



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 13

**Agenda Date:** April 10, 2025

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Parks & Recreation Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Homer Garcia III

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** District 5

**SUBJECT:**

Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program Grant Application to Texas Parks and Wildlife for Normoyle Park

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance approves the submission of a grant application and the acceptance of funds upon award from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) for the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program Grant as part of the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in an amount up to \$5,772,861.00 for revitalization and development at Normoyle Park located in Council District 5. This grant requires matching funds in the amount of \$5,772,861.00. Funding is available from the 2022 General Obligation Bond Program, and the Tree Canopy Preservation and Mitigation Fund FY 2025 Adopted Budget. This ordinance also authorizes the Parks and Recreation Director to execute any and all related documents as well as the acceptance of additional grant funds if awarded, in an amount not to exceed 20% of the total amount listed above.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) released a call for applications for the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Program (ORLP) Grant with applications due on April 15, 2025. The TPWD will consider grant requests from across the State of Texas to be forwarded to the National Park Service (NPS), which notification to the City, if selected, will be Summer 2025. Invitations to continue the application process from the NPS will be sent to project sponsors in November 2025 with final award notification anticipated no later than November 2026. If awarded, the grant period allows for three years for project completion.

The 2022-2027 Bond Program provides funding of \$5,772,861.00 for development and improvements at Normoyle Park located in Council District 5. Of that total, \$2,000,000.00 has been spent on land acquisition to expand the footprint of Normoyle Park to 75 acres, inclusive of City owned property that formerly housed the Fire Department Training Tower and a Solid Waste fueling station. The remaining balance of 2022-2027 Bond Program funding, \$4,750,000.00, is being utilized for a substantial portion of the one-to-one grant match requirement. Additional matching funds include up to \$1,022,861.00 from the Tree Canopy Preservation and Mitigation Fund for a grant total of up to \$5,772,861.00.

Community engagement for the Normoyle Park revitalization began in 2022 and has continued through April 2025 in the form of two additional community engagement opportunities including public input meetings and an engagement survey. Additional engagement opportunities are planned for later in the calendar year. The TPWD grant would leverage 2022-2027 Bond Program funding for development of Normoyle Park into a destination regional park providing a unique opportunity to expand park access in one of the city's most socio-economically disadvantaged communities.

In addition to the new amenities, new trees will be planted in the park which will increase its canopy and provide natural shade opportunities for the community. This will also contribute to the parks ecological revitalization and complements the planned environmentally friendly design of the proposed park expansion.

## **ISSUE:**

The 2022 bond project at Normoyle Park will increase park access and use, providing opportunities for a historically underserved area of the city. This park was chosen based on the status of the existing process for park bond project improvement planning efforts and other eligibility requirements for the National Park Service's Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program.

The National Park Service's Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program administered through the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department is consistent with City policy to apply for grants to enhance service delivery by supplementing local funds. Grant funds will be utilized for development of parks and facilities directly supported by the principles of SA Tomorrow and the SA Parks System Plan's goals.

This ordinance authorizes the Parks and Recreation Director to execute any and all related documents as well as the acceptance of additional grant funds if awarded, in an amount not to

exceed 20% of the total amount listed above.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The City could choose not to submit the grant application to leverage 2022-2027 Bond and other eligible match funds to benefit Normoyle Park and seek other opportunities to augment the project budget.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the submission of a grant application and the acceptance of funds upon award from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) for the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program Grant as part of the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in an amount up to \$5,772,861.00 for revitalization and development at Normoyle Park located in Council District 5. This grant requires matching funds in the amount of \$5,772,861.00. Funding is available in the amount of \$4,750,000.00 from the 2022 General Obligation Bond Program, and \$1,022,861.00 from the Tree Canopy Preservation and Mitigation Fund FY 2025 Adopted Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.