



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING  
CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
550 LANDA ST**



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM**

**JOINT MEETING WITH RIVER ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A) Discuss and consider approval of the September 12, [23-1366](#)  
2023 Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory  
Board.

**4. RECOGNITIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A) October Recognitions and Announcements [23-1365](#)

**5. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

*This time is for citizens to address the Park and Recreation Advisory Board on issues and items of concerns not on this agenda. There will be no Board action at this time.*

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

- A) 2023 River Season Report [23-1358](#)

**7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

- A) Discuss Extension of Paid Parking to Guadalupe River [23-1359](#)  
Parks
- B) Discuss Ordinance Update to Add City Tube Chute Park [23-1360](#)  
Weekend Hours
- C) Discuss and Consider Comal River Application for a [23-1361](#)  
National Water Trail
- D) Discuss and Consider Adding Pickleball Striping at the [23-1364](#)  
Prince Solms Tennis Courts.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify the above Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the New Braunfels City Hall.

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Board Liaison

NOTE: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, or large print, are requested to contact the City Secretary's Office at 221-4010 at least two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.



## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Agenda Item Report**

550 Landa Street  
New Braunfels, TX

**10/17/2023**

Agenda Item No. A)

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**PRESENTER:**

Chad Donegan, Director

**SUBJECT:**

Discuss and consider approval of the September 12, 2023 Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

**DISCUSSION:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
CITY HALL  
550 Landa St**

**Tuesday, Sept 12, 2023, at 6:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Joe Turner called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Board members present: Joe Turner, Tom Blagg, Katie Rae Preston, Jason Vreeland, Amber Brown

Board members absent:

Staff members present: Geronimo Aguirre, Recreation Manager; Jeff Bransford, Park Development Manager; Shannon Jackson, Parks Analyst

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Consider approving the minutes of regular meeting of July 11, 2022.*

Jason Vreeland made a motion to approve the minutes; Katie Rae Preston seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Noel Koenig, Recreation Supervisor, left the city on July 21<sup>st</sup> to start a new position with the Texas Renaissance Festival. Samantha Morrison has transitioned from the Fischer Park Assistant Supervisor to the Landa Recreation Supervisor.

Kristen Carden resigned from the Board in early September due to her other commitments. Her contribution to the Board will be greatly missed.

A dedication will be held on October 21<sup>st</sup> to designate the Landa Park Founders' Oak as a Comanche Council Oak during the annual Arbor Day Celebration.

**CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

- Judy Mares spoke on the need for outdoor pickleball courts. She met with Chad at the Zipp Sports Complex Open House. Seguin has built a 9-court complex. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America for 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. Ms. Mares is making an official request for outdoor courts in New Braunfels. Her suggestion would be to share the Prince Solms Tennis Courts.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Parks Capital Projects Update**

- Scott McClelland gave an update on the Parks projects currently under way.
- Alligator Creek Trail: working on the spurs to connect to neighborhoods and Goodwin Lane. A public open house was held in June, 57 participants attended, 18 comments were recorded.
- Dry Comal Segment 1: Currently working on rights-of-way, funded in design by EDC. Coordination with Union Pacific to go underneath the train bridge is awaiting permitting. 80% construction funded through AAMPO and scheduled for 2025. A public meeting was held on Aug 24. There were 107 participants and 42 written comments received. Feasibility study and design on segments 2&3 funded by EDC but no funding identified for construction.
- Zipp Sports Complex: EDC will fund additional \$3.5 million, final design changes are in progress, anticipate construction start in late 2023. 700 parking spots projected.

- Mission Hill Park Phase 2: RFQ to be advertised in Sept-Oct.

#### DISCUSSION AND ACTION

- A. Discussion and appointment of Vice Chair
  - a. Jason Vreeland was unanimously appointed to the position of Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- B. Discussion and date selection for October Meeting
  - a. The committee voted to move the next meeting date to October 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Summer wrap-up
- River wrap-up

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm.

Approved on October 17, 2023, by:

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Joe Turner, Chair

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Chad Donegan, Director

| Member            | Current Term        | Regular & Special Meetings<br>Held 12/22-12/23 | Attended | Missed |
|-------------------|---------------------|--|----------|--------|
| Joe Turner        | 10/16/18 – 11/30/24 | 6  | 5        | 1      |
| Tom Blagg         | 10/16/18 – 11/30/25 | 6  | 6        | 0      |
| Katie Rae Preston | 10/20/20 – 10/13/23 | 6  | 6        | 0      |
| Jason Vreeland    | 10/20/20 – 10/13/23 | 6  | 6        | 0      |
| Amber Brown       | 12/1/21 – 11/30/24  | 6  | 6        | 0      |

**10/17/2023**

Agenda Item No. A)

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**PRESENTER:**

Chad Donegan, Director

**SUBJECT:**

October Recognitions and Announcements

**DISCUSSION:**

Chad Donegan selected as the new Parks and Recreation Director.

