



CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE ORDINANCE

MEETING DATE: 07/21/2026

PRESENTER: Thao Vo, Director of Management Services

TITLE: Ordinance establishing three Ad Hoc Advisory Committees to provide input and evaluate park and recreational facilities for Proposition C of the 2026 General Obligation Bond Program; Appointing Committee Members; and Providing the Committees' charge, purpose, term, and meeting requirements

**REVIEWING
COMMITTEE:**

PURPOSE OF REQUEST:

City Council is asked to approve an ordinance establishing three Ad Hoc Advisory Committees to provide input and evaluate park and recreational facilities for Proposition C ("Prop C") of the 2026 General Obligation Bond Program, and appoint members to serve on each committee.

The proposed committees are:

- Community/Multipurpose Center Ad Hoc Committee
- Pickleball Complex Ad Hoc Committee
- Botanical Gardens and Public Artwork Ad Hoc Committee

Proposition C was approved by the voters as a part of the 2026 General Obligation Bond Program to fund park and recreational facilities, including a community/multipurpose center, pickleball complex, public artwork and a botanical garden. The purpose of each committee is to provide focused review and input related to the applicable Prop C project. Each committee will have a specific purpose and term. Section 2-7 of the City Code provides that City Council may appoint ad hoc committees with a specific term and topic as deemed necessary.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

Budgeted?	☐	Fund Name: N/A	There is no direct financial impact from creating the ad hoc committees
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RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the Ordinance establishing three Ad Hoc Advisory Committees to provide input and evaluate park and recreational facilities for Proposition C of the 2026 General Obligation Bond Program, Appointing committee members to each, and providing the Committees' charge, purpose, term, and meeting requirements, as presented.

BODY

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING THREE AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO EVALUATE PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR PROPOSITION C OF THE 2026 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND PROGRAM; APPOINTING MEMBERS TO EACH COMMITTEE; PROVIDING THE COMMITTEES' CHARGE, PURPOSE, TERM, AND MEETING REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING THAT THE COMMITTEES ARE ADVISORY ONLY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Section 2-7(h) of the Grand Prairie Code of Ordinances provides that the City Council of the City of Grand Prairie may appoint additional ad hoc committees having a specific term and topic as it deems necessary; and

WHEREAS, on May 2, 2026, Grand Prairie voters approved Proposition C as part of the 2026 General Obligation Bond Program, authorizing \$39,000,000 for parks and recreational projects; and

WHEREAS, Proposition C projects include the Community/Multipurpose Center, Pickleball Complex, Botanical Garden, and Public Artwork projects; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish three ad hoc advisory committees to provide input on the four Proposition C projects, with the Botanical Garden and Public Artwork projects combined into one advisory committee; and

WHEREAS, the committees will help evaluate community priorities, discuss project characteristics and amenities, and provide feedback to staff and City Council as the projects move through the planning process; and

WHEREAS, the committees shall serve in an advisory capacity only, and the City Council shall retain final authority for all implementation decisions presented by staff supporting the ad hoc advisory committees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Establishment of Ad Hoc Advisory Committees: The City Council hereby establishes the following three Ad Hoc Advisory Committees to evaluate park and recreational facilities for Proposition C of the 2026 General Obligation Bond Program (collectively, the "Committees"):

- A. Community/Multipurpose Center Ad Hoc Advisory Committee, established for the purpose of providing advisory input related to the Community/Multipurpose Center Project having a proposed budget of \$23,000,000;
- B. Pickleball Complex Ad Hoc Advisory Committee, established for the purpose of providing advisory input related to the Pickleball Complex Project having a proposed budget of \$10,000,000; and
- C. Botanical Garden and Public Artwork Ad Hoc Advisory Committee, established for the purpose of providing advisory input related to the Botanical Garden Project having a proposed budget of \$5,000,000 and the Public Artwork Project having a proposed budget of \$1,000,000.

