



Public Spaces & Cultural Heritage Board

Staff Presenter: Jessica Martinez, Deputy Director of Parks
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Overview:



- History, Purpose & Vision
- Operational Overview
- Capital Improvement Projects
- General Updates
- Financial Summary
- Board Discussion





History and Purpose & Vision:

History:

- **November 6, 1909:** Burleson citizens established the Burleson Cemetery Association.
 - **Original cemetery:** 5-acre tract purchased from B.F. Clark for \$375.
- **First officers:** S.T. Hackney (President), E.M. Wilson (Vice President), and A.G. Borah (Secretary/Treasurer).
- **Official deed recorded:** November 19, 1909.
- **Today:** 8.6 acres, serving as Burleson's municipal cemetery and an important community heritage asset.

Purpose & Vision:

- Preserve and honor Burleson's history.
- Provide a dignified and respectful final resting place.
- Balance historic preservation with modern cemetery operations.
- Ensure long-term stewardship for future generations.

Operational Overview



- 8.6-acre municipal cemetery serving the Burleson community.
- Grounds maintenance is provided by the City of Burleson Parks & Recreation Department.
- Lucas & Blessing Funeral Home manages cemetery operations, including lot sales, interments, burials, and customer service.
- Operational priorities include:
 - Grounds maintenance
 - Irrigation
 - Turf management
 - Tree care
 - Infrastructure
 - Preservation of cemetery assets



Capital Project Expansion:



- **Project Highlights:**

- 1.6-acre expansion completed to increase long-term burial capacity.
- Added new burial sections, family estates, a cremation garden, and columbarium niches to provide additional memorial options.
- Constructed a committal shelter, plaza gathering area, ornamental fountain, and cenotaph to enhance the visitor experience.
- Improved the cemetery through ornamental landscaping, irrigation, site furnishings, and pedestrian circulation.
- Designed to preserve the cemetery's historic character while meeting the community's future needs.

- **Community Impact**

- Expanded capacity to serve Burleson residents for future generations.
- Increased memorial options to better meet the evolving needs and preferences of families.
- Created a welcoming, accessible environment for remembrance and reflection.
- Enhanced one of Burleson's important cultural and heritage assets.



Expansion Completed 2022



General Updates:

- **Landscape Update:**
 - Seasonal landscape enhancements and maintenance are planned for Fall 2026 to preserve the cemetery's appearance and enhance the visitor experience.
- **2026 Cemetery Plot Sales (*as of July 30, 2026*):**
 - 38 at-need interments (including columbarium niches)
 - 16 pre-need plot sales
 - 54 total plots sold
- **Headstone Reset Program (FY 2025–2026)**
 - Headstone resets and repairs being scheduled for completion.
 - \$20,000 annual investment dedicated to preserving cemetery monuments.

Financial Summary:

	FY 24-25 Actual	FY 25-26 Adopted	FY 25-26 Revised	FY 25-26 Year- End Est	FY 26-27 Projected	FY 27-28 Projected	FY 28-29 Projected	FY 29-30 Projected	FY 30-31 Projected
Beginning Fund Balance	\$430,786	\$470,456	\$470,456	\$430,786	\$493,680	\$542,390	\$592,561	\$644,238	\$697,464
Total Revenues	\$88,886	\$73,790	\$73,790	\$89,440	\$75,122	\$77,376	\$79,697	\$82,088	\$84,550
Total Expenditures	\$24,700	\$26,712	\$26,712	\$26,546	\$26,412	\$27,204	\$28,020	\$28,861	\$29,727
Ending Fund Balance	\$494,972	\$517,534	\$517,534	\$493,680	\$542,390	\$592,561	\$644,238	\$697,464	\$752,288
Fund Balance % of Expenditure	2004%	1937%	1937%	1860%	2054%	2178%	2299%	2417%	2531%



Questions