



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 32

Agenda Date: August 31, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Office of Historic Preservation

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Shanon Shea Miller

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Brackenridge Park Reconciled Plan and Project Inventory

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes a Professional Service Agreement with Ford, Powell & Carson Architects & Planners, Inc to produce a Reconciled Plan and Project Inventory for Brackenridge Park in the amount in the amount of \$150,000.00. Funding is available from the Midtown TIRZ, authorized by Ordinance #23-191086. There is no anticipated impact to the City's General Fund.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Brackenridge Park is one of San Antonio's oldest and most historic parks. Over the years the Park has grown, and many popular destinations have been added within its boundaries including the San Antonio Zoo, the Witte Museum, the Japanese Tea Gardens, the First Tee, and the Sunken Garden Theater. The Park also has many picnicking areas, pavilions, a miniature train ride and other facilities that have been popular for family enjoyment for generations. Combined annual visitation to the Park and its destinations exceeds 1.5 million visitors a year. Brackenridge Park is

on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Texas State Antiquities Landmark.

Over the past several years, plans have been completed identifying improvements and projects for Brackenridge Park. The existing plans share many overlapping components but require reconciliation and consolidation into a comprehensive, community supported inventory of projects that can then be prioritized and phased into a holistic action plan for park improvements.

To ensure that the City properly addresses the opportunities and issues relating to the operation of Brackenridge Park, the Office of Historic Preservation will hire a consultant for the approximate amount of \$150,000.00 to reconcile the Brackenridge Park Master Plan, the Brackenridge Park Conservancy Cultural Landscape Plan, and other plans related to Brackenridge Park and the surrounding area.

Funding for the project through the Midtown TIRZ was approved by Council on May 18, 2023. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on May 19, 2023, in the San Antonio Hart Beat, the City's website, the Texas Electronic State Business Daily, on TVSA, and through the online bidding website SAePS. Responses were due on June 20, 2023, and one (1) submittal was received from Ford, Powell & Carson Architects & Planners, Inc. A selection committee consisting of representatives from the City Manager's Office and Office of Historic Preservation, Parks and Recreation Department, Brackenridge Park Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy evaluated and ranked the submissions and scored the submittals. Scoring was based on the published evaluation criteria, which included Experience, Background, Qualifications, Proposed Plan, Price, Small Business Economic Development Advocacy Program, Local Preference (LPP) Ordinance and Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) Preference Program.

ISSUE:

This ordinance approves a Professional Services Agreement with Ford, Powell & Carson Architects & Planners, Inc to produce a Reconciled Plan and Project Inventory for Brackenridge Park in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00

The Brackenridge Park Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be engaged throughout the process and provide feedback on the reconciliation plan and priority project list. The consultant will also develop a comprehensive public engagement campaign and incorporate public input throughout the process. A diversity, equity, and inclusion evaluation (DEI) methodology will also be developed, based on public input as well as established means of addressing DEI issues, to ensure that proposed projects are equitable, inclusive and supportive of diverse viewpoints.

Staff will provide a briefing on the Reconciliation Plan and Project Inventory prior to finalization.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should City Council not approve the award to the selected consultant, the project would not move forward and efforts to reconcile the previous plans for Brackenridge Park and develop a project inventory through public input would cease.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes a Professional Service Agreement with Ford, Powell & Carson Architects & Planners, Inc to produce a Reconciled Plan and Project Inventory for Brackenridge Park in the amount in the amount of \$150,000.00. Funding is available from the Midtown TIRZ, authorized by Ordinance #23-191086. There is no anticipated impact to the City's General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Professional Services Agreement with Ford, Powell & Carson Architects & Planners, Inc to produce a Reconciled Plan and Project Inventory for Brackenridge Park.