



**CITY OF
CORPUS CHRISTI**

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of February 10, 2026

DATE: February 10, 2026

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

FROM: Robert Dodd, Director of Parks & Recreation Department
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Service Agreement for Trail Improvements at Hans & Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge

CAPTION:

Motion authorizing execution of a six-month service agreement with April L. Trejo dba Alice Lawn Care, of Orange Grove, Texas, in the amount of \$148,780.80 to resurface the existing asphalt trail at Hans & Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge, with FY 2026 funding from the Parks and Recreation Grants Fund.

SUMMARY:

This motion authorizes a six-month service agreement for trail improvement works at the Hans & Pat Suter Park located at 6001 Ennis Joslin Road. The existing asphalt trail will be resurfaced and converted into an 8-foot-wide, ADA accessible trail. The enhanced trail will provide pedestrian & bicycle safety while also increasing resiliency to sustain inclement weather; promote nature-based recreation/tourism programs.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Hans & Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge is a well-known park for observing and exploring the diverse, coastal ecosystem of Oso Bay. The Refuge serves as an important resource for tourism, education, and recreation. The Refuge has a 1.3-mile nature trail and an 800-foot boardwalk which allows remarkable views of the bay, grassy marshes, woodlands, and mudflats. The Refuge is a highly visited park and is popular among birdwatchers and local conservation groups.

A strategy recommended in the 10-year Parks & Recreation Master Plan includes building partnerships with birding businesses to promote birding activities and tours. The Refuge provides a unique opportunity to use the area's natural resources for a successful, nature-based recreation and tourism program. Nature-based recreation and tourism strategies can strengthen economic development.

In 2023, the Parks & Recreation Department submitted a proposal to the Human Uses Team program of the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program (CBBEP) for necessary improvements for the Refuge. The Human Uses Team program is involved in various initiatives to promote conservation and preservation in the community, including the Coastal Bird Program, Land Conservation & Stewardship Program, and Education. CBBEP confirmed that the proposed submittal was approved by the CBBEP Board of Directors. On January 9, 2024, City Council accepted a grant totaling \$346,991, which was appropriated to Parks and Recreation Grants. There was no fiscal impact as the City was not responsible for providing an in-kind match.

The proposal included shoreline stabilization improvements and repairs of the current asphalt trail. Shoreline improvements were prioritized in the project timeline because erosion posed a hazard along the trail's edge, where sections had collapsed or been washed away. The Parks & Recreation's in-house crew completed the shoreline improvements in December 2025 at a cost of \$74,730.34. The remaining balance of \$272,260.26 will be allocated for the repair of the existing asphalt trail.

The most recent improvements to the asphalt trail occurred in the fall of 2025. The trail will be repaved with asphalt to minimize the impact to the area by reducing the amount of disturbance to the ground and preserving the surrounding nature. The construction of the 1.3-mile existing nature trail has been divided into three sections, beginning at the south end parking lot near the playground and ending at the north end parking lot.

Description	Trail Length	UNIT	QTY	Total Price
Priority Area 1	1,800 ft x 8 ft (14,400 square ft)	LS	1	\$70,848.00
Priority Area 2	1,080 ft x 8 ft (8,8640 square ft)	LS	1	\$42,508.80
Priority Area 3	900 ft x 8 ft (7,200 square feet)	LS	1	\$35,424.00
				Total \$148,780.80

Construction will be carried out in phases to minimize disruption to recreational activities while ensuring the safety and efficiency of the project. The project is anticipated to be completed by the end of Spring 2026.

PROCUREMENT DETAIL:

Finance & Procurement conducted a Request for Bid (RFB) Process to obtain bids. The city received seven responsive, responsible bids. The apparent low bidder, Heidelberg Resources, upon discussion, found their bid did not include the 4ft of sub-base. They stated they would be unable to do the work for the bid price and therefore withdrew their bid. Staff is recommending the award to the next lowest, responsive, responsible bidder, Alice Lawn Care of Orange Grove.

ALTERNATIVES:

Mayor and City Council may choose not to approve the service agreement. However, not approving the service agreement will further delay the completion of this project and may cause the City to lose the funding that was supplied by a grant from Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries. An incomplete project could potentially impact future grant funding rewards from CBBEP.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact will be to the FY26 Parks and Recreation Grants fund in the amount of \$148,780.80.

FUNDING DETAIL:

Fund: 1067 Parks & Recreation Grant Fund
Department: 27 - Parks and Recreation Department
Organization/Activity: 89 Grants & CIP Org/ 823203F Han & Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge
Project # **(CIP Only):** N/A
Account: 530000 Professional Services
Amount: \$148,780.80

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this motion authorizing the agreement with Alice Lawn Care for a new asphalt trail at Hans & Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Presentation
Service Agreement
Bid Tabulation