



April 16, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of the City Council of Beaumont to express our full endorsement and support for securing grant funding for Phase II of the Stewart Park Improvement Project through the Outdoor Legacy Recreation Program (ORLP).

The City Council is committed to advancing the revitalization of Stewart Park, a key initiative aligning with the City of Beaumont's Strategic Plan Goal Target #5: Quality of Life/Well-Being and Goal #7: Complete Stewart Park. Our city takes pride in offering parks and recreation services that cater to the diverse needs of every citizen. To further enhance the quality of life for our residents and accommodate the growth of our community, Beaumont has embarked on a comprehensive renovation of Stewart Park located in downtown Beaumont.

This renovation is the most significant undertaking for the 11-acre park since its acquisition and development in 1939. Phase II of the project includes essential amenities such as multi-generational playground equipment, basketball/pickleball courts, a stage, group picnic shelters, skate park improvements, tiled entry plazas, accessible pathways, and additional landscaping enhancements. With the design for this phase now 100% complete, we are eager to proceed with the implementation of these improvements. Stewart Park will be transformed into a dynamic destination for families of all ages, offering recreational opportunities and fostering a sense of community.

In our pursuit of securing grant funding for this pivotal project, I am pleased to inform you that the Community Services Department is taking proactive measures by reallocating funds from other projects to fulfill the City's required match. This strategic initiative not only ensures compliance with the grant requirement but also optimizes the utilization of our internal resources. A comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) amendment detailing this reallocation will be presented to City Council on May 7, 2024.

Given the total estimated cost of Phase II amounting to approximately \$6.2M, the City Council recognizes the importance of securing external funding to complement our investment in this project. Therefore, we fully endorse the approach of seeking grant funding to cover 50% of the project costs, with the City providing a matching contribution.

Thank you for considering our application for grant funding, and we look forward to the opportunity to collaborate with the National Parks Association on this transformative initiative.

Sincerely,

David Fenn
Mayor