

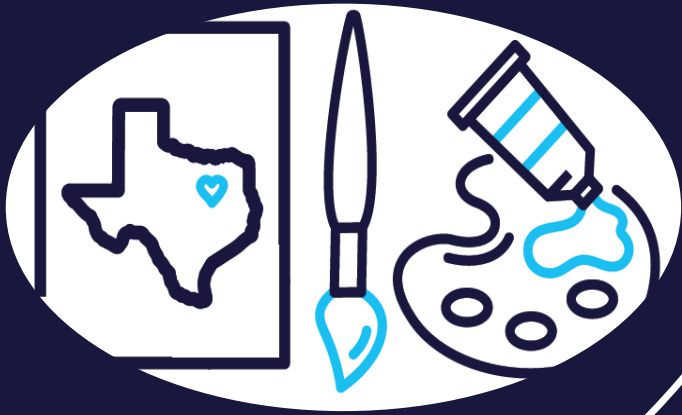
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August 13, 2026

2026 GO Bond Program Botanical Gardens and Public Artwork Committee



1. Introductions of Committee Members and Assigned Staff



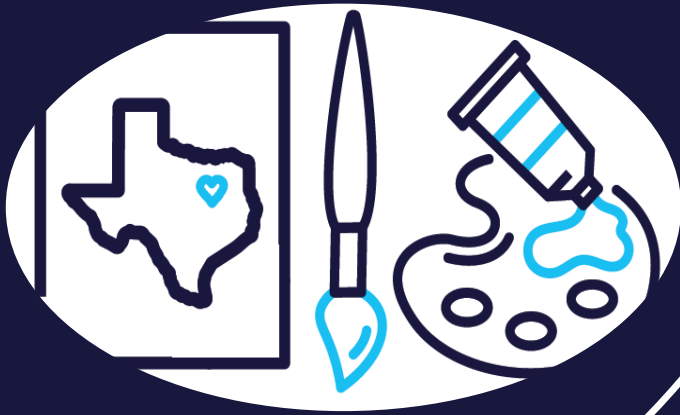
Who Does What

- Committee - advises on needs, amenities and priorities
- Chairperson, Bessye Adams - leads the discussion
- Staff Liaison, Chris Michalski- keeps us in scope; subject-matter expert
- City Manager - assigns staff support; decides certain matters
- City Council - final authority on all implementation decisions

We advise. Staff reviews every recommendation before it moves forward. City Council decides.



2. Review of Committee Charge, Term and Advisory Role



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What We're Here to Do

Provide advisory input on the **Botanical Garden** and **Public Artwork** projects, including:

- What the community needs
- The experience these projects should create
- Major characteristics and amenities
- Service and access expectations
- Project priorities
- Implementation considerations for staff

Our job is to help define what matters most.



Our Lane

We Advise On

- Community needs and priorities
- General site characteristics and vicinity
- Major amenities and experiences
- Accessibility and public use
- Project priorities
- Concerns staff should consider

We Do Not Decide

- Final site selection
- Detailed design or engineering
- Architects, vendors or contractors
- Operating budgets or staffing
- Facility naming



Our Final Product

By the end of the process, the committee will provide City Council with a clear summary of:

- What the projects should accomplish
- Who they should serve
- What features matter most
- What should be prioritized within the available funding
- Any important concerns or differing viewpoints

Final decisions remain with City Council.



Our Charge and Our Clock

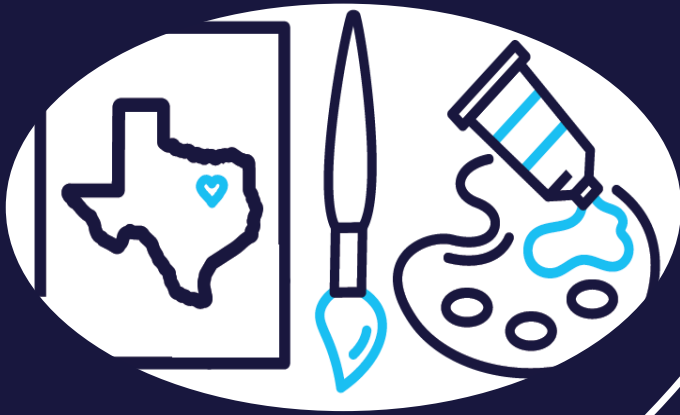
Established by City Council ordinance adopted **July 21, 2026**, under Section 2-7(h) of the Grand Prairie Code of Ordinances.

