

B *Grand Prairie*
— T E X A S —
PROGRAM
N 2026
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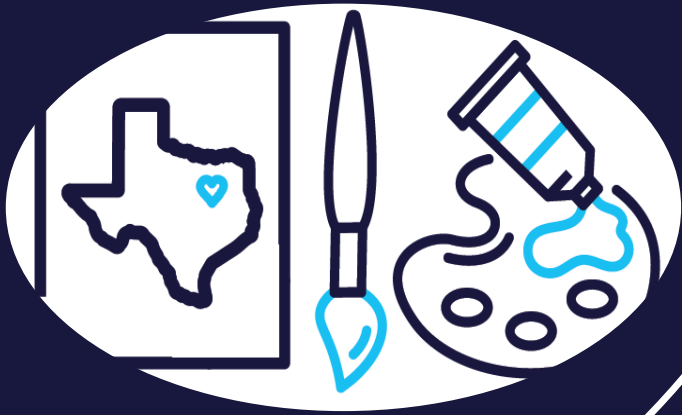
September 24, 2026

2026 GO Bond Program Botanical Gardens and Public Artwork Ad Hoc Advisory Committee



1. Recap and Follow-up Items from Meeting 3

Megan Mahan,
Deputy City Manager



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 Five-Meeting Path

From ideas to clear advice



Needs first. Amenities second. Priorities before preferences.

Botanical Garden: What We Heard



WHO THE GARDEN SHOULD SERVE

The garden should be a welcoming place for the entire Grand Prairie community, including:



A broad mix of residents



Families and children/youth



Schools and students



Older adults



Community groups



CORE NEEDS

The committee recommends that the Botanical Garden address the following core community needs:



Community connection and gathering



Programming



Relaxation and wellness



Family and children's experiences



Horticultural education and learning



A beautiful and memorable civic space



Conservation and protection of natural resources



PROJECT ROLE

The garden should primarily serve the Grand Prairie community through nature, education, wellness and gathering.

Resident use should come first. Programming should complement and support the garden experience, and destination appeal should be an outcome of creating a place residents value rather than the primary driver of the project.

VISION STATEMENT

A beautiful, welcoming garden where Grand Prairie residents can connect with nature, relax, learn, gather, and make memories.



Public Artwork: What We Heard



WHO THE ARTWORK SHOULD SERVE

Public art should be experienced broadly throughout the Grand Prairie community, including



Residents throughout the city



People of different ages and interests



Children and families



Visitors



The local creative community



CORE NEEDS

The committee recommends that public art help:



Create memorable places



Bring art into everyday public life



Enhance and beautify public spaces



Create moments of surprise and delight



PROJECT ROLE

Public art should primarily enhance places and experiences that residents already use. Art should make everyday public spaces more memorable, engaging and distinctive while creating opportunities for community connection and pride.

VISION STATEMENT

Public art should enrich everyday experiences for a broad mix of Grand Prairie residents by creating memorable, interactive and unexpected moments that foster pride, belonging and connection to the community.



2. Botanical Garden Cost Framework and Prioritization Exercise

Megan Mahan,
Deputy City Manager

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Budget Framework

\$5,000,000 Total Project Budget

Less 30% Project Delivery + Site Preparation Allowance: \$1,500,000

=\$3,500,000 Available for Phase 1 Garden Elements

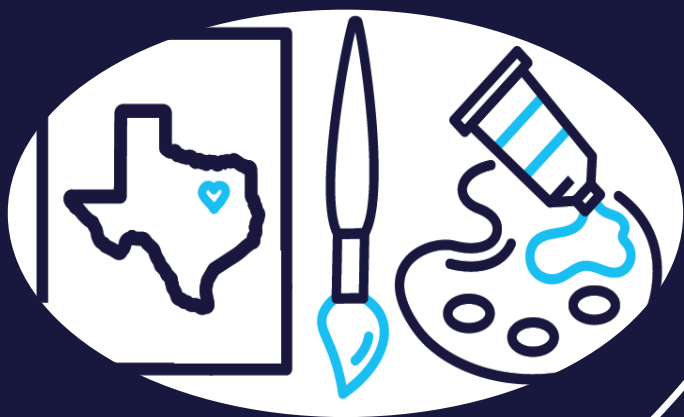
30% Project Delivery + Site Preparation Allowance for:

- Design and engineering
- Permitting and inspections
- Contingency and escalation
- Mobilization/general conditions
- Basic site preparation and grading
- Utility connections
- Required accessibility/site circulation
- Other necessary project infrastructure

Planning allowance only.

Actual site-related costs will vary depending on the selected location and existing infrastructure. A site requiring significant utilities or site improvements may reduce the amount available for garden elements.