Arbor Day Foundation & Meritage Home Tree Planting Event at Prince Solms Disc Golf Course - October 13th  
Dos Rios River Clean up held on October 14<sup>th</sup>

**Upcoming Events:**

Soul Searching - October 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

Community Arbor Day and Founders' Oak Dedication - October 21<sup>st</sup>

Fischer Park Monarch Festival - October 21<sup>st</sup>

Zipp Family Sports Park Groundbreaking - October 25<sup>th</sup>

Downtown Spooktacular - October 26th

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**10/17/2023**

Agenda Item No. A)

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**PRESENTER:**

Amy Niles, River and Watershed Manager

**SUBJECT:**

2023 River Season Report

**DISCUSSION:**

Presentation of the 2023 river season and what is upcoming for the 2024 river season. Staff will also provide any feedback that was given by City Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

10/17/2023

Agenda Item No. A)

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**PRESENTER:**

Amy Niles, River and Watershed Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Discuss Extension of Paid Parking to Guadalupe River Parks

**DISCUSSION:**

Staff has been tasked to consider paid parking at Cypress Bend Park and on Fair Lane next to River Acres Park. Staff is looking for feedback from the River Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on how much to charge at each location, if the resident parking pass should be eligible, and any additional considerations that members may have. After this discussion staff will put together a proposal for the River Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to consider before going to City Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

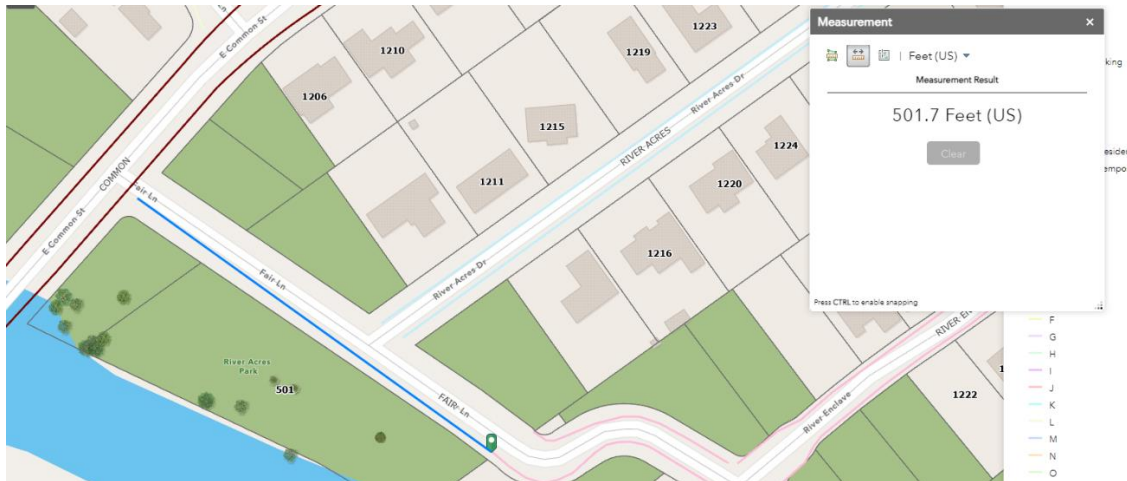
Staff recommends charging \$10 to park at each location and allowing the Resident Parking Pass to be used at both locations.

