

PARK ENHANCEMENT & DONATION POLICY

The City of Medina recognizes that residents, families, and the community members may wish to contribute to the enhancement of City parks or commemorate connections to the community. The purpose of this policy is to establish standards for the acceptance and recognition of park enhancement and donations while preserving the natural character, appearance, maintenance objectives, and long-term planning goals of the City's parks and open spaces.

Policy:

The City may accept donations that enhance Medina's parks, improve open spaces, contribute to the overall appearance and long-term sustainability of the City's parks and open spaces. Acceptance of any donation shall be at the sole discretion of the City and shall be based upon consistency with adopted park plans, operational considerations, maintenance capabilities, and community interest.

Priority

Because memorial and enhancement donations are intended to recognize individuals and families with a connection to the Medina community, requests shall be considered in the following order of priority, including but not limited to:

- Current residents of the City of Medina
- Immediate family members of current or former Medina residents
- Former residents of the City of Medina
- Other individuals or organizations demonstrating a significant relationship to the Medina community as determined by the City.

The priority categories do not create an entitlement or guaranteed acceptance of any donation request.

Enhancement Opportunities:

Donated improvements shall be limited to enhancement opportunities identified by the City. Public Works and the Park Board shall develop and maintain an annual list of eligible enhancement opportunities and associated contribution amounts based upon:

- Park needs
- Available locations
- Maintenance requirements
- Replacement schedules
- Capital improvement priorities

Only enhancement opportunities included on the annual list shall be eligible for donation consideration. The annual list of eligible donation opportunities shall include benches, picnic tables, memorial trees, and landscape plantings, but shall not be limited to these items.

Monetary Donations:

The City may accept monetary donations intended for beautification and improvements to the city, consistent with Resolution No. 461.

Monetary donations accepted under this policy shall:

- Be provided without conditions, obligations, limitations, naming rights or requirements regarding expenditure
- Become the sole property of the City upon acceptance
- Be used at the sole discretion of the City in a manner consistent with adopted budgets, maintenance programs and capital improvement priorities.
- The City shall not accept donations that impose maintenance obligations, design requirements, operational restrictions, or other conditions upon the City.

Large or Non-Monetary Donations:

Donations of real property, land, buildings, structures, vehicles, equipment, artwork, monuments, or other items of substantial value may be considered by the City on a case-by-case basis. The City is under no obligation to accept any proposed donation and may decline a donation when acceptance is determined not to be in the best interests of the City.

Prior to acceptance, the City may require an evaluation of the proposed donation, including, as applicable, title and ownership, legal restrictions or encumbrances, condition, environmental considerations, estimated value, maintenance and operating costs, insurance and liability considerations, compatibility with City plans and policies, and any ongoing financial or administrative obligations associated with the donation.

Acceptance of real property or other substantial assets shall be subject to approval by the City Council. The City may require the donor to provide, at the donor's expense, such documentation, inspections, appraisals, surveys, environmental assessments, or other information as the City determines necessary to evaluate the proposed donation.

The City may accept a donation subject to conditions, restrictions, covenants, or other terms when such conditions are determined to be acceptable and consistent with the City's interests. The City reserves the right to reject donations that impose unreasonable costs, restrictions, maintenance obligations, liabilities, or other burdens on the City.

Acceptance of a donation does not obligate the City to retain, maintain, display, improve, or use the donated property or item for any particular purpose unless expressly agreed to in writing by the City.

Donation Recognition:

The City recognizes the importance of commemorating families while maintaining the natural character of Medina's parks and open spaces.

A. Memorial plaques, engraved markers, commemorative stones, signage, naming rights, and other forms of permanent physical recognition shall not be permitted within City parks or park facilities. All existing physical recognition items shall be phased out.

B. Recognition of approved donations shall occur through a ***Friends of Medina Parks*** recognition page maintained on the City's website.

C. The recognition page may include:

- The name of the individual being honored
- The name of the donor, if desired by the donor
- The park enhancement provided
- A map identifying the general location of the donated enhancement within the park system.

D. Donors may elect to remain anonymous.

The City will recognize qualifying donations with a listing on the City's official website. Recognition will be provided for donations with a minimum value of \$250. Recognition will remain on the City's website for a period of ten years from the date the donation is accepted. At the conclusion of the ten-year recognition period, the listing will be removed.

Ownership and Maintenance:

All donated improvements, enhancements, and associated materials shall become the sole property of the City upon acceptance and installation.

The City retains sole authority regarding the design, installation, maintenance, replacement, relocation, or removal of donated improvements as determined necessary for operations, maintenance, safety, accessibility and capital improvement purposes. The City does not guarantee replacement of donated improvements that deteriorate, become damaged and/or vandalized, or are removed due to changing park needs or conditions.

Acceptance of a donation does not create an obligation for the City to maintain any improvement beyond its normal maintenance practices and available resources.