- Our topic: the Botanical Garden and Public Artwork projects
- Our term ends October 31, 2026
- The Mayor may extend it up to 60 days if we need more time
- City Council may conclude our work earlier
- Five meetings; the Chairperson may combine or adjust topics

A defined charge and a defined clock - about eleven weeks from tonight.



3. Open Meetings, PIA, Conflict Disclosure, and Committee Procedures



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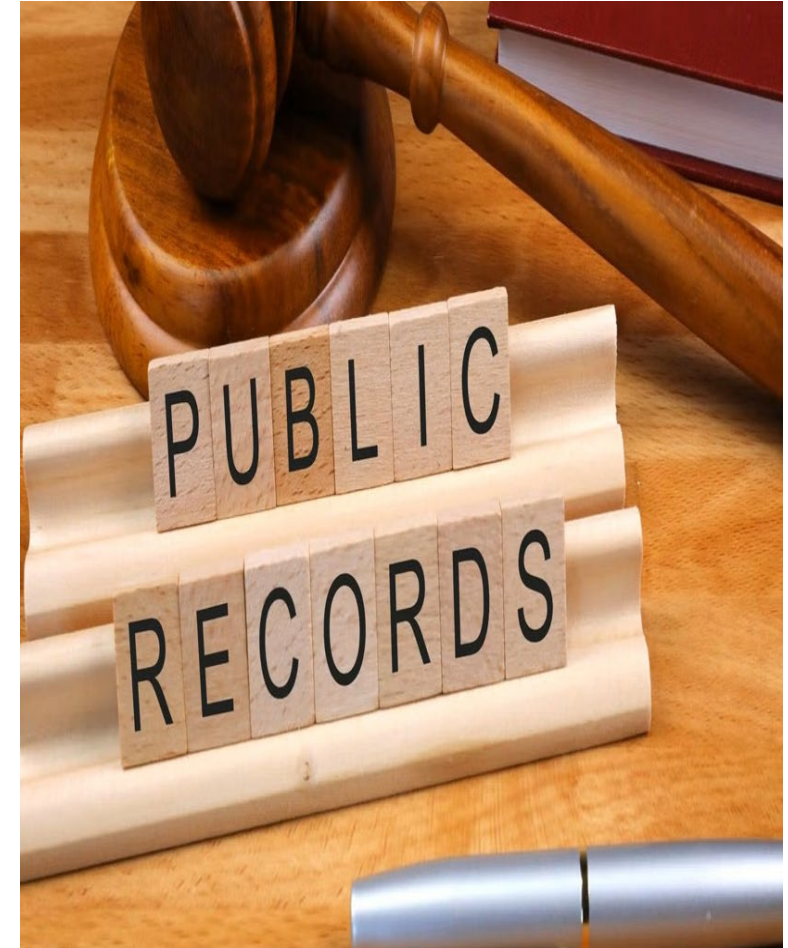
Texas Open Meetings Act

- **Agenda** - All meetings of the Committee will follow a publicly posted agenda (TX Gov't Code Ch 551)
 - Notice of date, hour, place, and items for discussion
 - Posted 3 full business days before the meeting date
- **Agenda Items** - only items on the agenda are eligible for discussion
- **Open Meetings** - Meeting must be open to the public unless law provides specific exception
- **Avoid** - side conversations
- **Quorum** - required to hold a meeting
- **Public Comments** – can board/commission members respond?
 - Items on the Agenda vs Items NOT on the Agenda
- **Posting Other Items** - do social functions, conferences, or ceremonial events need to be posted?
- **Minutes** - Record Actions (Motion, Second, Vote)
 - Approved at the following meeting by vote of members
 - Public record with permanent retention



Texas Public Information Act

- **Public Information** (TX Gov't Code Ch 552)
 - Information that is **written produced, collected assembled, or maintained** in connection with the transaction of **official City business**
- **Regardless of where it is stored** – paper documents, electronic records, photos, email, text messages (including personal emails if related to City business)
- **Presumed to be public** unless there is a law that otherwise makes the information confidential
- Is available to anyone who makes a **written request** per City designation (effective Sept 1, 2026, request must be submitted to the designated email, mailing address, person or through the Public Information portal)



Conflicts of Interest

Ethics Code

- **Standards of Conduct** - City Code of Ordinances and state law have **standards of conduct** that apply to City Council and Board and Commission members to ensure fair and ethical dealing in the handling of City contracts and City business (City Code of Ordinances 2-63 through 2-65)
- **If a member has a conflict**
 - **Disclose** the conflict on the record
 - **Abstain** from discussion and vote
 - **Conflicts Affidavit** signed and submitted to City Secretary



