

Monthly Report: Parks and Recreation, November 2025

This month saw lots of activity associated with the Turnback Canyon Trail. We submitted the first-ever quarterly report to the satisfaction of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. As the project is funded by a grant from TPWD, we are required to provide project updates. Additionally, we installed temporary signage and a message board at the trailhead, performed some final trimming and cleaning along Foothill Cove, replaced trail markers (tape) the length of the actual trail, and, along with Economic Development, hosted a dedication ceremony and first walk on November 15. There were about 65 people in attendance at the event.

This fiscal year's big CIP for Parks is the fabrication and installation of shade structures over the four bleachers at Sunset Park ballfields. The contractor was on site the week of November 17 and completed the project in two days. The canopy color closely matches the fabric previously installed on the dugouts and the structures are broad enough to provide significant shade to those watching on-field activities. Overall, we are very pleased with the finished project.

Apparently, some locals think all areas wide enough for a vehicle are meant to be driven on. However, the accessible decomposed granite walking path that leads up to the volleyball court and soccer field at Sunset Park is not for vehicular traffic. Thus, staff, during the week of November 24, fabricated and installed a cable system to prevent further incursions on the path. We want to ensure pedestrians are safe when making their way to hilltop amenities.

We have continued to experience persistent problems with lights at the pickleball/tennis courts. There were multiple bulbs burned out, and, due to the age of the system, these are very expensive to replace. Additionally, two of the four poles were not turning on at all. Rather than continue to spend time and money on temporary fixes, we had a contractor remove the old light fixtures and replace them with energy-efficient LED fixtures. The project was completed in a single day on November 25th. The courts are better lit despite fewer fixtures and will save significantly over the old halogen system. Users have already expressed their approval of the new lights.

We continue to assess water loss at the swimming pool. The folks in utility billing reported a spike in consumption in recent weeks. We assessed the area, repaired a leaking spigot, but have not yet determined the real culprit. We shut off the water supply to the pool and surrounding area until we can fix the problem. We have been talking with our pool contractor and, per their recommendation, conducted a bucket test over the Thanksgiving weekend. The findings confirm we have a problem at the pool. We will have the contractor perform a dye test in further efforts to determine the cause of the leak.