SECTION 2. Appointment of Committee Members:

- A. The following individuals are hereby appointed to serve as members of the Community/Multipurpose Center Ad Hoc Advisory Committee:
 - 1. John Lopez, City Council Member - Committee Chairperson;
 - 2. Kurt Johnson, City Council Member;
 - 3. Jacquin Headen, City Council Member;
 - 4. Tony Shotwell, City Council Member;
 - 5. Susanna Ramirez, Assistant Superintendent, Early Education & Family Engagement, Grand Prairie ISD, Park Board Member;
 - 6. Van Della Meniffee, Retired; and
 - 7. Cheryl Smith, Retired, Planning and Zoning Commission Chairperson.
- B. The following individuals are hereby appointed to serve as members of the Pickleball Complex Ad Hoc Advisory Committee:
 - 1. Jorja Clemson, City Council Member - Committee Chairperson;
 - 2. Kurt Johnson, City Council Member;
 - 3. Rodney Anderson, City Council Member;
 - 4. David Chappelle, City Council Member;
 - 5. Euwye Chan, Park Board Member;
 - 6. Darwin Day; and
 - 7. Steve Franklin.
- C. The following individuals are hereby appointed to serve as members of the Botanical Garden and Public Artwork Ad Hoc Advisory Committee:
 - 1. Bessye Adams, City Council Member - Committee Chairperson;
 - 2. Jacquin Headen, City Council Member;
 - 3. Jorja Clemson, City Council Member;
 - 4. Don Meiners;
 - 5. Mal Earl, Park Board Chairperson;
 - 6. Dr. Benita Reed, Professor of English, Tarrant County College;
 - 7. Lindsey Reeves; and
 - 8. Ray Cerda, Director of Parks, Arts and Recreation, City of Grand Prairie.

- D. City employees appointed as members of an ad hoc advisory committee herein shall serve in the capacity designated by City Council through this ordinance. Staff support for the Committees may be provided separately by other City employees assigned by the City Manager or designee. Pursuant to Section 2-7(k) of the City Code, members of standing boards, commissions and agencies may also serve on ad hoc committees.

SECTION 3. Charge and Purpose: The Committees are charged with providing advisory input to staff and City Council regarding community priorities, project characteristics, amenities, service-level expectations, and implementation considerations related to their assigned Proposition C projects.

SECTION 4. Advisory Capacity: The Committees shall serve in an advisory capacity only. All recommendations and input provided by the committees shall be non-binding. Final decisions shall remain with the City Council and the City Manager, depending on the type of decision. No recommendation shall move forward without staff review for legal, financial, operational, procurement, and bond compliance considerations.

SECTION 5. Meeting Framework: The Committees may follow a five-meeting framework, with meeting topics combined or adjusted as needed by the chairperson:

- A. Meeting 1 - Overview and Orientation: Discuss project history, bond rules, open meetings rules, conflict disclosure, and committee guidelines;
- B. Meeting 2 - Needs Assessment: Identify what the community needs;
- C. Meeting 3 - Solve for Needs: Discuss the proposed characteristics, service level expectations, and amenities to address the needs;
- D. Meeting 4 - Prioritization and Development: Prioritize desired amenities within the available funding framework and begin drafting the advisory input document; and
- E. Meeting 5 - Document and Confirm Input: Confirm final advisory input and recommended summary document for City Council consideration.

SECTION 6. Meetings and Procedures: The Committees shall serve under the same rules, regulations, and procedures established for City boards and commissions, as applicable to ad hoc committees, pursuant to Section 2-7 of the Grand Prairie Code of Ordinances. All meetings of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committees shall be held in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

SECTION 7. Term: The Committees and their members' terms shall commence upon the effective date of this ordinance and shall terminate on October 31, 2026, unless dissolved earlier by City Council. The Mayor is hereby authorized to extend the term of one or more committees for up to sixty (60) days if additional time is needed for the committee to complete its charge. No additional City Council action shall be required for such extension.

SECTION 8. Effective Date: This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 21ST DAY OF JULY 2026.