

1 The Open Space and Trails Committee met in teleconference session on Thursday, January 7, 2021
2 to discuss and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.

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4 **THOSE PRESENT WERE:**

5 Helen Burton	Chair
6 Sally Antrobus	Vice-Chair
7 John Coggeshall	Member
8 Monica Comeaux	Member
9 Debra Harper – arrived 5:02	Member
10 David Popken – arrived 5:15	Member
11 Heather Cable	Member
12 Sean Landis	Deputy City Manager
13 Brian Craig	City Engineer/Asst. Public Works Director
14 Stephanie Guerrero	Executive Administrative Assistant

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16 Chair Helen Burton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

17 **1. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

18 Member Coggeshall if City Staff knew what the Port was doing near the trail by Todville.
19 City Staff stated that the Port only mentioned that they are just clearing the area.

20 **2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

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22 **2.1 Discussion on parking and theft at parks. (Committee)**

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24 Deputy City Manager, Sean Landis, presented what City Staff has concluded on the parking
25 lot hazards, as shown on Attachment A. City Staff recommends the removal of the current
26 parking lot and create a new parking area just to the south of the trail head in the wooded
27 area. The new parking lot would have connections to the trail.

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29 The following comments were made from the Committee:

- 30 • It would be a shame to intrude upon the thick vegetation screen that separates the trail
31 from the road.
- 32 • Is there an opportunity to consider parking on the other side of the creek? There is
33 considerable widths at the sides of the road before the park fence. Is that County
34 land? This area is already open.
- 35 • Another issue faced is that people coming from the little parking area are precluding
36 paying for entrance to Pine Gully Park.
- 37 • The purpose of this item is more safety then collecting money at the gate.
- 38 • Staff would recommend leaving a buffer between the parking lot and trail. This
39 parking lot would be tucked in.

- Creating this new parking will take away land for the wildlife.
- A wood fence may help with the safety issue.
- Another option to consider is parking at the corner of Pine Gully Road.
- Reaching out to the Port about the parking issue is an option to consider.
- Member Coggeshall opposed to building a new parking lot.

2.2 Discussion on grants. (Committee)

Member Coggeshall stated the donation of 100 5-gallon trees from Apache have been planted all around the City. The tree planting day took place on January 2, 2021 and it was a very successful event.

2.3 Update on the edible forest. (City Staff)

The edible forest went as planned. Staff was on-site to make sure they stayed within the boundaries. There are plastic buckets under the trees that are a part of the edible forest.

2.4 Establish future meeting dates and agenda items. (Committee)

The next meeting will be held on February 4, 2021.

A discussion item for Keep Texas Beautiful will be added to the next agenda.

Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Helen Burton

Helen Burton,
Chair

Stephanie Guerrero

Stephanie Guerrero,
Executive Administrative Assistant

Add/Remove Parking spaces to reduce tree disturbance.
Removal of lower canopy can be considered; maintain at least
10' separation between parking space and tree trunks.

ATTACHMENT A

Remove parking area

