

**FY 2023-2024 BUDGET QUESTION**  
***Response to Request for Information***

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DEPARTMENT(S): Parks and Recreation Department

CBQ NO.: 159

REQUESTED BY: Pool

DATE REQUESTED: 07/27/2023

DATE POSTED: 08/06/2023

REQUEST: Are there any limitations on pursuing community partners to perform park maintenance, above and beyond the current agreements with groups like The Trail Conservancy or Pease Park Conservancy? If so, what are those limits?

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**RESPONSE:**

Community partner organizations that meet the necessary criteria can enter into an agreement with the Department to perform park maintenance. PARD has developed the PARKnership Policy and Partner Configurations to create opportunities for partnership agreements with nonprofit organizations that benefit the community and further the mission and vision of the Department.

Background regarding the PARKnership Policy

In March of 2020 City Council directed PARD to create opportunities for partnership agreements with nonprofit organizations that benefit the community and further the mission and vision of the Department. With stakeholder input, PARD developed the PARKnership Policy and Configurations which outlines the types of partnerships, organizational criteria, roles, and responsibilities.

Since the development of the PARKnership Policy, PARD has executed Park Operations and Maintenance Agreements (Partnership Configuration A) with Pease Park Conservancy and The Trail Conservancy. PARD is in the process of drafting agreements with three additional nonprofit organizations, though two of the agreements are with Partnership Configuration B organizations and the activities do not include operational and maintenance responsibilities.

In addition to Pease Park Conservancy and The Trail Conservancy agreements, PARD also manages agreements that existed prior to the 2020 Resolution and include operational and/or maintenance responsibilities. These agreements are with Umlauf Sculpture Garden, Republic Square and Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy.