



## Staff Report

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Lloyd White, Mayor

**DATE** February 1, 2022

**SUBJECT: Authorize Preliminary Discussions with the Beaumont – Cherry Valley Recreation & Park Improvement Corporation (Corporation) on a Collaborative Effort to Develop a Park Facility on 123 Acres on the North Side of Cherry Valley Boulevard and Formerly Known as the Danny Thomas Ranch**

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### **Background and Analysis:**

On January 12, 2022, the Beaumont – Cherry Valley Recreation & Park Improvement Corporation (Corporation) sent a letter to the City of Beaumont (City) announcing its plans to develop a park on 123 acres of land donated to the Corporation (Attachment A). Said property is located on the north side of Cherry Valley Boulevard, approximately 1 mile east of IH-10, and has been formerly known as the Danny Thomas Ranch (DTR).

Corporation planning for the DTR site is in the early stages. They are now working to identify and prioritize potential improvements and programming for the future park. In its letter, the Corporation states that it might prove beneficial to engage with the City of Beaumont to explore possibilities that would maximize this resource to meet the objectives of both agencies.

Since planning for this project is still early in the process it is not possible to know with specificity how Beaumont might effectively contribute to the Corporation's efforts. Discussions are required to identify the needs of each agency and to determine how this project might be able to address those needs. An ad-hoc two-by-two committee is recommended to establish a needs analysis and to engage in detailed discussions to determine how Beaumont might effectively partner with the Corporation.

A draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) will be brought back to City Council for review at its February 15, 2022, meeting. Should the City Council ultimately partner with the Corporation, it is important to keep in mind that the Corporation will be the lead

agency and will own and manage the facility. It is equally important to keep in mind that if, and only when, the City and the Corporation agree to collaborate on the project that it must be annexed into the City.

**Fiscal Impact:**

City staff estimates it cost approximately \$340 to prepare this report.

**Recommended Action:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Agree to begin preliminary discussions with the Beaumont – Cherry Valley Recreation and Park Improvement Corporation (Corporation) to explore how a future park facility at the Danny Thomas Ranch (DTR) site might mutually benefit both agencies,
2. Appoint two City Council members to a 2 by 2 committee to meet with representatives of the Corporation, and
3. Provide a report to the City Council when the City/District discussions have yielded tangible results.

**Attachments:**

- A. Beaumont – Cherry Valley Recreation & Park Improvement Corporation – January 12, 2022