



# GOAL #1: Create optimal playing conditions on all athletic fields that prioritizes safety and playability that will attract tournaments and increase league play.

## Initiatives

- (1.2.09) Upgrade and renovate existing sports fields.
  - **2024 Recap**
    - Completed installation of new foul poles and goal post
    - Ordered new bleachers for Winter's soccer
    - Repaired Audubon Soccer after paintball
    - Implement robust fertilization & chem program on all athletic fields
    - Continued consistent maintenance on all sports fields
    - Completed soccer goal renovation and signage upgrades
    - Installed fence and walkways at Winters soccer
  - **2025 Work Plan**
    - Install new scoreboards at Winter's Softball
    - Install new metal dugout covers on all fields
    - Continue irrigation upgrades and prioritize irrigation repairs on all athletic fields
    - Get irrigation on South pitch functional
    - Continue consistent maintenance on all sport fields (lip renovation on all fields is currently underway)
    - Continue to work with Athletics and the leagues to provide high quality playing environments



## **GOAL #1: Create optimal playing conditions on all athletic fields that prioritizes safety and playability that will attract tournaments and increase league play.**

### **Focus Areas**

- **Enhanced Quality of Life through Amenities, Arts and Events.**
- **Well-Maintained City Infrastructure**

### **Initiatives**

- (1.2.09) Upgrade and renovate existing sports fields.

### **Destination**

- Provide places, spaces, and facilities that foster a strong sense of community while enriching the lives of residents and visitors.

### **Actions**

- Invest in renewing and modernizing amenities.
- Maintain amenities to ensure they are safe, welcoming, and accessible to all.

### **2025 Work Plan**

- Install new scoreboards at Winter's Softball
- Install new metal dugout covers on all fields
- Complete upgrades to irrigation on athletic fields
- Get irrigation on South pitch functional
- Document and track consistent maintenance on all sport fields (lip renovation on all fields is currently underway)
- Improve partnership with athletics and the leagues to provide high quality playing environments



## GOAL #2: Streamline Parks Operation procedures to optimize resources, maximize the life cycle of all assets, and plan for future growth while controlling cost.

4.5.07 Update Maintenance Operation Manual. (0-2 yrs) 2024

4.5.08 Determine maintenance standards that identify the number of employees required to maintain one acre of parkland and consider these costs when adding parkland to the system. (3-5 yrs.) - *ongoing*

4.4.19 Develop operational KPI's for Parks Division and reporting dashboard. (0-2 yrs.) - 2025

4.4.17 Develop Council adopted maintenance standards and Maintenance Operations Plan. (0-2 yrs.) – *Completed 2022*

1.3.15 Develop an Environmental Best Management Practices (BMPs) Manual of sustainable practices to be employed as part of development and maintenance of parks: (0-2 yrs.) appearance

4.5.05 Streamline the work order process and fully integrate Cartagraph (0-2 yrs.) - *ongoing*

4.5.02 Increase maintenance budget to accommodate new facilities and programs. - *ongoing*

4.5.04 Expand storage capacity for equipment used for maintenance, special events, and programs. - *ongoing*

### ➤ 2024 Recap

- Implemented Cartagraph – *on going*
- Began training on appearance standards – *on going*
- Updated Op's Manual, SOP's, and developed several new plans in preparation for CAPRA Application
- Implement test phase of new operational structure & updating FTE hours
- Partnered with other departments and secured additional storage space/expanding container nursery
- Renewed median mowing & landscape contract, and implemented new park mowing contract
- Developed new Safety and Training Plan



## GOAL #2: Streamline Parks Operation procedures to optimize resources, maximize the life cycle of all assets, and plan for future growth while controlling cost.

### Focus Areas:

- **Future Focused City Organization**

#### ➤ **Destination**

- Utilize technologies and processes to enhance service delivery and internal operations.
- Implement strategic initiatives that further enhance service delivery.

#### ➤ **Actions**

- Deploy analytics tools to track performance metrics in real-time.
- Automate department functions with tools such as AI where applicable.
- Define expectation for meeting on-going service standards.
- Use process improvement methodologies to reduce inefficiencies in service delivery.

#### ➤ **2025 Work Plan**

- Expand Cartagraph so each Division is tracking 100% of work.
- Evaluate and implement new operational strategies and tweak, as necessary.
- Complete quarterly appearance standard trainings and create training plan to re-enforce.
- Implement and track Safety plan.
- Complete analysis of FTE hours and make recommendations.
- Develop KPI's and create dashboard.
- Present budget needs to maintain operational appearance standards, with a focus on new assets.
- Lease autonomous mower for Square & and use as test for other parks.



