




MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

THRU: Shannon Jones, Interim Assistant City Manager

FROM: Kimberly A. McNeeley, M.Ed., CPRP, Director
Austin Parks and Recreation Department 

DATE: April 6, 2021

SUBJECT: Update on Resolution No. 20200312-041 – Parkland Agreements between Nonprofit Organizations and the Parks and Recreation Department

This memorandum serves as an update and extension request related to Resolution No. 20200312-041. Since the last update memorandum in October 2020, the Parks and Recreation Department (Department) has continued to address the deliverable actions set forth in the Resolution to include working with nonprofit partners to refine Partnership Pathways and corresponding base agreements based on the following four configurations:

- A. Public-Private Partnership – a 501(c)(3) non-profit partner with a mission that closely aligns with the Department’s mission, vision, and values and aligns to the public land/public facility owned by the City. Partners within this configuration seeks a level of autonomy to construct, operate, maintain, and/or program projects on parkland.
- B. Nonprofit Partner – a partner organization with envisioned activities that align closely with the Department. Partner organization has a history of leading events/programs or funding specific improvement projects in cooperation with parks, recreation centers, cultural centers, and other facilities. The projects should enhance the lives of Austinites and further the Department’s mission.
- C. Friends Groups, Adopt-A-Park, Long-Term Stakeholder Organizations – a community-based partner that seeks to provide stewardship, fundraising, and activation/programming activities in cooperation with parks, recreation centers, cultural centers, and other facilities. The projects and programming should enhance the lives of Austinites, reflect the desires of the community, and further the Department’s mission.
- D. Neighborhoods, National Organizations, Local Businesses, Art Organizations - Organizations or businesses seeking to partner or fund Department priority projects or programs.

The Department is pleased to share that the first agreement under this Resolution – with the Pease Park Conservancy (PPC) for the operations, maintenance, and programming for Kingsbury Commons within Pease District Park – is scheduled for City Council consideration in May 2021. The Department and PPC are eager to have this agreement in place as the grand opening of Kingsbury Commons is slated for late May or early June 2021.

Other partner organizations agreements, inclusive of The Trail Foundation, are anticipated to come before Council for consideration before the end of 2021. It is for this reason that an extension is requested to December 31, 2021.

The Department will continue to work with the Law Department to prioritize finalization of these agreements based upon staff capacity to draft each document in hopes of finalizing the actions of this Resolution by the end of the year.

Should you have any questions, please feel free contact my office at (512) 974-6717.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Deputy City Manager