

Parks and Recreation Board Financial Committee Potential Items for Consideration
April 12, 2021

1. FUNDING AVENUES

Tax Related

- HOT Tax allocation to historical & tourist parks (referred from Parks and Recreation Board)
- Recreation, Arts, & Parks Tax¹
- Ad Valorem Tax Texas Local Government Code Chapter 331
- Cemetery maintenance ad valorem tax
- Public Improvement District, Texas Local Government Code Chapter 372²
- Park Public Improvement District in format described in Local Government Code Chapter 372.021: Special Improvement District Fund

Fee Related

- Park Maintenance Fee³
- Park District Fee
- Convert PARD from General Fund to Enterprise Department

Other

- Sale of land and endowment
- Budget Definitions
- Partnerships (Are partnerships part of Contracts & Concessions?)(referred from Alternative Funding Working Group)
 - Capital improvements
 - Operation and maintenance

¹ Added to existing sales tax.

² Defined geographic area to jointly plan and put in place a sustainable funding source that can pay for a set of services to improve their area.

³ Creation of a Park Maintenance Fee to be imposed and levied upon the responsible party of all developed property within the City of Austin, similar in structure to the Transportation User Fee.

- Unrestricted donations directly to PARD (referred from Alternative Funding Working Group)
- Increase fees.
- Reorganization of Park Rangers; conservation corps;

BUDGET – RELATED

- Continued discussion of under-resourced needs.
- ADA accommodation
- Costs related to park development (capital projects); costs related to maintenance
-deferred maintenance presentation
- Energy (older facilities opportunity to increase efficiency – energy savings performance contracts) and water costs (reuse).
- Services for seniors (given projections for senior population are we planning to meet needs).

2. RESEARCH NEEDS

- Visitor counts
- Spending per population; index to population growth. – historical information from PARD (dramatic drop).
- Rate of loss of yards/informal parks/open space as density increases in central city.
- Dogs per capita.