

City of Alpine's Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan

Background Information on Purpose and Planning Process

Why is the City of Alpine doing a Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan?

The City of Alpine would like to get a better understanding of its park system and get guidance for meeting current and future needs around parks, open space and recreational facilities. The City would like to create a vision for fiscally and environmentally responsible parks and recreation space. The City leadership and the City's Park and Recreation Board has deemed it important to create a parks and recreation master plan to better position themselves to not just address needs and effectively manage existing parks but also to seek funding from agencies and organization such as Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, private foundations, and others for park system improvements.

What is the planning process?

The planning process for creating the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan includes the following:

1. Needs Assessment—this includes analysis of the parks, park inventories, review of past studies/reports/efforts and other existing conditions.
2. Outreach and Visioning—this includes interviews, stakeholder meetings, public meetings and other outreach strategies for gathering input and recommendations from the City, stakeholders and the public on what the vision of the park system should be and also assessment of what is needed, what issues are observed and prioritizing goals and possible projects. This also contributes to the needs assessment above.
3. Plan Development—this includes compilation of all information into one document. The public will have a chance to comment on contents of the plan.

Who is doing the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan?

The City of Alpine, Texas has commissioned for a parks and recreation master plan to be developed, and they are working with the City of Alpine's Park and Recreation Board. The planning process is lead by Kleinman Consultants, a planning, engineering and surveying firm from Presidio, Texas, and Vista Planning and Design, a landscape architecture and city planning firm specializing in park master planning. Consultants are working closely with City of Alpine staff and the City's Park and Recreation Board to develop plan.

What is the timeline for the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan development?

Date	Milestone	Description or Activity
Winter 2018/2019	Needs Assessment	Park Evaluation, Inventory
Feb/March 2019	Outreach	Outreach to stakeholders via interviews, small group meetings, etc.
March 13, 2019	Public Meeting #1	Public is able to provide input on the vision, needs, ideas, concerns
April 4, 2019	Joint City Council/Park Board Session	Group work session to discuss vision/objectives for plan.
April 17, 2019	Public Meeting #2	Public reviews and comments on findings and draft plan
Early Summer 2019	Final Plan	Plan is Adopted by City in early June

Why should the public be involved and how?

The public should be involved in the planning process so that they learn about the current park system and what it offers, and also have a say on what is needed and where funding should go. It is also a good way to participate in community efforts. Now is the chance to bring up challenges, issues, opportunities, big ideas and possible solutions to improve the park system in Alpine. This is a unique opportunity to influence the future of parks in Alpine.

To that end, the City of Alpine is hosting two public meetings (March 13 & April 17) to hear ideas from the public on ways to improve the park system in Alpine. At these meetings, the public can provide input on goals, objectives and priorities for the plan and suggest improvements. Both meetings are from 6 PM to 8 PM at Alpine's Civic Center.

Who can I contact for more information?

For more information on the park planning process, please contact Kirsten Moody, Parks and Recreation Board President at 512.560.6312 (call or text) or via email at kirstenmoody2003@yahoo.com.