

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council**August 2, 2011**

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**SUBJECT: GRANT RESTRICTED PARKS**

The purpose of this Informal Report is to summarize the process used to select parks for grant applications and provide information on current grant restricted parks in the park system. In this instance grant restricted parks are those parks which have received grant funds and, as a condition of the grant, the granting agency stipulates that any future revenues derived from the park site must be dedicated to the park system.

BACKGROUND

The Parks and Community Services Department currently has 257 parks totaling 11,596 acres within the City inventory. Sixty-five (65) parks have grant restrictions that encompass approximately 6,026 acres or 52% of public park land. The Nature Center represents more than half of the total park acreage that is restricted due to grant funding. The listing of the grant restricted parks is attached to this report and the grant restricted park locations are depicted on the attached map.

The City's Financial Management Policy addresses "Federal/State Restricted Park Royalties and Fees" in Section I.4.c which states:

Royalties and other fees received from gas leases or license agreements associated with park land that has federal and/or state restrictions for proceeds to be spent within the park system, except for the Nature Center, shall be allocated as follows:

- i. Fifty percent to the Park Gas Lease Project Fund; and*
- ii. Fifty percent to the Park System Endowment Gas Lease Fund.*

It should be noted that the policy applies only to those parks that have received grants that include restrictions. These include grants received from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, National Park Service, and Bureau of Outdoor Recreation or grant programs such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program and the state's Local Park Fund Program. Examples of non-restrictive grants include local agency or private foundation grants and Federal grants from the U. S. Department of Transportation such as the Inter-Model Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Act (CMAQ) grant programs.

PROCESS FOR SELECTING GRANT PROJECTS

The purpose of the grant is largely responsible for determining which project or park site is considered for application. Department staff identifies a number of candidate projects and considers the following in the grant application process:

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- Which project or site most closely fits the criteria for the grant, thus giving the application the greatest chance for success
- Availability of existing matching funds (if required of the grant)
- Which project or site provides the greatest opportunity to leverage existing funding
- Grant specific scoring factors such as projects identified in the Park and Recreation Open Space Master Plan, demographics, ecosystem restoration opportunities, land acquisition, etc.

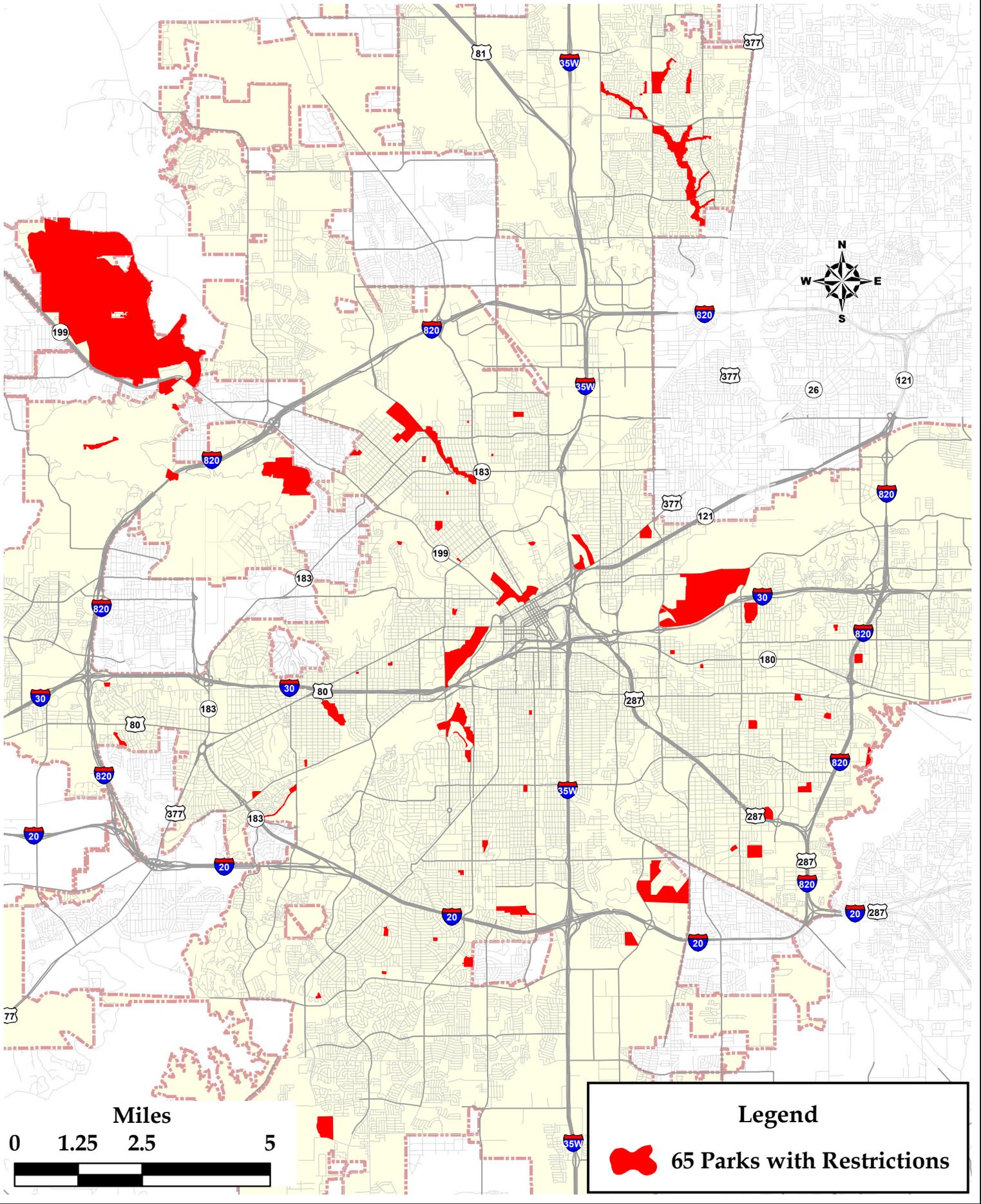
From a holistic perspective, all grants received benefit the entire park system since they allow local resources to be used on other projects. The City has been extremely successful in receiving grant awards during 2010 and 2011. The currently active grant projects are as follows.

