

## **Monthly Report: Parks and Recreation, October 2025**

The New Fiscal Year is Underway (and we will soon be out of money)

The Contractor completed the accessibility project at Sunset Park. The restroom building, playground, and picnic areas are accessible. Better still, we included planters and added trees that we hope will offer shade over picnic tables in the future. Patrons have already expressed appreciation for the improvements. In more Sunset Park news, the manufacturer has begun to fabricate the shade structures that will cover the four bleachers at the ballfields to offer spectators a bit of respite from the scorching heat that comes with the Texas summer and fall (mostly) and winter (partially) and (sometimes) spring.

Speaking of accessibility, we had a contractor perform a Texas Accessibility Standards review of the Sports Complex/Pool area and Lago Vista Civic Center. A week later, the report arrived via email. The short of it is, we have a lot of work to do towards compliance.

The Parks crew attended Applicator Certification training on October 15. Successful completion allows them to safely use herbicides and pesticides on parks. Now that they've attended class, exams have to be scheduled. Once those are done, the team will next attend training for vegetation management as parkways and medians are part of their responsibilities. Who knew caring for grass could be so complicated?

We had a contractor trim the trees along Foothill Cove where they nearly blocked passage. Once they were finished, the Parks team abated weeds (some were as much as three feet tall) from both sides of the street as well as the center of the road. Lastly, Public Works Street Crews went out and cold-patched a dozen potholes, one of which was three feet in diameter. They did a terrific job (I'm paid to say that, but it was actually true). All the work done on Foothill makes the Turnback Canyon Trailhead accessible—just in time for a ribbon cutting on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

We also had an AOP system installed at the Lago Vista Pool. We recently learned that the existence of water toys at the facility mandated use of a supplemental sanitization system against cryptosporidium. The AOP system is the most cost-effective means to meet Texas state requirements. Bam, done!

The Parks team spent a day trimming trees and repairing a fence along a property line between a city facility and a home. Four trailers full of debris were removed—four heavy-laden and stacked to the sky trailers. The resident was so grateful for the work done that they literally typed "Wow" as the opening for his email response. We liked that.

Handicapped Parking stalls were repainted and new poles and signs installed at the Upper Field parking lot (across from Lago Vista Middle School), where the Parks team had recently replaced picnic tables. The makeover was much needed for appearance and compliance. Made us wonder, though, if it would be too much to secretly paint a "king of the world" stall for select VIPs (... like the Parks and Recreation Director). We could also rent it out for much needed maintenance revenue—maybe enough to cover the remaining 12 months of the fiscal year.