## GOAL #3: Provide a safe high quality, diversified parks and open space system for all age and interest groups.

### Initiatives

1.2.04 Improve and replace deteriorated and outdated features at all existing parks. (ongoing)

1.2.69 Implement sign plan. (0-5 years)

1.1.16 Install trail markers and emergency signage along all trails with color coding for trail routes and mileage information. (0-2 yrs.) *(Ongoing)*

1.2.57 Add shade in the form of trees and structures around playgrounds and seating areas. *(ongoing)*

4.5.14 Develop and implement comprehensive park turf management program. (0-2 yrs.) *(ongoing)*

4.5.15 Develop and implement comprehensive tree health management program. (0-2 yrs.) *(ongoing)*

### ➤ 2024 Recap

- Installed new signs at the Dog Park, Rick Oden, and Audubon
- Installed new playground at Windsurf Bay
- Installed new directional signs at Spring Creek
- Continue to track and participate in CIP projects
- Continue to treat trees impacted by construction
- Planted 40 trees at Watson Park & gave away 400 with GP&L
- Update UTC map with information for Tree Garland Program
- Began implementation of Tree Garland



## GOAL #3: Provide a safe high quality, diversified parks and open space system for all age and interest groups.

### Focus Areas:

- **Enhanced Quality of Life through Amenities, Arts, and Events**
- **Safe Community**

#### ➤ **Destinations**

- Provide places, spaces, and facilities that foster a strong sense of community while enriching the lives of residents and visitors.
- Strengthen response and recovery actions.
- Enhance preparedness through strategic and proactive measures.

#### ➤ **Actions**

- Invest in renewing and modernizing amenities.
- Maintain amenities to ensure they are safe, welcoming, and accessible to all.
- Provide emergency responders and recovery teams with the latest technology and resources to enhance readiness and efficiency in response and recovery efforts.
- Strengthen support for emergency responders to ensure mental readiness and resilience thereby enhancing overall effectiveness.

#### ➤ **2025 Work Plan**

- Replace park rules signs.
- Support CIP projects by attending meetings, reviewing plans, and staying up to date on project status.
- Install cameras at Rick Oden.
- Install fence at skate park.
- Investigate using 3<sup>rd</sup> party to operate skate park.
- Support Homeless Task Force and look for ways to deter homeless in Parks.
- Treat trees impacted by construction.
- Plant and/or distribute 2,000 trees.
- Expand efforts to attract sponsors.
- Look for additional grant opportunities and apply.



## GOAL #4: Provide a high quality, diversified open space system that preserves and enhances significant environmental resources and features to protect threatened species, preserve habitat, retain migration corridors, preserve natural areas, and protects water resources.

### ➤ Initiatives

- 1.3.10 Restore underused parklands to natural areas, including the reduction or elimination of mowed and irrigated areas, reducing maintenance while improving park experiences.
- 1.3.11 Develop a plan to identify potential spaces for restoration before implementation can begin and include strategies to educate the public on the benefits of restoration. (0-5 yrs.)
- 4.503 Reduce mowing and irrigated areas through nature restoration (meadows, prairies, woodlands, etc.) (0-5 yrs.)
- 4.5.10 Identify features and spaces that are unused and remove them from the system or recommend maintenance reductions.
- 4.5.13 Identify and implement city wide beautification and curb appeal projects (ongoing)
- 1.2.70 Develop park Admin & Greenhouse offices as a native plant demonstration area. (0-2 yrs.)
- 1.3.18 Develop landscaping options that use less water, such as the use of native plants and drip irrigation and advertise examples of these principles for the private sector to mirror. (0-2 yrs.)

### ➤ 2024 Recap

- Transplant trees on future Bob Day Tennis site
- Completed Tree Inventory of Parks
- Continue to reclaim natural areas: Tinsley, Central, Lakewood Tract, Duck Creek
- Upgraded landscaping at the following locations: MSMB, City Hall, Courts, Animal Services, all PD property
- Implemented the first year of a wildflower program
- Cleaned up from May storm





**GOAL #4: Provide a high quality, diversified open space system that preserves and enhances significant environmental resources and features to protect threatened species, preserve habitat, retain migration corridors, preserve natural areas, and protects water resources.**

### **Focus Areas**

- **Enhanced Quality of Life through Amenities, Arts, and Events**
- **Vibrant Neighborhoods and Commercial Centers**

#### ➤ **Destinations**

- Create dynamic experiences for all ages through diverse programming, events, and services.
- Enhance physical appearance of built environment.
- Foster the creation of the Garland Vibe

#### ➤ **Actions**

- Enhance corridors and gateways.
- Create unique spaces
- Support and expand the opportunities for health and wellness, learning, creativity, arts, culture, heritage and fun.

