



Directors Report
February 6, 2025

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

- In partnership with Main Street Program, we are taking a proactive approach to address the contamination issue with the recycling bins on Main Street. By replacing half of the cans with trash-only containers and covering the word "recycle," we are testing whether this will encourage the public to use the recycling portions properly. We will be monitoring the situation for six weeks to get valuable data on whether this change helps reduce contamination and make the recycling process more efficient. This trial period will give us a clearer picture of how the public interacts with the waste management system and whether additional changes or educational efforts are necessary. We are also considering other strategies, like increasing public awareness through signage or social media campaigns to remind people about proper recycling habits.
- New Kerr Community Park benches/tables/trashcans have been installed.
- Benches have been installed at Jewell Park.
- The department has received a report that we have been awarded the LCRA Steps Forward Grant. Employees from LCRA will repaint the BBP Pavilion and install two new trash cans around the playground. Along with the labor, the grant includes \$1000 to go towards supplies. Work is scheduled for April 10-11.
- Met with the interim director at the Bastrop Historical Museum about assisting us with the information and design of signs at each park. The signs will share the historic value of the parks and the areas around them. As we get the information, we will continue to update the website and share the information with the public through social media channels.
- Bastrop County Master Naturalists have received a grant for a project to restore the wildflower field in Bob Bryant Park. On 2/12, I will meet with the planning group to discuss strategy and timeline. This is going to be a fantastic project!
- Received the appraisal on the Bob Bryant Property. And I reached out to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept. TPWD is currently reviewing the appraisal for acceptance.
- Bastrop Ball fields are now on the asset list for rentals on our RecDesk software. All reservations will go through our department.
- Planning staff presented the Tree Protection Ordinance to P&Z on 1/30/25. The commission was very receptive to the Parks & Recreation Board suggestions. There were motions of support for all the items except for the fee and penalty portion. The commission was in support of the need for these penalties but sent the language to legal for review. It will come back to P&Z on 2/17. There is a possibility it could go to the council on 2/25 or 3/11.