



Meeting Minutes

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

5:30 PM City Hall 1201 Leopard St. Basement Training Room.

SPECIAL MEETING

A. Call To Order/Roll Call

Chair Lindsey called the meeting to order and a quorum was established.

B. Public Comment

Shirley Thorton, District 4 (Flour Bluff), gave background information how initial discussions took place for proposing a future park near the Holly Trestle Trail project. She stated she has been very involved in Area Development Planning for this area. The piece of land in question is currently owned by Corpus Christi Water (CCW) which included a water tower. It has been discovered that there could be a potential sale of this land. With this information, Ms. Thorton stated the idea of using this land as a "natural space" came about. She brought up the future parking lot that will be constructed with the trail project. She stated the location of the parking lot needs to remain near "The Grove" as this is a current trail head.

Katie Sutton, District 4, stated she lives in the Shoreline Vista subdivision which is next to the Trestle Trail Project and is a member of the Flour Bluff Citizens Council. She stated this Council has been very vocal in communicating this project to local community members. She stated they have received much positive feedback regarding a new park near the trail project. The nearest park is miles away from Shoreline Vista and is approximately a 15-minute walk. She informed the Committee that letters of support for a new park have been submitted to the Parks & Recreation Department from the Home Owner's Association of Shoreline Vista and Shoreline Oaks. She feels a park would be beneficial to the Trestle Project as the addition of another residential subdivision in the area will be completed soon. She stated the local neighborhood children have to cross Flour Bluff Drive from their neighborhoods to commute to the nearest park. She said this creates safety concerns as Flour Bluff Drive will be converted to five lanes of traffic.

Flo East, District 4, spoke on the subject of the future Holly Trestle Trail project. She is opposed to the idea of a new park to be placed near the project. She stated that a park should not be placed near an Industrial/Commercially zoned area. She added that the City already has many parks to maintain and a new park should not be added to that list. She also mentioned the subject of a planned parking lot that is part of the project's scope.

Brian Musfeloe, Corpus Christi, addressed the Committee and expressed his support of

the Holly Trestle Trail project and as an Educator, thinks it would be beneficial to eventually assign this area with a Historical Marker. He stated that he utilizes the Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve for school events. Although he is in favor of this project, he noted this area has camps with unhoused people and also mentioned safety concerns regarding street connectivity/pedestrian access.

Mikel McGrath, District 4, stated that he owns property adjacent to the land owned by Corpus Christi Water and has considered purchasing the land to extend his business. He has considered this purchase as a proactive decision as he fears that he will experience vandalism or theft.

C. Chair Remarks

Chair Lindsey remarked that she called for this Special Meeting to serve as an informative public gathering to create a general understanding of the project scope for the Holly Trestle Trail project. Since the last PRAC meeting of July 9, 2026, there has been a misunderstanding of how the topic of a proposed future park near this project was initiated. A proposed future park is not part of the project's scope. There is also confusion as to where a planned parking lot will be placed which is part of the project's scope.

Adelita Cavada, City Attorney, added that the Holly Trestle Trail is not currently under the purview of this Committee since it is not an asset to Parks & Recreation. The specific piece of property in question is not currently a park nor is it owned by Parks & Recreation. Therefore, PRAC cannot make any recommendations.

D. Unfinished Business for Discussion

1. [26-1170](#) Discussion Regarding a Proposed Park & Parking Lot for the Proposed Holly Trestle Trail Project

Robert Dodd, Parks & Recreation Department, began discussion on this item by making a statement to help with transparency in communication. He explained that per Chair Lindsey's requests, updates regarding the Holly Trestle Trail Project were discussed at the following meetings: December 2025; January, April, May & July of 2026. Minimal discussions took place regarding a proposed future park for this project which has no current means of funding. No stakeholder meetings have taken place regarding the specific piece of property which is not owned by Parks & Recreation. Therefore, a proposed future park is not on the radar for the Parks & Recreation Department.

Ratna Pottumuthu, Assistant Director of Engineering, presented item "1" for the record. She began the presentation with the project description. The project is located on the west side of Oso Bay along Division Road to Flour Bluff Drive, and along Flour Bluff Drive from Division Road to Don Patricio Road, and a pedestrian bridge across Oso Bay using existing pilings from the abandoned train trestle bridge. The trail across the bay will be approximately 0.67 of one mile. She then went over the history of how the project is funded and the current status of the project completion timeline. She also explained what

the project includes: Construction of a 15-foot trail, 10-foot solar light installation, parking lot, storm water drainage improvements and updated signage & signalization. Based on funding availability, there could be potential to add a kayak launch, fish cleaning station and trail connectivity to Holly Road.

Ms. Pottumuthu then explained how the decision was initiated to revise design plans to move the parking lot from its original location. The location of the parking lot has been moved from the original location at the CCW property (off Division Road) and will now be placed near The Grove at the intersection of Flour Bluff Drive & Division Road. Vice Chair Cronnon expressed that this decision is what has caused much of the confusion amongst the community. PRAC was informed of this decision but it happened very quickly and the reasoning was not clear. He felt that the location change of the parking lot got conflated with the idea of a "park" being placed at the CCW property instead. Ms. Pottumuthu explained that the location of the parking lot was changed after public input was received from the Flour Bluff Citizen's Council. They feel that the location by The Grove is more accessible and visible. Ms. Pottumuthu explained that this decision was made in haste as the Engineering Department is working with very tight deadlines as design plans for the Trestle Trail are near 90% completion.

Ms. Pottumuthu finished the presentation with a line item description of the estimated project cost and project schedule. The project schedule reflects City Council award for construction in July 2027, with an anticipated construction completion by November 2028.

No action was taken on this item.

E. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.