf course remains competitive in the DFW golf market, renovations are necessary to retain and attract golfers. Professional services will include engineering, hydraulic and drainage studies for a base map of the golf course, topographical map and schematic re-routing studies. Services will also include feature designs for configurations of centerlines, tees, greens, fairways, hazards, practice areas and sand bunker reductions. The consultant will provide preliminary cost estimates, irrigation design, floodplain evaluation and permitting, design development, construction documents and construction oversight.

- **Fleetwood Services completed work on Section A (holes 1-6) in February 2020 and moved into Section C (holes 12-17). Section C received the most work with extensive drainage improvements, new bunkers, new tees and the complete renovation of holes 13 and 14 with new greens. Heavy and repeated rain events to include the May 16 flood demonstrated that the new drainage system vastly improved storm runoff on the golf course. Additionally, the city's assets are much better protected from flooding events thanks to the new and improved drainage. Fleetwood services is now working on the final grass installation in Section B (holes 7-11 and 18). Once this is completed, a final punch list will be created in order for the contractor to make corrections prior to the grand reopening in September 2020.**