

Brackenridge Park Reconciled Plan



Background

- Brackenridge Park is well-loved and has layered history, cultural ties
- Ensure that decisions are informed, representative of community



TIRZ Project

- \$150,000 allocated for Reconciled Plan:
 - Consolidates the goals and objectives of the plans
 - Provides an inventory of uncompleted projects that were identified in the plans
 - Delivers a new evaluation tool and process that will inform future decisions
- Contract was awarded to Ford, Powell & Carson Architects & Planners, Inc to conduct the study
- Focus on future capital projects



Stakeholder Committee

- BP Stakeholder Advisory Committee is standing committee established by City Manager
- Co-chairs: CMO & BPC
- Wide range of representation
- Advises COSA staff on project impacting park
- Advised on development of this plan
- Public engagement strategy and meeting format



Evaluation Tool

- Establishes Guiding Principles (all projects must meet)
- Evaluation Criteria (helps to understand project prioritization and design / re-design needs)
- Will be used by BPSAG and COSA to recommend and prioritize future capital projects



Guiding Principles – Respect for People and Nature



- Projects should promote inclusivity and should not privilege users based on class, race, cultural tradition, age, income, physical ability, or other factors.
- Projects should promote free use of the park, and where possible, should open access to areas of the park which are currently restricted.
- Projects should protect or enhance natural resources and habitat and should integrate nature into the recreational experience to further people's connection to ecological systems.
- Projects should be implemented for long-term sustainability including a plan for and funding of maintenance, operations, and programming.

Guiding Principles – Respect for History and Culture



- Projects should honor and interpret cultural history including comprehensive traditions of use.
- Where existing physical history can be preserved, it should be. Where that is not possible or nothing remains to be preserved, interpretation (through a variety of means) should be incorporated.
- Projects should take the entire history of the area which is now Brackenridge Park into consideration, including indigenous use, Spanish colonial development, the land uses precedent to establishment of the park, and the history of the park itself. Further, projects should educate the public about that full history and should include all periods of interpretation.

Guiding Principles – Respect for Compromise



- If a project has internal conflict between principles but is still deemed worthy of implementation by the evaluation process, divergent principles should be respected through a balanced approach; **no principle may be ignored.**

Evaluation Criteria (example)

Prioritization Criteria						
Prioritization Ranking	1	3	2	3	20	3
Prioritization Totals	5	0	1	0	-1	0
Area 1: River	3	0	1	0	-1	0
Does the project prevent flooding of homes and structures surrounding the park?	No		Yes		No	
Does the project include nature-based solutions?	Yes					
Does the project respect the comprehensive historic and ecological character of the river?	Yes					
Does the project increase access to the river where appropriate?	Yes					
Does the project preserve, improve, or contribute positively to the river ecology?	Not applicable					
Does the project preserve/improve river recreation?	No					
Does the proposed recreational use appropriately integrate with the river's natural ecology?	Yes					
Does the project allow safe access to the river for spiritual and diverse interests?	No					
Does the project include low impact development strategies?	Yes					
Does the project replace habitat that is being lost in other areas of the park?	Yes					

Public Engagement

- The entire process was informed by public feedback
- Three public meetings in January - March
- SASpeakUp survey with over 2,000 participants
- Responses from across the city / region



Next Steps

- Endorsement by the Midtown TIRZ
- Briefing with Council Committee on Community Health and Equity
- Implementation



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