

1 The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at Seabrook Public Works
2 and Animal Control Complex Training Room, 1100 Red Bluff Road, Seabrook, Texas to discuss
3 and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.
4

5 THOSE PRESENT WERE:

6 Sally Antrobus		Chair
7 David Popken	- Ex. Absence	Vice-Chair
8 John Coggeshall		Member
9 Monica Comeaux	- Ex. Absence	Member
10 Debra Harper		Member
11 Heather Cable		Member
12 Sean Landis	- Ex. Absence	Deputy City Manager
13 Kevin Padgett		Public Works Director
14 Brian Craig		City Engineer/Asst. Public Works Director
15 Natalie Stephens		Public Works Administrative Specialist

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17 Chair Sally Antrobus called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

18 **1. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

19 None

20 **2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

21 **2.1 Discuss and recommend future Park CIPs. (Committee/City Staff)**

22 Committee agreed to defer this item until next Open Space and Trails meeting.

23 **2.2 Recognize Helen Burton for her volunteer efforts to the EcoStar Award Tree at City**
24 **Hall.**

25 Committee requested for City Staff to confirm the number of terms Helen Burton served and
26 engrave an EcoStar Tree leaf for every 1-2 terms.

27 **2.3 Feedback on participating in Fall Plant Swap at Clear Lake Park. (Committee)**

28 Committee agreed that participating in Fall Plant Swap would be better timing. City Staff
29 will remain in correspondence for future events.
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31 **2.4 Update Monarchwatch.org Milkweed grant submission approval. (City Staff)**

32 Kevin Padgett, Director of Public Works, requested more details regarding the City of
33 Seabrook's eligibility specifics for the Milkweed grant prior to bringing it to City Council for
34 approval.

35 Chair Antrobus agreed to find details such as the number of milkweed bunches requesting,
36 location mapped for proposed planting area that should not be mowed, clarification if being
37 used for restoration or new planting project.

38 **2.5 Update on grants. (City Staff)**

39 Member Coggeshall updated status of Texas Park and Wildlife trail grant to be in que for
40 final approval. Suggested a City hike event once new trail is in place with pelican pins for
41 participation.

42 Kevin Padgett, Director of Public Works, updated on the Port of Houston Community Grant
43 for the Wildlife Refuge trailhead project. The grant would allow for Wildlife Refuge
44 trailhead embellishment with improving the parking lot, adding park stops, benches and
45 educational signs.

46 **2.6 Discuss Houston Audubon Society recommendations on bird food and feeders to**
47 **provide guidance to City Staff on how to move forward. (City Staff/ Committee)**

48 Houston Audubon Society recommendations encouraged natural bird feeding by way of
49 native plantings rather than bird feeders due to the growing concern of cross contamination
50 and diseases spreading through the bird population. Kevin Padgett, Director of Public
51 Works, confirmed City Staff would not be able to maintain the recommended cleaning and
52 feed schedule of bird feeders. However, City Staff would be able to support native planting
53 as a natural feeding option. Committee discussed ideas and concerns of volunteers not being
54 able to keep up with proper disinfecting of feeders and the possible endangerment to
55 migratory birds and unintentional feeding of wildlife. Committee suggested the planting of
56 mulberry and catberry trees for natural bird feeding.

57 *Motion was made by Member Coggeshall and seconded by Member Cable*

58 *Recommend City focus on providing natural bird feeders and not man made feeders.*

59 *MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*

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61 **2.7 Update on parks' status or issues. (Committee)**

62 Chair Antrobus stated golf carts beginning to be a problem at Carothers Coastal Garden
63 grounds. Committee encouraged signs for no motorized vehicles, Seabrook Police
64 Department to enforce golf cart ordinance, and City gator vehicles be better marked with
65 City logo to not be confused as personal cart. Kevin Padgett, Director of Public Works stated
66 City can place sleeved bollards at trail entrances.

67 **2.8 Update on Volunteer Hours (Committee)**

68 Committee members will submit their monthly volunteer hours to Natalie Stephens for
69 record keeping.

70 **2.9 City Staff update. (City Staff)**

71 City Staff had not additional updates.

72 **2.10 Approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting.**
73 **(Stephens)**

74 *Motion made by Chair Antrobus and seconded by Member Coggeshall*

75 *To approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting.*

76 *MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*

77 **2.11 Establish future meeting dates and agenda items. (Committee)**

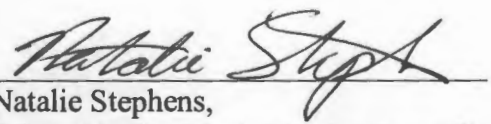
78 The next Open Space & Trails meeting will be held on July 1, 2021.

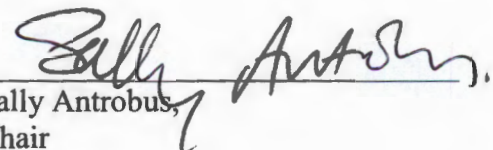
79 By Committee consensus, the following will be added to the June agenda:

- 80 • Discuss Park Master Plans Worksheets for Open Space and Trails committee to
81 recommend projects to be added to CIP.
82 • Discuss Bayside green space and need for bathrooms on Main St.

83 Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

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Natalie Stephens,
Public Works Administrative Specialist


Sally Antrobus,
Chair