



## Administrative Services Committee

Meeting Date: October 14, 2025

Motion to Reject Unsolicited Proposal #25-000 Revitalization of Vernon Forrest Park

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<b>Department:</b>	Procurement / Recreation and Parks
<b>Presenter:</b>	Andy Penick / Tameka Williams
<b>Caption:</b>	Motion to reject the unsolicited proposal for the revitalization of Vernon Forrest Park (25-000)
<b>Background:</b>	<p>Georgia adopted the Public-Private Facilities Infrastructure Act of 2015 (the "PPFIA")(OCGA section 36-91-110 et seq.) on July 18, 2017, Augusta, Georgia provides a process to partner with private entities for the development of a wide range of projects for public use if the public entities determine there is a need for such projects and that private involvement may provide such projects to the public in a timely or cost-efficient fashion. Procurement solicits proposals via an advertisement each year for unsolicited proposals. The deadline for the unsolicited proposal was March 31, 2025.</p> <p>Augusta received an unsolicited proposal from Turn Back the Block / Ashley Brown for the revitalization of Vernon Forrest Park located in Harrisburg Community. Per the process and procedures, an Advisory Committee and Evaluation Committee was created to review the proposal. The proposal was reviewed by an evaluation committee, including representatives from Recreation and Parks, Housing and Community Development Department, Planning and Development Department, Finance and the Administrator's Office. After a thorough review, the evaluation committee recommends rejecting the proposal.</p>
<b>Analysis:</b>	<p>After careful evaluation of the unsolicited proposal for revitalization of Vernon Forrest Park, it is recommended that the proposal be denied. The recommendations are based on several factors outlined below.</p> <p><b>Funding Source:</b> The recommended funding source is probable and no definite funding is identified and secured. Municipal funding has not been allocated for this location to contribute.</p> <p><b>Site Design:</b> The proposal does not show true concept design of Vernon Forrest Park.</p> <p><b>Maintenance:</b> A long-term plan for the implementation of site maintenance and what future funding be available from Augusta-Richmond County.</p> <p>In light of the above considerations, it is recommended that the unsolicited proposal revitalization of Vernon Forrest Park be denied.</p>
<b>Financial Impact:</b>	<p>The proposed cost is estimated between \$242,000 - \$378,000. Augusta currently does not have a specific renovation project designated for Vernon Forrest Park. Accepting the proposal could result in significant financial strain on Augusta.</p> <p>The proposer did include the University of Georgia's Archway Partnership as a partner. They have stated that the University Georgia's Archway Partnership has demonstrated a history of securing substantial public and private funding to support community driven project through state and federal grants. Additional funding sources were listed as local</p>

government funding from the current budget, SPLOST and or municipal bonds, private & nonprofit partnerships and community fundraiser.

**Alternatives:** N/A

**Recommendation:** Reject the unsolicited proposal. It is recommended that the unsolicited proposal for the Revitalization of Vernon Forrest Park be denied.

**Funds are available in the following accounts:** N/A

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:** N/A