




MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Kimberly A. McNeeley, M.Ed., CPRP, Director
Austin Parks and Recreation Department 

DATE: March 1, 2024

SUBJECT: Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park Concept Plan Adoption

The purpose of this memo is to inform you that the Parks and Recreation Department (PAR) has formally adopted the Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park Concept Plan dated November 2023. The concept plan for Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park was developed in partnership with the Austin Parks Foundation, under the guidance of the Park Planning Division, in collaboration with the Friends of Grand Meadow, and with input from the local community.

Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park is an undeveloped ten-acre parcel located in southeast Austin, within the Onion Creek watershed. The parkland is surrounded on three sides by single-family homes and a commercial gas station and convenience store to the west. In 1988, the City of Austin acquired a 6.4-acre parcel, then expanded the park by acquiring two smaller parcels in 2004. Historically used as farmland, this property is relatively flat and contains no critical environmental features. Street trees and sidewalks have been added to 1890 feet of street frontage. Grand Meadow is currently managed as a wildflower meadow and contains a small community-built nature play area, but no other improvements have been made to date.

Beginning in the spring of 2023, the Austin Parks Foundation and PAR organized three community meetings to inform the public of the concept planning process and to collect feedback on preferred amenities. Community meetings were held both virtually and on-site. Public surveys were made available to supplement the feedback received at each meeting. Additional outreach efforts included social media and Nextdoor posts, flyers to nearby homes, stores, and local library, reaching out to community groups, and signage posted in the park itself to announce the meetings and link to surveys. More information on the community meetings and survey results can be found at [Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park Project | AustinTexas.gov](https://www.austintexas.gov/GrandMeadowNeighborhoodParkProject). The community's feedback on the two preliminary concepts and amenity prioritization helped to shape the final concept plan.

Pursuant to the [memo](#) from PAR to the City Council dated January 28, 2019, approval of concept plans for neighborhood parks, pocket parks, and other green spaces (greenbelts, school parks, etc.) is at the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department Director.

In accordance with the established process, I am pleased to approve the Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park Concept Plan, as presented in the attachment. The park design and development will aim to improve the overall health of the parkland and increase the Department's stewardship of the natural environment.

Should you have any questions, please contact my office at (512) 974-6717.

cc: Liana Kallivoka, PhD, PE, LEED Fellow, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Jodi Jay, M.B.A., CPRP, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Lucas Massie, M.Ed., CPRP, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Suzanne Piper, DBA, Chief Administrative Officer, Parks and Recreation Department
Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager, Park Planning, Parks and Recreation Department

Link to Concept Plan Attachment:

[Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park Concept Plan Summary](#)