



Agenda Item Report

Legislative Board: City Council
Date: March 7, 2023
Contact: Alicia Ramirez, City Clerk
Agenda Item ID / Number: 2023-213- / 1.1

ITEM TITLE: Presentation, discussion, and possible direction on the trail access and maintenance for Garison Park (Parks Director Tony Host)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mayor Pro Tem Evan Ture requested an agenda item to discuss opportunities to expand trail access and use at Garison Park prior to the planned construction. Staff will share information on what has been completed and seek feedback from City Council on other improvements.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

In 2016, the City of Buda purchased approximately 40-acres of land along Onion Creek that will become the John D. and Byrd Mims Garison Memorial Park. The original purchase was made using funds from the 2014 Bond proceeds, Proposition 5.

During the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget process, City Council requested that staff find ways to activate Garison Park by providing access and trails. This was done in order to make the site available to the community and to build excitement over future plans to expand the park.

In 2019, staff installed a dirt drive, parking area, and trailhead to provide access to a natural trail that follows along Onion Creek. Staff also added a trail along the backside of the wastewater treatment plant to provide access to the property from City Park. Staff currently maintains the natural trail that is formed along the edge of an exposed limestone shelf above Onion Creek, providing an approximate 1,600 linear foot trail along Onion Creek.

Staff seeks Council's feedback on other desired amenities for public use prior to construction of Garison Park, which is slated for late 2023 or early 2024.

3. ANALYSIS

Not applicable.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

Staff currently has plans to regrade the dirt road as it has become rutted from use. Trail markers could also be added to help better define the trail. The financial impact will be minimal. Garison Park is already on our maintenance schedule and in our O&M budget.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS

FUN EXPERIENCES FOR ALL - OUTDOOR CAPITOL OF TEXAS

6. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

5.1, 5.3, 5.4

7. PROS AND CONS

Pros:

- Efforts of the Staff ensure the citizens receive the best value.

- Will provide greater efficiencies and higher value in product delivery

Cons:

- Eroded driveway
- Access to the park is limited.
- Possibly violate EPA regulations.

8. ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable.

9. REQUESTED ACTION / SUGGESTED MOTION / RECOMMENDATION

No formal action is necessary on this item. Staff is seeking Council's direction and input.

Attachments:

[Garision_Maintainance.pdf](#)