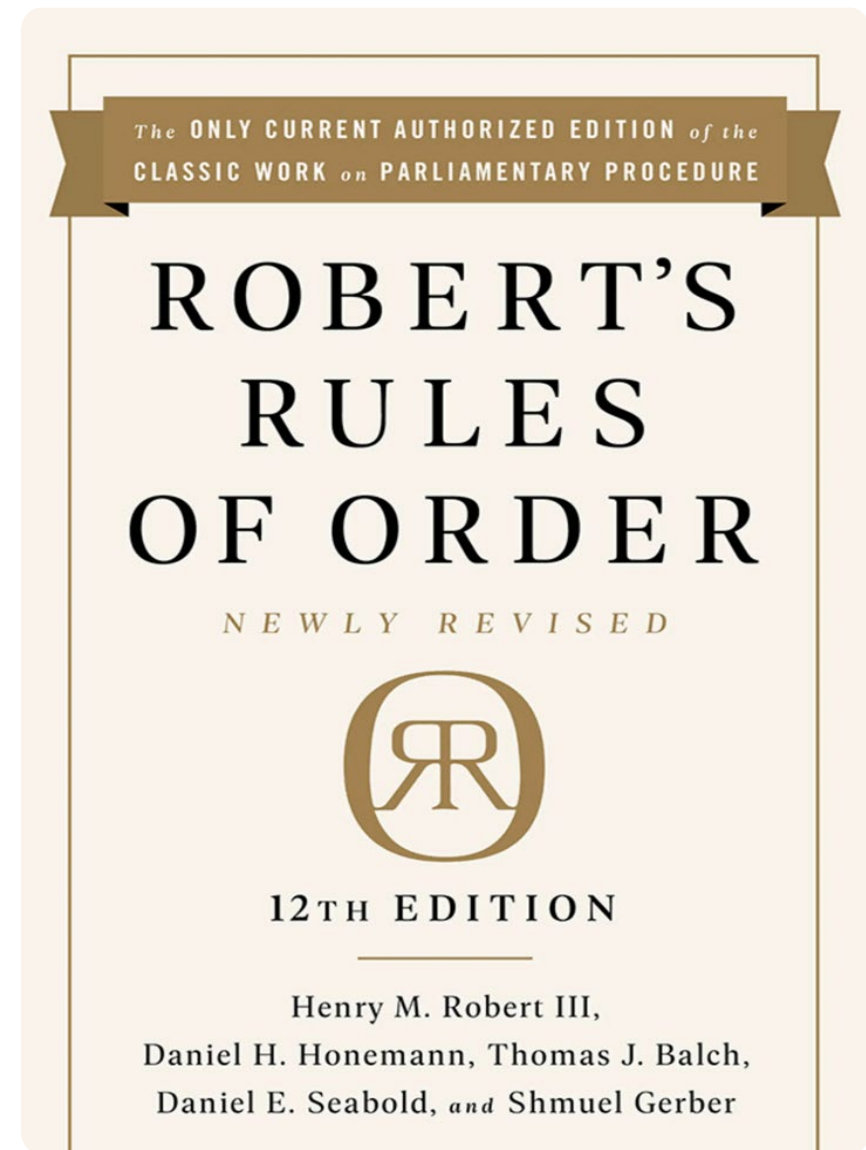
Conflicts of Interest

- **Conflicts of Interest** (LGC Ch. 171.002)
 - Board member has a **substantial interest** in a business entity or ownership of real property
 - **Substantial interest** – ownership in the business or receipt of 10% or more income from the business
 - **Ownership of real property** with FMV of \$2,500 or more
- **Employment or Business Relationship** with someone who contracts with, or is seeking to contract with the City (LGC Ch. 176.003)
- **Direct or indirect interest** in any business or contract paid from City funds that would provide a benefit to the board member or his or her family member (City Code 2-63-65)
- **Family members** – within designated degrees of relation of blood or marriage (spouse, child, parent, grandparent, in-laws)

