



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 18

**Agenda Date:** June 12, 2025

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Parks & Recreation Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Homer Garcia III

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** District 4

**SUBJECT:**

Local Park (LP) Urban Outdoor Program Grant Application to Texas Parks and Wildlife for Pearsall 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 Local Park (LP) Urban Outdoor Program Grant as part of the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in the amount of up to \$1,500,000.00 for development at Pearsall Park located in Council District 4, leveraging 2022-2027 Bond Program funding and authorizing the Parks and Recreation Director to execute any and all related documents.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) released a call for applications for the Local Park (LP) Urban Outdoor Grant with applications due on August 1, 2025. The TPWD will consider grant requests from across the State of Texas with notification to the City, if selected, in Fall 2025. If awarded, the grant period allows for two years for project completion.

The 2022-2027 Bond Program provides funding of \$1,900,000.00 for development of general park improvements in support of the Pearsall Park's Master Plan. Through public input the project will include the development of an inclusive bike course and complex. The bond funding will be used to meet the one-to-one grant match requirement. The Local Park (LP) Urban Outdoor Grant has maximum capacity of \$1,500,000.00 for award.

Community engagement for the master development plan for Pearsall Park dates to 2000 with an update in 2012. Since then, this plan has been driven forward by three successive bond elections, most recently in 2022. Consistent during this more than two-decade period of community feedback and support is the need to develop additional amenities for recreation. The Pearsall Park project has been supported by community engagement opportunities, which expressed their priorities are to increase recreational amenities with the bike course being a top priority. The TPWD grant would leverage 2022-2027 Bond Program funding for improvements to the park including construction of an inclusive bike track and complex.

The Department received a previous Local Park (LP) Urban Outdoor Grant award of \$1,000,000 for Pearsall Park implemented as part of a previous 2017-2022 bond project which included the bike skills course and other supporting amenities.

#### **ISSUE:**

Pearsall Park can be improved for increased access and additional 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 Local Park (LP) Urban Outdoor Grant Program which favors outdoor recreation amenity projects for this grant opportunity.

The Local Park (LP) Urban Outdoor Grant 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.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

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

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Texas Parks & Wildlife grant requires a one-to-one match of awarded funds up to \$1,500,000.00. Matching funds will be provided by the 2022-2027 Bond Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the submission of a grant application and the acceptance of up to \$1,500,000.00 upon award from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for the Local Park (LP) Urban Outdoor Grant as part of the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for park improvements at Pearsall Park located in Council District 4 and the Parks and Recreation Director to execute all related documents.