Grant	Grant Award	City and Partner Funding	Total
TXDOT Transportation Enhancement Grant			
River Park Trailhead & Westcreek Blvd Trail CD3	\$4,416,100.00	\$1,104,025.00	\$5,520,125.00
\$1,300,675.00			
Quanah Parker Park Connection CD4	\$2,373,065.00		
Oakland Bike Lanes/Sidewalks CD8	\$630,950.00		
Mistletoe Heights Connection CD9	\$1,215,435.00		
 TPWD Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant			
Marine Creek Parks CD2	\$1,000,000.00	\$212,974.67	\$1,212,974.67
TPWD Urban Indoor Recreation Grant			
Far Southwest Community Center CD6	\$1,000,000.00	\$3,663,114.00	\$4,663,114.00
TRWD Grant Cobb Park CD8			
	\$1,000,000.00	\$2,770,070.99	\$3,770,070.99
TPWD Regional Grant Gateway Park CD4	<u>\$2,500,000.00</u>	<u>\$2,500,000.00</u>	<u>\$5,000,000.00</u>
Totals	\$9,916,100.00	\$10,250,184.66	\$20,166,284.66

Should you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Richard Zavala, Parks and Community Services Director at 817-392-5704 or Susan Alanis, Assistant City Manager at 817-392-8180.

Tom Higgins
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 Interim City Manager

Restricted Park Land



Miles

0 1.25 2.5 5



Legend



65 Parks with Restrictions

Restricted Parkland by Council District

Grant Restricted Parks by Council District as of July 27, 2011		
Park Name	Council District	Acreage
Arneson Park	2	0.44
Buck Sansom Park	2	131.6
Diamond Hill Park	2	9.88
Far Northside Park	2	3.44
Greenway Park	2	15.977
Heritage Park	2	112
Lincoln Park	2	7
Maddox Park	2	0.96
Marine Creek Linear Park	2	48.161
Marine Creek Linear Park North	2	7.83
Marine Park	2	12
Ninnie Baird Park(Heritage Addition)	2	15.527
North Park	2	48.637
Northside Park	2	15
Paz Hernandez Park (La Loma Park)	2	0.38
Riverside Park	2	30.8
Rodeo Park	2	5.3
Rosen Park	2	8.8
Terry Park	2	0.43
Ridglea Hills Park	3	6.1
River Park	3	11.63
Stephens Park	3	4
Western Hills Park	3	17.89
Arcadia Park	4	271.306
Eastern Hills Park	4	3
Gateway	4	503.7
Sylvania Park	4	29.22
Eastover Park	5	13.5
Eugene McCray Park	5	6.07
Fairfax Park	5	4
Handley Park	5	15.45
Martin Luther King Park	5	5.78
McDonald Park	5	13.85
Prairie Dog Park	5	39.56
Rosedale Plaza Park	5	6.25
Village Creek Park	5	24.31
Ben H. Rosenthal Park	6	1.53
Little People Park	6	2.9
Southwest Community Park	6	76.697
Southwest Park	6	1.8
Wedgwood Park	6	6.66
Westcreek Park(Southwest Hills Park)	6	17
Arrow S Park	7	37.8

Restricted Parkland by Council District

Casino Beach Park	7	44
Como Center Park	7	1.2
Crestwood Park	7	2
Lake Como Park	7	59.1377
Marion Sansom Park	7	9
Nature Center (Greer Island)	7	3621.975
Thomas Place Park	7	2.76
Thorny Ridge Park	7	3.76
Wright-Tarlton	7	0.7
Highland Hills Park	8	28.659
Meadowood Park	8	1.75
Normandy Place Park	8	1.5
Oakland Lake Park	8	69
Rolling Hills Park	8	207.293
Capps Park	9	4.41
Fire Station Park (Mid-Southside Park)	9	1.7
Forest Park (Zoo Area Only)	9	58.53
Greenbriar Park	9	48.95
Jefferson Davis Park	9	6.5
Linwood Park	9	4
Traders Oak Park	9	3.277
Trinity Park	9	252
	Total Acres	6026.267