# Potential Paid Parking Options in Guadalupe River Parks

## River Acres

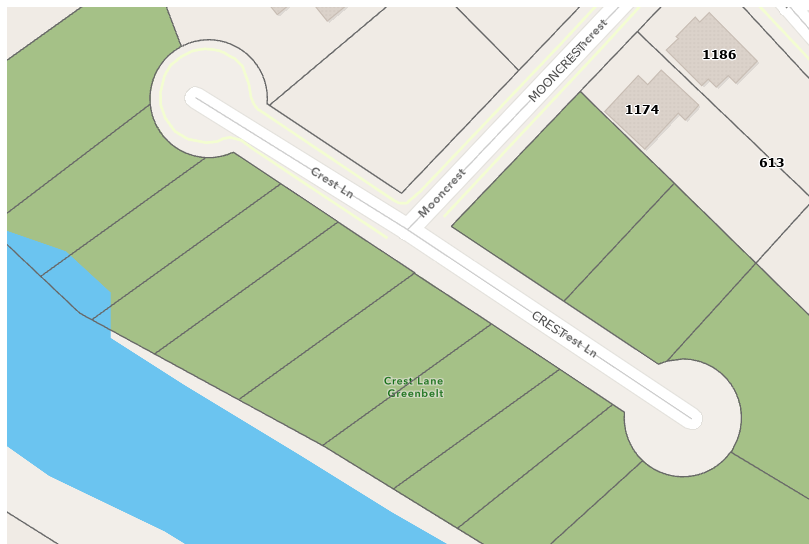
- River Acres has about 500 feet of parking space from the entrance to the resident parking by permit zone.
- The opposite side of Fair Ln. has tow away signs posted.
- Parallel parking spaces are between 22-26 feet. 20-22 spots could fit.
- Resident Parking Pass would be valid at this location.

20 spaces x \$10/space x 125 paid parking days = \$25,000



## Possible Challenges

- Confusion with Parking by Permit and Resident Parking Pass
- Available parking across Common Street on Crest Lane



## Potential Paid Parking Options in Guadalupe River Parks

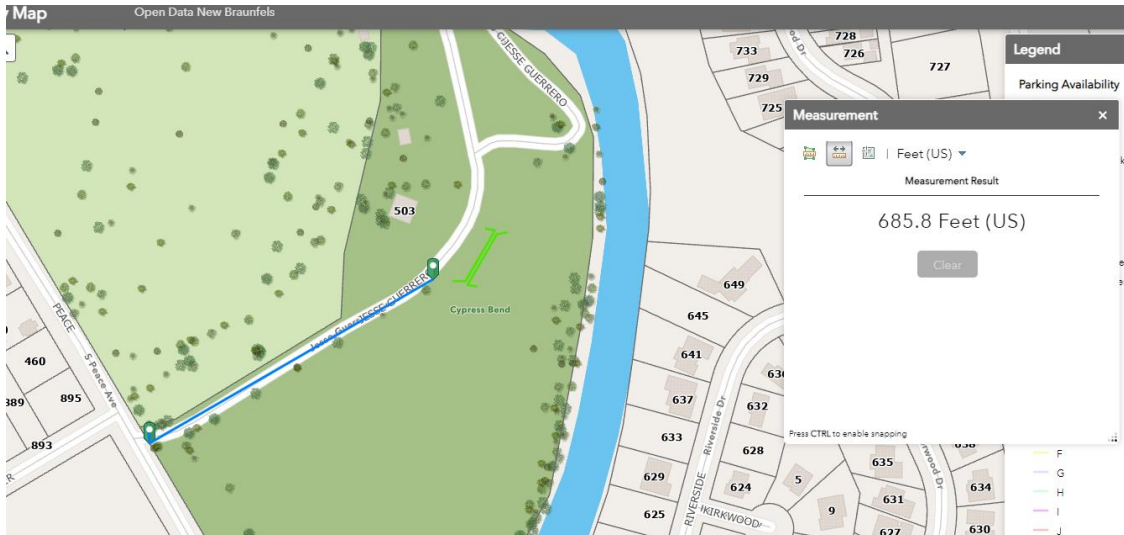
### Cypress Bend

- The first parking lot in Cypress Bend has 15 parking spaces + 1 space designated for unloading and loading water vessels. Total = 15 available spaces
- The second parking lot including the spots that are by the playscape has 36 parking spaces + 5 handicap spots. Total = 41
- Resident Parking Pass would be valid for all of Cypress Bend.

