



Grant Application to the National Recreation & Park Association for Heart Your Park Volunteer Days

City Council Meeting
July 15, 2025



Background



- The Parks & Recreation Department has been a grant recipient of the Heart Your Park grant from 2018 – 2024 (excluding 2020 due to COVID).
- This grant aims to support building coastal communities that may be impacted by natural disasters by investing in enhancements in local parks.
- This grant has been beneficial in expanding community engagement opportunities, educating the community on the importance of conserving/preserving & improving park lands that benefit people and wildlife.
- Throughout the years, Heart Your Park events have been conducted at Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve, Doddridge Park & the Hans Suter Wildlife Refuge.
- These events include general park clean ups, beautification & educational signage.



Grant Objectives



- Engage 100 community volunteers in a total of 200 hours of work to conserve/restore public park lands/resources through a minimum of three total events.
- Conserve and restore two acres of public park land for wildlife/people.
- Conduct local community outreach through web, social media, and local press release for promotion.
- Provide opportunities for corporate employees and individuals to contribute to the Project through hands-on volunteer activities and/or educational experiences.



Heart Your Park Event 2024



Hans & Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge at 909 Ennis Joslin Road



Heart Your Park 2025 will include Blucher Nature Park, Hans & Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge, Schanen Park, West Guth Park & the Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve.



Recommendation



- Staff recommend approval of the Ordinance accepting & appropriating grant funds from the National Recreation & Park Association for the Heart Your Park Volunteer Days.