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NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Coming Soon: Wier Park to Receive Significant Upgrades

WEST UNIVERSITY PLACE, TX - On Monday, July 10, the West University Place City Council unanimously approved the design concept for the upgrades and improvements to Wier Park. The approved concept proposes increasing the usable area of the park by 6,500 square feet and refreshing the existing amenities. This expansion will provide more seating, extend the artificial turf, and offer more green space.

The main items include:

- Repainting the current play structures
- Replacing the artificial safety turf
- Refreshing the picnic tables and benches
- Removing the decomposed granite and adding connective pathways and shade structures
- Expanding play areas with new features such as play mounds and a signature swing
- Installing a new gate entry off Nottingham Street and pavers
- Adding a gathering area conducive to small parties and picnics
- Resurface and restripe the tennis and basketball courts
- Adding additional seating
- Removing the parking space on Nottingham Street to increase open green space, which is an initiative identified in the Parks and Open Space Master Plan

Improvements for the space west of the basketball court include adding chin-up bars and a cornhole game, space permitting. It has also been recommended to level out the court areas. Lastly, solar and lighting enhancements will be considered.

The addition of a restroom was considered by the Parks and Recreation Board and staff but was not recommended for Wier Park, which is intended for users within close walking distance of the park and is consistent with the National Parks and Recreation Association's recommendations for the programming and size of the park.

The Parks and Recreation Board and staff have been working in conjunction with Burditt Landscape Architects and a citizen user group on improvement recommendations. Parks and Recreation Board Chair Will Bertron and Parks and Recreation Director Susan White met with the Friends of West U



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Parks Fund members on July 12 to review the concept in preparation for an official funding request at their September 2023 meeting.

What to expect:

- Construction is estimated to cost between \$865,000 - \$1 million
- A tentative project start date could be in January
- Construction would take three months minimum from start to finish

Staff has recommended construction be completed continuously in lieu of phasing to limit interruptions to park users.

The Friends of West University Parks Fund (Friends) is a volunteer-based 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to raising funds for the development and improvement of parks and green spaces in the City of West University Place. Visit www.westuparks.org for more information on Friends and all of the wonderful initiatives they have for West U's parks.

For more information about this project visit, www.westutx.gov/parkprojects or contact Susan White, Parks and Recreation Director at 713-662-5894.

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