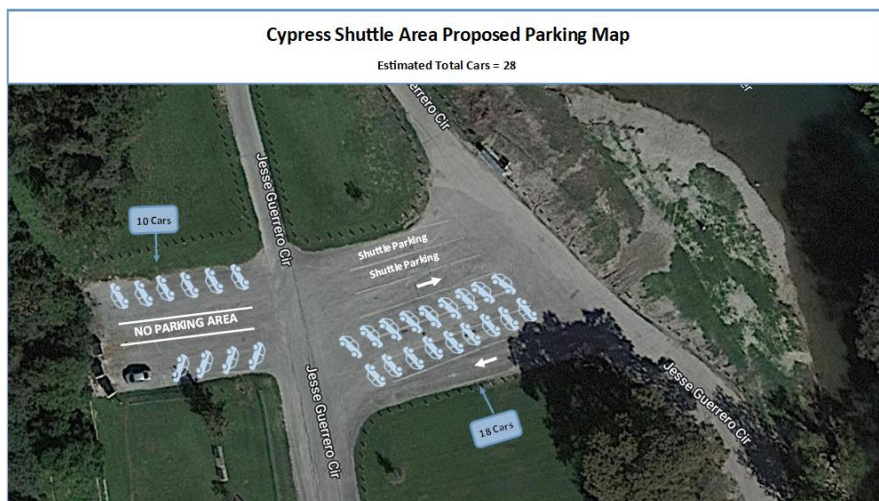
56 spaces x \$10/space x 125 paid parking days = \$70,000

### Possible Additions:

- Street parking on Jesse Guerrero could not be paid parking unless it is striped, and currently cars park partway on the road and partway in the grass.
  - o Cypress Bend from the park's entrance to the parking lot before the turn around is about 685 feet.
    - Additional 27 spaces possible
    - 27 spaces x \$10/space x 125 paid parking days = \$33,750



- Possible restriping in the shuttle zone to reallocate spaces for people to park at premium \$20/space
  - o Proposed 28 spaces
  - o 28 spaces x \$20/space x 125 paid parking days = \$70,000



10/17/2023

Agenda Item No. B)

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**PRESENTER:**

Amy Niles, River and Watershed Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Discuss Ordinance Update to Add City Tube Chute Park Weekend Hours

**DISCUSSION:**

For the last two river seasons the City of New Braunfels has closed the City Tube Chute Park at 7pm on summer weekends. This change was put into place to address concerning behavior and trends identified by the New Braunfels Police Department. The River Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will discuss what the closing time of the City Tube Chute Park should be, and when it should apply.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends an ordinance change to make the City Tube Chute Park closing time at 7 p.m in the City's code of ordinances on weekends between Memorial Day Weekend and Labor Day, and Independence Day.

10/17/2023

Agenda Item No. C)

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**PRESENTER:**

Amy Niles, River and Watershed Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Discuss and Consider Comal River Application for a National Water Trail

**DISCUSSION:**

The National Water Trails System (NWTs) is a program through the National Park Service and is a sub-set of their National Recreation Trails Program (NRT). This system is a network of water trails across America that are open to the public to explore and enjoy. It serves as a community of water resource managers that can collaborate and share information with the intent to protect and restore the health of local waterways, promote the development of water trails, and increase access to outdoor water recreation.

Criteria for NWT designation: the trail must be open to public use, have no gaps, and be designed, constructed, and maintained according to seven best management practices: Recreation Opportunities, Education, Restoration, Community Support, Public Information, Trail Maintenance, and Planning.

Benefits of being accepted as an NWTs include prestige and increased visibility as being part of a National Trails System. Successful National Water Trails also receive a letter and a certificate designating their trail as an NRT, but they are entitled to use the NWTs logo and signs in appropriate settings and trail publications. Plastic NRT logo signs are also available free of charge (metal signs can be purchased for a fee). All NRTs and NWTs are included in the online searchable database of trails.

**Other benefits:**

- Access to technical assistance from NRT Program partners.
- Periodic electronic newsletters with program updates, newsworthy activities, technical information, and innovative solutions to trail issues from around the country.
- Access to an e-mail news group for NRT managers only to receive updates on funding, resources, and technical assistance opportunities.
- Access to networking and training opportunities.
- Assistance with recognition and special events highlighting the trail.
- Trail markers with the NRT logo for your trail.
- Letters of support for fundraising and trail protection efforts.
- Access to update online trail information in the online NRT database.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends submitting an application to make the Comal River a National Water Trail.

## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Agenda Item Report**

**10/17/2023**

Agenda Item No. D)

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**PRESENTER:**

Chad Donegan, Director

**SUBJECT:**

Discuss and Consider Adding Pickleball Striping at the Prince Solms Tennis Courts.

**DISCUSSION:**

Multiple requests have been made to the Parks Department to add outdoor pickleball courts. Staff has monitored use of the Prince Solms Tennis Courts for several weeks to observe court usage. Usage indicates that two of the four courts could be striped to allow for pickleball on the courts.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends moving forward with striping two tennis courts at the Prince Solms Tennis Courts for pickleball.