
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation
FROM: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation
MEETING: July 20, 2026

SUBJECT:

Consider and take possible action on a resolution authorizing an agreement between the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the City of Burleson associated with the non-urban outdoor recreation grant in the amount of \$750,000. (*Staff Contact: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation*)

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AND GOAL(S):

Strategic Priority	Strategic Goal
 Great Place to Live Through Expanded Quality of Life Amenities	4.1 Provide high-quality recreation opportunities, events and facilities for residents

SUMMARY:

In January 2026, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved funding recommendations through the Local Park Grant Program, including the City of Burleson's application for the Community Park project, now known as Burleson Legacy Park. The City was formally awarded funding through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program for the development of the park's inclusive playground and nature-based recreation area.

The TPWD Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program provides reimbursement grants for up to 50% of eligible project costs, with a maximum award amount of \$750,000 for eligible communities. The City of Burleson received the maximum grant award available under the program in the amount of \$750,000.

The approved grant-funded scope includes an inclusive playground with pour-in-place surfacing, accessible overlook, sensory garden, internal pedestrian circulation, shade structures, climbing berm enhancements, sidewalks, and associated fencing improvements.

The current estimated total project cost for the overall inclusive playground and associated park improvements at Burleson Legacy Park is approximately \$3,139,412. The remaining project costs and all expenses exceeding the eligible grant scope will be funded by the City through the approved

The project is located at approximately 2140 SW Hulen Street and encompasses approximately 20.25 acres of future community parkland.

Key Agreement Terms and Conditions

The proposed agreement between the City of Burleson and TPWD establishes the terms for administration, reimbursement, maintenance, and long-term operation of the grant-funded improvements.

Major provisions of the agreement include:

- TPWD reimbursement funding for up to 50% of eligible project costs, not to exceed \$750,000.
- The City of Burleson received the maximum award amount available under the Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program.
- Required City match funding of at least 50% of eligible project costs.
- Project performance period extending from January 22, 2026 through April 30, 2030.
- All grant-funded property and improvements must be dedicated and maintained for public park and recreation use in perpetuity. Any future conversion of the site to non-recreational use would require TPWD approval and replacement property of equal fair market value and recreational utility.
- The City must comply with the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS), Recreation Grants Manual requirements, and all applicable state and federal laws associated with grant administration, procurement, financial management, record retention, and reimbursement procedures.
- The City is required to submit quarterly progress reports and reimbursement documentation through Recreation Grants Online (RGO).
- TPWD will retain 5% of reimbursement funding until final inspection, completion documentation, and project closeout requirements have been satisfied.
- The project remains subject to TPWD environmental and historical review conditions, including recommendations related to preservation of mature trees and avoidance measures associated with the federally proposed endangered tricolored bat habitat.
- The Texas Historical Commission completed review of the project and determined that no historic properties are anticipated to be affected by the proposed development.

Staff recommends approval of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department State Grant Agreement for the Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program and authorization for the City Manager to execute all associated grant agreements, reimbursement documents, and related administrative documents necessary to complete the project.

Milestone	Timeline
TPWD Grant Application Submitted	August 2025
Texas Historical Commission Review Completed	August 2025
TPWD Environmental Review Completed	April 2026
Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Award Approval	January 2026
City Council Grant Acceptance	Summer 2026
Final Design & Construction Documentation	2026
Procurement & Bidding	2026–2027
Construction Start	Anticipated 2027
Inclusive Playground & Grant Improvements Completion	Anticipated 2027
Grant Performance Period Ends	April 30, 2030

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Council approve the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement.

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

REFERENCE:

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham, CPRE
 Director of Parks and Recreation
jbasham@burlesontx.com
 817-426-9201

