

Directors Report April 3, 2025

These are general updates on items that were discussed at previous meetings or were not included in the operations report.

- Ordinance No 2025-10 Protected & Heritage Trees was before the council again on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The council directed planning to make changes/clarifications that include cleaning up language as it pertains to the tree list, changing verbiage that states no replacement is required on residential property if a tree is removed due to diseased/hazardous or dead trees, and adding that the city manager has the discretion to waive the requirement to replace a tree. The item was tabled and will be discussed again on April 8, 2025.
- The Bastrop Clean Sweep was awesome! Some great projects were done around town. The total number of volunteers/employees was 180 with a total of 645 hours donated.
- Bastrop Master Naturalist applied for a grant from HEB to promote native plants and pollinators in the community. They are partnering with the Parks & Rec Department to rejuvenate the wildflower field in Bob Bryant Park. It is a two-year project called Pollinator Prairie. The clearing of non-native grasses will happen this year, and the new planting will be for a great spring in 2026. We are looking forward to this project and bringing wildflowers back to Bob Bryant Park.
- The city has joined the Mayors Monarch Challenge Program again for 2025. The proclamation was signed at the March 25<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. This initiative is about bringing pollinators back to the area to assist with the Monarch migration. This team consists of Master Gardeners and Naturalists. This group is responsible for bringing the native beauty to the raised bed at city hall. We are also working on planting native pollinators around city hall.
- Per direction from the board staff has an action calendar with dates/publications to share activities. This will ensure that the Parks & Recreation activities are better promoted in the community. Staff have also designed a monthly calendar with activities.
- The Parkland Dedication and Park Enrichment Fund was approved for second reading at the March 11<sup>th</sup> council meeting.
- The planning committee for Minerva Delgado Park met on 3/27 to begin the plans for additional amenities in the park. The committee chose 3 styles of benches to send to Mrs. Delgado Lopez to select her favorite. There will be a ¼ mile trail installed this FY year around the outside of the park. I will update the advisory as plans develop.
- Staff is currently working on budget for FY26. Please let me know if there are items you feel should be included.