

**Meeting Date** (?) 09/27/2016

**Subject Matter**\* (?) Resolution authorizing Application for TPWD Local Grant  
This must match rolling agenda entry

**Department of Origin**\* PARKS & RECREATION

**Submitted By**\* M. Darrell Lovelette

**Type of Meeting**\*  BCD  Special  Regular

**Classification**\*  Public Hearing  Consent  Statutory  Regular

**Ordinance**\*  None  First Read  Second Read  First & Only Read

**Strategic Initiative**\*  Public Safety  Service  
 Economic Development  Infrastructure  
 Quality of Life

**Agenda Item Description**\* Consideration of a resolution to authorize City staff to act on behalf of the City of Bryan for participating in the Local Park Grant Program administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; certifying that the City is eligible to receive program assistance; certifying that the City's matching share is available; and dedicating the proposed site for a permanent public park and recreational purposes.

**Summary Statement**\* The resolution is for the submittal of a grant application for the development of Edgewater Park, which is located off Autumn Lake Drive in the western side of the City of Bryan. It is a 9.72 acre parcel of land dedicated as parkland from the developer of the Edgewater subdivision, per the park dedication and park development ordinance.

Originally, the City was working with the developer, Stylecraft Builders, on the development of the park site. Stylecraft had a conceptual plan drawn up along with a cost estimate for the construction of the park. Over a series of months, the City and developer met to discuss an agreement for the development of the park. The developer was to build the park and receive credit for the parkland development fees (\$232,700), which they would have owed for the construction of six hundred fifty (650) homes. Unfortunately, an agreement could not be reached for a number of reasons. However, both entities gained valuable knowledge and experience, and now have a better understanding about processes for partnering on future ventures for the development of parks.

At about that same time City staff was exploring the possibility of applying for a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) grant. This exploration included a visit to the TPWD office in Austin where City staff met with the Local Parks Program Manager to discuss the program and possible projects. The Edgewater Park project rose quickly to the top of the priority list for a grant application for many reasons, including: 1.) funding is available in the City's parkland development account, which will supply a majority of the local share; 2.) some of the work already completed and paid for is still eligible for grant reimbursement; and 3.) this park will meet the recreational needs of this subdivision, adjacent subdivisions and provide linkages to a nearby park and elementary school.

While the approval of a grant for funding assistance is far from guaranteed, the park project appears to provide the City the highest probability for funding at this time.

Notes: City staff are currently reviewing Request of Qualifications (RFQ) submittals to select a firm to design Edgewater Park. For funding information, please see "Funding Source" (below), which identifies possible funding amount and the percent the City should consider providing as a matching portion (i.e., 60%).

**Staff Analysis & Recommendation**\* Parks and Recreation Staff along with other City staff employees looked at a number of projects where funding assistance would be helpful. These projects included Siena Park (new construction), Cherry Park (renovations and upgrades), Sadie Thomas Park (13 acres undeveloped), and a number of other projects in the Parks Improvement Plan. After that review and visiting with TPWD staff, the development of this park seems to be the best choice to pursue possible grant funding.

Based on the exploration and evaluation of possible projects and discussions with the TPWD staff, City staff recommends the City Council approve this proposed resolution for funding assistance to develop Edgewater Park so a grant application can be submitted by the October 1, 2016, deadline.

**Options\***

(In Suggested Order of Staff Preference)

1. Approve the resolution.
2. Do not approve the resolution and provide direction to staff

**Funding Source\***

No funding is needed for the resolution. However, the City is committing to have available the local share for this grant. The grant is a matching program so the City would be committing to provide at least 50% of the total cost of development of the park. Preliminary cost estimates are around \$900,000 so the City would need to have at least \$450,000 available. Currently in the District 5 Parkland fund, there is over \$600,000, which does not include the eventual payment of \$232,700 from Stylecraft Builders. To increase chances to receive funding assistance, City staff recommends the City offer to pay 60% as the local share (\$540,000).

**Attachments**

Texas Parks and Wildlife Resolution.docx

14.96KB

Please detail attachments and note attachments available for viewing in City Secretary's Office:

1. Proposed resolution to be filed with the TPWD grant submittal (required to be eligible for consideration of funding)

**Dept. Head Signature**



*M. Darrell Lovlette*

**Deputy City Manager  
Signature**



*Hugh R. Walker*

**City Manager Signature**



**City Attorney Signature**



*Janis K. Hampton*