



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3474, Agenda Item #: 38.

12/8/2022

Posting Language

Approve The Trail Conservancy's Annual Programming Plan 2023 for the Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail at Townlake Metropolitan Park.

Lead Department

Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

March 12, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200312-041, which directed the City Manager to work with parks nonprofit partners that have established relationships with the Parks and Recreation Department, including but not limited to The Trail Foundation and the Pease Park Conservancy, to create opportunities for partnership agreements that benefit the community, and to outline roles and responsibilities between those groups and the Parks and Recreation Department, on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Harper-Madison absent.

October 21, 2021-City Council authorized the negotiation and execution of a park operations and maintenance agreement with The Trail Conservancy for the operation, maintenance, and programming for phased transition of Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail at Townlake Metropolitan Park. Council provided direction to return the Annual Programming Plan to City Council for review and direction the first two years of the agreement.

For More Information:

Kimberly McNeeley, Director, Christine Chute Canul, Program Manager II, 512-579-1013.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

August 24, 2021 - Parks Operation and Maintenance Agreement approved by the Parks and Recreation Board.
November 28, 2022 - Recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board on a 9-0 vote with Board Member Di Carlo absent and one vacancy. Recommendation Number 20221128-4.

Additional Backup Information:

On June 10, 2022, The Park Operations and Maintenance Agreement with The Trail Conservancy (TTC) was executed.

TTC has led fundraising and development in the park for over 18 years resulting in a total financial investment to date of over \$17,500,000.

The Park Operations and Maintenance Agreement will begin a phased transition of daily maintenance to TTC. Initially, TTC will be the primary responsible party for maintenance of TTC built infrastructure while providing supplementary support to other areas of the Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail (Trail) and surrounding parkland. The Trail has been designated into four segments: Southeast, Northeast, Northwest and Southwest.

Through a methodical and conservative approach, additional responsibilities for each segment will transition to TTC over a series of years as outlined in the operations and maintenance plan, including but not limited to turf care, tree care, invasive removals, restroom maintenance and trail edge vegetation. The Trail Conservancy will be actively programming the park to provide free family activities (e.g. kids adopt-a-garden at Camacho Recreation Center and Santa on the Trail), nature-based programming for all-ages (e.g. Trees of the Trail Scavenger Hunt and Wildflower Walks), cultural activations and public art (being formalized through a comprehensive public art plan in partnership with Art In Public Places) and additional recreational opportunities (e.g. on Trail fitness programs). All earned revenue from special events and rentals will be utilized to directly benefit the park via operations, maintenance, programming or park improvements. The Trail will remain accessible and open to the public during special events. The Trail Conservancy will continue to follow all City codes and regulations, approval and permit processes and community engagement standards. Designated City staff from both the Parks and Recreation Department and the Watershed Protection Department will also participate in a Joint Advisory Management Committee, which will be established with the completion of the agreement, with members of TTC to ensure Director approved annual plans and deliverables are being implemented successfully and the agreement terms and deliverables are being met. TTC is required to provide annual reporting requirements on the programming event types, number of events and revenue earned for the operations and maintenance of the Park. TTC is required to provide annual reporting requirements on the programming event types, number of events and revenue earned for the operations and maintenance of the park.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment; Culture and Lifelong Learning; Government that Works for All.