

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** October 5, 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.

- The plans and specifications for the project were completed by Baird, Hampton and Brown in early August 2020. Shortly thereafter, the project was available for competitive bidding on Public Purchase. The final award was made to Shadow Trail Designs, a local mountain bike trail builder with several years of relevant experience. Construction on the project is expected to begin in early November with an anticipated completion in late February 2021. In addition to the City and its contractor, this project has seen a great deal of interest and participation from local partners such as Fort Worth Mountain Bikers Association, Bonzai Cycle Werx and TRP Construction Group, LLC.

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.

- Dean Construction has made significant progress on the project from mid-July through the first week in October. Concrete for the new sidewalks, picnic tables, bench swings, playground containment edge and on-street accessible parking is complete. Additionally, above and below ground drainage throughout the site is complete. Construction crews are working on sanitary sewer and water utilities and the building foundation for the new restroom building.

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. Maintenance staff continues to work on several projects related to this project's priorities.

BEAUTIFICATION AND CITY IMAGE

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.

- **Plans and specifications for the project are in the final stages of Design Development. Staff met to discuss the final layout for a proposed parking lot, historical plaza, required landscaping and a 10' wide trail connection from the existing John Barfield Trail to the public sidewalk on North Tarrant Parkway. The next steps will be to finalize material choices for various elements in the historical plaza and to finalize the opinion of cost prior to completion of the construction documents.**

NEW PROJECTS FOR FY 2020/2021

Annual Tree Planting (2021)

This project provides for the introduction of trees into the urban forest and replacement of trees that have died at various locations throughout the City. The project involves the installation of 3" caliper, drought tolerant, native or adapted trees. Park facilities to receive the new trees include Linda Spurlock Park, Walker's Creek Park and Iron Horse Golf Course. The project includes mitigation replacement of 20 trees removed during installation of a major sanitary sewer line at Walker's Creek Park. At Iron Horse Golf Course, several trees will be planted along Browning Drive to improve course aesthetics.

Park Infrastructure Maintenance (2021)

This project provides for maintenance of park infrastructure in response to use and age. The FY2021 priorities include playground fall safe material, playground equipment replacement, sports field restoration, concrete panel replacement, drinking fountain replacement, and North Electric Trail bridge deck repairs.

Richfield Park Tennis/Pickleball Court Replacement

This project provides for the replacement of the Richfield Park tennis court. With more than 40 years in service, significant spalling, cracking and foundation movement are presenting uneven surfaces, creating trip hazards that resurfacing will not correct to allow for safe play. The project will include replacing the existing, partially fenced double court with a fully fenced tennis court and 4 fenced pickleball courts. The existing lights will be preserved.

Richland Tennis Center Infrastructure Maintenance (2021)

This project provides for the maintenance of the Richland Tennis Center Infrastructure in response to use and age. The FY2021 funding will provide for replacement of bench seat awnings and lighting on all 16 courts, concrete repairs at various location within the facility.