#### ➤ **2025 Work Plan**

- Implement and expand wildflower program
- Upgrade landscaping and oversee maintenance
  - Health
  - Fire Admin & IT
  - Transfer Station
- Conduct 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Duck Creek Clean Up
- Contract invasive species removal and land clearing in strategic locations





## **GOAL #5: Enhance and expand partnership opportunities with multiple stakeholders to share knowledge, expertise, volunteers and financial resources to help achieve the mission and goals of Garland Parks and Recreation.**

### ➤ **Initiatives**

3.1.12 Develop and implement comprehensive volunteer program. (0-2 yrs)

3.2.10 Collaborate with law enforcement to increase presence in the parks and an improved perception of safety for park users.

3.2.21 Explore opportunities to partner with private entities, including homeowners associations, for the development of park features and trails on their properties, allowing for improvements currently without. (ongoing)

3.2.23 Contribute to association newsletter to promote relevant programs and improvements to parks. (ongoing)

3.2.24 Partner with GISD to formally allow access to school grounds and to improve and upgrade properties in underserved areas. (0-5 yrs.)

### ➤ **2024 Recap**

- Expanded Volunteer program - Hired new Volunteer Coordinator
- Received NCTCOG Grant for mural, trailer, and supplies
- Will complete first underpass mural
- Launched OT program with Garland PD
- Completed first successful project with the Garland Parks Foundation
- Received grant from Ball Park Buns for renovation of Central tee-ball field
- Completed first project with the Garland Parks Foundation and the New World HOA



**GOAL #5: Enhance and expand partnership opportunities with multiple stakeholders to share knowledge, expertise, volunteers and financial resources to help achieve the mission and goals of Garland Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department.**

### **Focus Areas**

- **Safe Community**
- **Future Focused City Organization**

#### ➤ **Destinations**

- Enhance proactive initiatives for risk mitigation and prevention.
- Implement strategic initiatives that further enhance service delivery.

#### ➤ **Actions**

- Create initiatives that encourage cooperation between departments for comprehensive solutions.
- Strengthen public safety programs by fostering collaboration across the organization, and by focusing on proactive efforts to recognize and respond to emergent and evolving threats.

#### ➤ **2025 Work Plan**

- Grow the volunteer program, and assist other departments to increase voluntarism in Garland
  - Implement “My Park Day”
  - Conduct City Wide Volunteer Day
  - Expand into Schools to grow program
- Explore additional grant possibilities
- Continue to monitor and partner with NPO's & Homeless Task Force
- Continue partnership with PD on OT program



**GARLAND**  
TEXAS MADE HERE

## **GOAL #6: Identify and implement city wide gateway and median improvements at major entryways to create unique, aesthetically pleasing beds that are unique to Garland.**

### ➤ **Initiatives**

1.2.64 Ensure that entrance signs are attractive and landscaped to promote first impressions and the image of the City of Garland and PRCAD. (ongoing)

### ➤ **2024 Recap**

- Partnered with TBG on Gatewood and Corridor Study
- Assisted ONV and Library on North Branch renovations
- Won the Governors Achievement Award Grant for new landscaping along 66
- Went to weekly mowing on medians

### ➤ **2025 Work Plan**

- Partner with ONV on the Corridor Master Plan and implement as money is available
- Identify additional partners and opportunities to improve gateways
- Implement grant on 66 with TXDOT
- Refresh landscaping on Forest Ln
- Plan for implementing new entry way signs and landscaping
- Review contracts and add additional properties



## GOAL #6: Identify and implement city wide gateway and median improvements at major entryways to create unique, aesthetically pleasing beds that are unique to Garland.

### Focus Area

- **Vibrant Neighborhoods and Commercial Centers**

#### ➤ **Destinations**

- Enhance physical appearance of built environment.
- Foster the creation of the Garland Vibe.

#### ➤ **Actions**

- Enhance corridor and gateways.
- Create unique places
- Provide an environment that attracts and retains creative culture.

#### ➤ **2025 Work Plan**

- Partner with ONV on the Corridor Master Plan and implement as money is available
- Identify additional partners and opportunities to improve gateways
- Implement grant on 66 with TXDOT
- Refresh landscaping on Forest Ln
- Plan for implementing new entry way signs and landscaping
- Review contracts and add additional properties