

MEMORANDUM



TO: VICTOR CARDENAS, CITY MANAGER
FROM: JEFF MUCK, PRCS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: VILLA BARR ART PARK PATHWAYS
DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2025

At the January 27 City Council meeting, Mayor Fisher introduced the idea of paving the pathways at Villa Barr and requesting staff bring back plans to increase handicap accessibility. Former Mayor David Landry spoke at public comment in support of the project. Staff has worked with engineering consultant AECOM to develop three options for City Council consideration. All estimates are for stamped concrete as it is recommended over asphalt due to the physical composition of the site, greater longevity and aesthetics.

Option 1 \$201,170: Pave existing pathway system



Option 2 \$268,507: Pave existing pathways and add extension to the east of the pond with a turnaround bulb and two benches. This option preserves the existing willow tree on the north end of the pond. The willow tree was planted by David Barr and is featured in his writings and is a key natural feature in the park.



Option 3 \$298,422: Pave existing pathways and add extension creating a loop around the pond. The biggest concern with this option is the loss of the willow tree on the north side of the pond. Routing the path south of the tree brings the path too close to the pond, but routing on the north side will have a significant impact on the roots. City Forester Keith Salowich has expressed concern with the impact this could have on the life of the tree but cannot complete a full evaluation until the area has thawed.



Estimates include a 10% construction contingency, however staff recommends a minimum of 20% be budgeted due to the known drainage issues on the site and potential for additional Geotech, grading, culverts, and/or materials that may be needed once construction begins.

I look forward to direction concerning the design options from City Council. A motion to approve funding engineering design services will be brought forward at an upcoming meeting. Construction would most likely occur in fall 2025 after the design and bid process is completed.