



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: February 12, 2025

In Control: City Council B Session

DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Homer Garcia III

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Arboretum San Antonio Briefing and Update

SUMMARY:

Arboretum San Antonio staff will provide a briefing and update on the status of the Arboretum San Antonio including organization profile & mission statement, site selection, master plan overview, the tree nursery, and funding.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On September 9, 2021, the founder of Arboretum San Antonio, Henry Cisneros wrote an Op-Ed making a case for an arboretum on the South Side of San Antonio. An arboretum is a specialized park that features trees and other woody plants. It is a living museum for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of all people.

In 2022, Arboretum San Antonio was formed with the vision of a world-class facility housing trees and more for San Antonio and South Texas. This vision is driven by sustainable stewardship; cultural commitment; continuous learning; inclusive community; and engaged partnership. The Arboretum will offer pedestrian and bicycle trails, a nursery to propagate native and climate-

resilient trees, nature-based programming, event spaces, and public art displays. A 188-acre site on the City's southeast side has been identified to serve as the arboretum. The master planning process for Arboretum San Antonio began last year and reflective of community feedback. It is entering its final stages including action plan.

ISSUE:

Arboretum San Antonio staff will provide a briefing and update on the status of the Arboretum including organization profile & mission statement, site selection, the master planning process, the tree nursery, and funding.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.