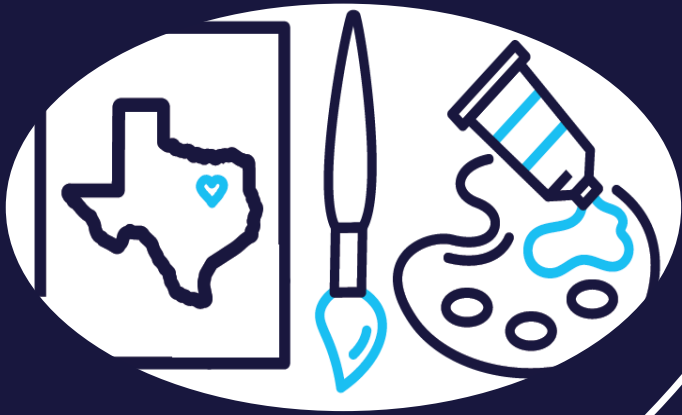


Committee Procedures

- Committee meetings are governed by **Roberts Rules of Order**
- **Call to Order** by the Chair
- **Quorum** is required to conduct business (majority of members)
- **Order of Meeting**
 - Staff presentations (informational)
 - Public Comments
 - Items for individual consideration (action items that will require a vote or no action)
- **Discussion** - Members should be recognized by the Chair before speaking
- **Voting** – Requires **motion and second** (majority vote in the affirmative to pass an item)
 - Chair will repeat who made the motion and the second
 - No Abstaining - All members must vote unless that member has a legal conflict
- **Meeting Minutes** – Official meeting minutes are taken by the City Secretary's Office



4. Proposition C, Botanical Garden and Public Artwork Overview



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What the Voters Approved

On May 2, 2026, Grand Prairie voters approved Proposition C - **\$39,000,000** for parks and recreational projects. This committee advises on two of the four.

- Community / Multipurpose Center - \$23,000,000
- Pickleball Complex - \$10,000,000
- **Botanical Garden - \$5,000,000**
- **Public Artwork - \$1,000,000**
- Bond funds may be used only for the voter-approved purpose

Our input goes to City Council at a GO Bond Workshop anticipated October or November 2026.



Botanical Garden - \$5,000,000

A new public botanical garden. Our job is to define what it should accomplish, and for whom.

- Community need, intended audiences and outcomes
- General vicinity and site attributes - not a final site
- Major amenities and the visitor experience
- Durability, maintenance and long-term usefulness
- How it fits with existing City parks and natural assets

Needs first. Amenities second. Priorities before preferences.



Public Artwork - \$1,000,000

A separate project with its own budget. We shape what public art should do for Grand Prairie.

- Identity, community stories and local character
- Geographic reach and underserved places
- Types of experience - discovery, gathering, everyday encounter
- Durability and maintenance alongside artistic ambition
- Selecting artists and artworks is a separate City process



Considerations We'll Work Through

Staff Will Bring Information On

- Legal and bond compliance
- Financial limits and funding
- Operations and maintenance
- Procurement rules
- Schedule and timing

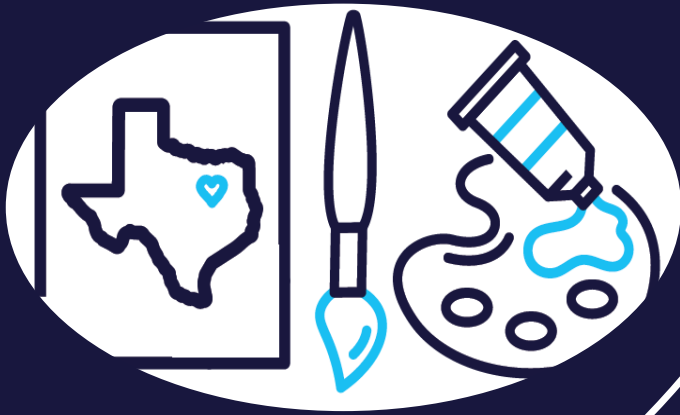
What That Means for Us

- Staff review before transmittal
- Amenities must fit the budget
- Upkeep counts, not just construction
- We describe needs, not vendors
- We finish by October 31, 2026





5. Evaluation Criteria for Both Projects



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Botanical Garden: The Central Question

What would make this a true destination and community asset, not simply a beautifully landscaped park?

As you consider ideas, think about:

- Who would come?
- Why would they return?
- What would they do while they are there?
- What would make the experience distinctive?
- What would feel welcoming to different ages and interests?

Public Art: The Central Question

How can public art create identity, beauty and memorable experiences throughout Grand Prairie?

Think about:

- Art people experience, not just pass by
- Grand Prairie stories, character and identity
- Opportunities for surprise and discovery
- How art can strengthen parks and public spaces



Our Decision Lens

As we consider ideas, ask:

- **Does it serve a real community need?**
- **Does it welcome a broad range of residents?**
- **Create a memorable experience?**
- **Feel right for Grand Prairie?**
- **Does it make good use of the available funding?**
- **Could it be added or expanded later?**

Needs first. Amenities second. Priorities before preferences.