Public Comments

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3. Minutes of the September 10, 2026 Meeting

Bessye Adams
Chairwoman

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4. Consider Approval of the Botanical Garden Project Direction Summary and Vision Statement

Megan Mahan,
Deputy City Manager

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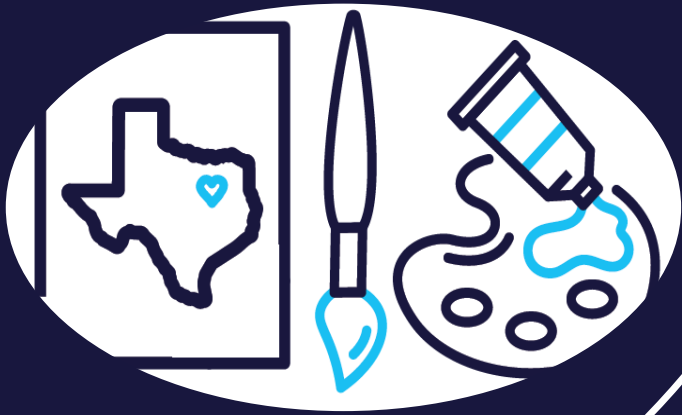
5. Consider Approval of the Committee Recommendations for Botanical Garden Project Priorities

Megan Mahan,
Deputy City Manager

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6. Consider Approval of the Public Artwork Project Direction Summary and Vision Statement

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Deputy City Manager

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7. Consider Approval of the Recommendations for the Public Art Guiding Principles

Megan Mahan,
Deputy City Manager

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These principles are intended to provide a consistent framework for evaluating public art opportunities. **Not every artwork needs to reflect every principle.** Across the program, however, the City should seek opportunities that advance these qualities.



ENRICH THE EXPERIENCE

Public art should make the places people already use more interesting, beautiful and meaningful.

This may include:

- Art integrated into parks, trails, facilities and other public spaces
- Functional art such as seating, shade, lighting or gateways
- Pieces that transform ordinary spaces into more intentional experiences



INTERACTIVE + ENGAGING

Public art should create opportunities for people to engage with it rather than simply view it.

This may include:

- Walk-through, sit-on or touchable art
- Kinetic, light, sound, motion or responsive elements
- Family-friendly interaction
- Art that changes based on movement, viewpoint or participation



PHOTO-WORTHY + MEMORABLE

Public art should create distinctive moments people remember, photograph and share.

This may include:

- Strong visual focal points and photo opportunities
- Art that frames views or creates recognizable silhouettes
- Pieces with both daytime and nighttime appeal
- Memorable elements that become recognizable parts of Grand Prairie



GRAND PRAIRIE PRIDE + BELONGING

Public art should create places and experiences that residents are proud to claim as part of their community.

This may include:

- Art that creates a sense of connection and ownership
- Work that responds to its location or surrounding community
- Commissioned or locally meaningful work where appropriate
- Art that provides a recognizable public benefit without requiring every piece to function as City branding





SURPRISE + DISCOVERY

Public art should leave room for humor, curiosity and the unexpected.

This may include:

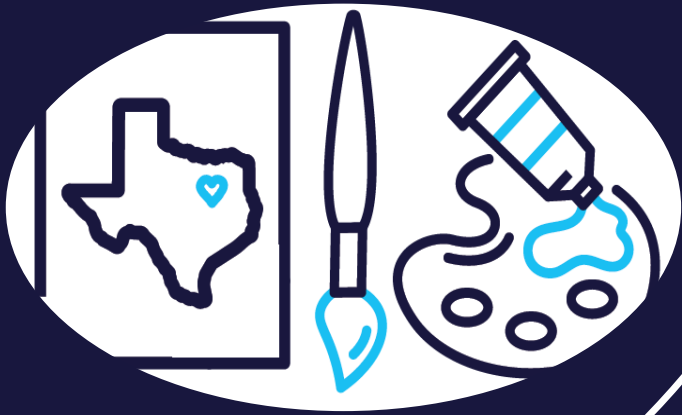
- Hidden details and unexpected scale
- Humor, whimsy and playful elements
- Art that rewards exploration or a second look
- Small discoveries alongside larger statement pieces



HOW THE PRINCIPLES SHOULD BE USED

These principles are a framework, not a checklist.

They should help guide the selection, commissioning and evaluation of future public art opportunities while allowing individual artists, locations and projects to respond differently.



7. Future Meeting Dates

Megan Mahan,
Deputy City Manager

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Future Meeting Dates and Locations

Meeting 5 Confirm Advisory Input &
Review Art

October 15, 2026
6:00 p.m.
Warmack Library

Staff will use tonight's direction to prepare Meeting 5 materials.



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Thank you!