6. Review of Five-Meeting Work Plan, Time Allocation, and Information Needs

Megan Mahan,
Deputy City Manager

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Our Five-Meeting Path

From ideas to clear advice



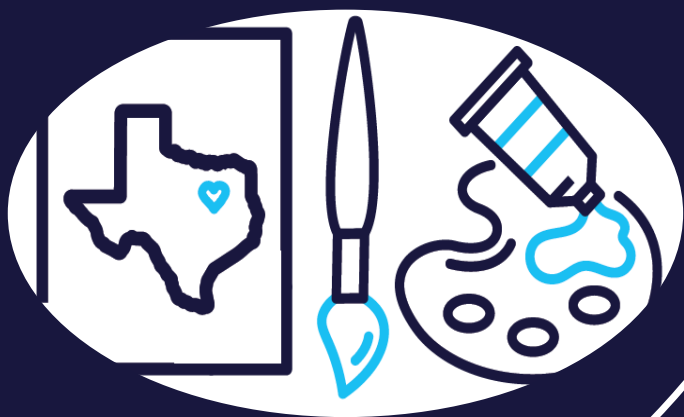
Needs first. Amenities second. Priorities before preferences.

What Information Would Help You?

Before Meeting 2, is there anything you would like staff to provide?

What are we missing?





Public Comments

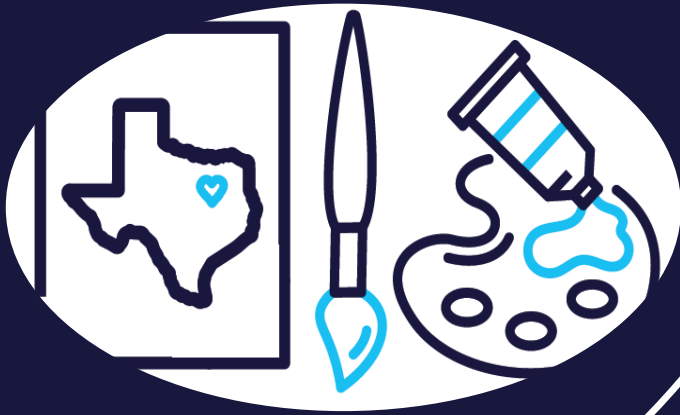
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7. Action Out of Staff Presentations



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8. Committee Direction and Topics for Meeting 2

Megan Mahan,
Deputy City Manager

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Comparison Visits: Keep It Simple

You do not need to be an expert.
Just notice what works, what does not, and what feels worth bringing home.

LOOK

What immediately
stands out?

USE

How does the place
work for everyday
users?

LEARN

What would you borrow
— or avoid — in Grand
Prairie?

The goal is to learn,
not finding a facility to copy.



Between Now and Our Next Meeting

As you move around Grand Prairie and the metroplex, simply notice:

- Places you enjoy spending time
- Gardens or landscapes that stay with you
- Public art that makes a place memorable
- Spaces that feel welcoming
- Things that make you think,

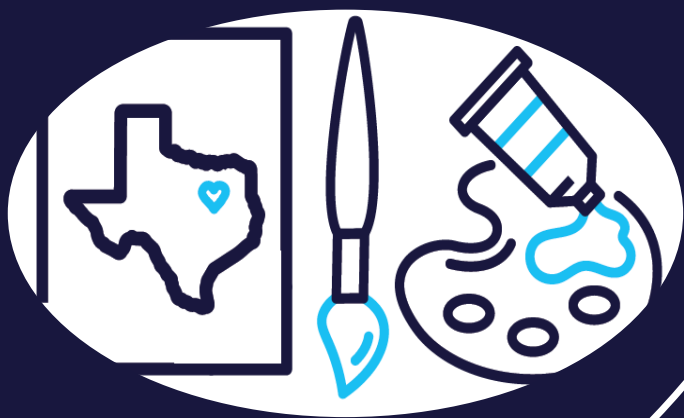
“We could do something interesting with that.”

Needs first. Amenities second. Priorities before preferences.





9. Future Meeting Dates



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Upcoming Meetings

- **Meeting 2 — Needs Assessment**
Thursday, August 27 at 6pm
- **Meeting 3 — Solve for Needs**
Thursday, September 10 at 6pm
- **Meeting 4 — Prioritization & Development**
Thursday, September 24 at 6pm
- **Meeting 5 — Confirm Advisory Input**
Thursday, October 15 at 6pm



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Thank you!

