

CITY OF FAIRVIEW
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 19, 2015

AT 7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. **Call to order by Mayor Carroll**
 - A. Prayer and Pledge
2. **Approval of the Agenda –**
3. **Citizen Comments – (Limited to the first 5 citizens to sign in and a limit of 3 minutes each). –**
4. **Awards and/or Recognitions –**
 - A. Employee of the Month
5. **Public Announcements –**
6. **Staff Comments –**
7. **Approval of the Minutes – (only needed if removed from consent agenda)**
8. **Consent Agenda Consisting of Items as Follows:**
 - A. Second Reading of Bill No. 2015-06, Ordinance No. 871, An Ordinance for an Amendment to the City of Fairview, Tennessee, Budget for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 (Drug Fund Vehicle)
9. **Old Business**
10. **New Business**
 - A. Discuss and/or Take Action on RunWild Bowe Park 6 Miler – Bissell
 - B. Discuss and/or Take Action on Exhibit A to Amendment 1 of Contract with Kimley-Horn Associates for Safe Routes to School Grant - Sutton
 - C. Discuss and/or Take Action on Park Commission Recommendations – Bissell
 - (1) Approve City Manager to Initiate Bid Process for ADA Trail once the Final Engineer Report is Received
 - (2) Approve City Manager to Initiate Bid Process for Phase II of Bowie Nature Park Paving of Road and Parking Lot
 - (3) Adopt Park Brochure as Public Distributable Overview Document for the City Marketing
 - (4) Adopt Final Bowie Park Master Plan
 - D. Discuss and/or Take Action on Re-Designating the Out-Parcel from Parks Department and Commission Jurisdiction to its Original Designation as Public Safety/Public Works Jurisdiction – Bissell
 - E. Discuss and/or Take Action on Rescinding all Prior Board of Commissioners Approvals or Direction Given in the Matter of the Bowie Nature Park Forest Management Plan – Bissell
 - F. Discuss and/or Take Action on Approving the Hiring of a Registered Forester to Produce the Bowie Nature Park Forest Management Plan in Accordance with the Land Trust of Tennessee Guidelines – Bissell
 - G. Discuss and/or Take Action on Bid Approval for Resurfacing Grant - Sutton
11. **City Manager Items for Discussion –**
 - A. Miscellaneous Updates –
 - B. City Attorney Comments -
12. **Communications from the Mayor and Commissioners –**
13. **Adjournment.**

8A

Bill # 2015-06

ORDINANCE NO. 871

AN ORDINANCE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW, TENNESSEE, BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014 – 2015 BUDGET

Be it Ordained by the City of Fairview, Tennessee as follows:

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the City of Fairview, Tennessee, have determined that the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 (beginning July 1, 2014 and running through June 30, 2015) should be amended to reflect the final expenditures for the Fiscal Year, and:

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the City of Fairview, Tennessee adopted the fiscal year 2014 – 2015 budget by passage of Ordinance Number 840 on June 30, 2014, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Tennessee state Constitution, Article II, Section 24, no public money shall be expended except pursuant to appropriations made by law, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 6-56-209, the Board of Commissioners has the authority to authorize the Finance Director to transfer money from one appropriation to another within the same fund, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW, TENNESSEE THAT CHANGES BE MADE TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 BUDGET AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Ordinance 840 is hereby amended to approve Drug Fund monies from the Drug Fund to purchase a police car.

General Fund

Transfer From			
Account #	Current Balance	Transfer Amount	New Balance
619-11227	\$ 94,499.18	\$30,000.00	\$ 64,499.18

Expenditures			
Account #	Current Budget	Amendment Amt	New Budget Amt
619-42129-944	\$ 50,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$ 80,000.00

Section 2. The Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make said changes in the accounting system.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, If any sentence, clause, phrase or paragraph of this Ordinance is declared to be unconstitutional by any Court of

competent jurisdiction; such holding will not affect any other portion of this Ordinance.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall take effect fifteen days (15) days after its first passage or upon second reading, whichever is later, the public welfare requiring it.

MAYOR

CITY RECORDER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY

Passed First Reading

February 19, 2015

Passed Second Reading

10A

Name of Event: RunWild Bowie Park 6 Miler

Presenter: Jenny Herrera, Bowie Nature Park Program Director

Asking for permission for Nashville Running Company to return this year to host their run. It will require Park staff to close the trails down to other users on Sunday, July 19th from 6am until 12pm.

They are offering 25% of the profits of the run to be donated back to Bowie Park/City of Fairview

Beth Meadows will be in attendance to the meeting to answer questions about the run on behalf of Nashville Running Company.

Please see attached Bowie Nature Park Activity Proposal Application.

**BOWIE NATURE PARK
ACTIVITY SITE PROPOSAL
APPLICATION**

The City of Fairview Parks Department will use the following information to make a determination for your request of park use.

This form must be submitted to the Parks Department no later than six (6) weeks prior to the event. The listed point of contact will be given a determination by the Parks Department on your proposed activity.

In order to help us make a determination on your event please provide as much information as possible.

The City of Fairview Parks Department reserves the right to cancel any event.

I TYPE OR NAME OF ACTIVITY/EVENT: RunWILD Bowie Park 6 Miler

Date Of Activity: July 19 Number of Participants: 125

Times of Activity (This should include set up and clean up): 6 am 12 pm
Beginning Ending

II APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant: Beth Meadows

Address: 1105 Woodland Street, Nashville TN 37206

Name of Organization: Nashville Running Company

Is your organization a non-profit: No

Contact #1: Beth Meadows Day Phone #: _____

Evening Phone #: _____

Contact #2: Lee Wilson Day Phone #: _____

Evening Phone #: _____

Bowie Nature Park

III ACTIVITY / SITE DESCRIPTION

Please describe the activity in detail:

A 6 mile trail race that will introduce people to a park they've never been to, introduce trails to runners who haven't been on trails very often (or never have), and continue to expand activity in our community. There will be a Start/Finish area with one water stop at the midway point. We will NOT be providing cups - eliminating that potential litter opportunity. All runners that require water will be required to bring their own water bottle. We assume between 100-125 runners for this race as it's our most popular race.

We will donate 25% of base profits from the race to Bowie Park

If set up for this activity is required please describe in detail:

We will need to mark the course with flags placed periodically along the course so no runners get lost. A couple of days prior to the race, we will put flags out (little stake flags). We will arrive at 6am to set up the Start/Finish and a few tables / 10 x 10 tents for food, etc. Once all runners are finished, we will "sweep" the course for anything left on trails and pick up flags.

When will set up take place

6am July 19

When will it be removed

12pm July 19

What is the desired location(s) for the Parks Department to consider?

Start/Finish at Parking Lot near Nature Center

Perimeter trail Red to Dame Road Trail to Loblolly Loop Trail Green

Bowie Nature Park

IV ACTIVITY / SITE REQUIREMENTS

Please describe any special requirements that will be needed for this event.

Please keep the bathroom at the Nature Center open.
If that is not possible, we will provide Port-a-Johns

V INSURANCE (IF Applicable)

Insurance Carrier: USA Track + Field (ESIX Entertainment)
City: Indianapolis State: IN Phone #: _____
Amount of Event Coverage: \$3m Amount per Individual: \$1m

VI ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please include any other information that will help the Parks Department in making a decision about your proposal.

Our goal is to increase the active community. We love trails and want to bring increased awareness to trail running and certain parks in the area. We will donate 25% of our profits from the race to Bowie Park.

The organizers and participants of any approved event or activity agree to abide by the rules and regulations of Bowie Nature Park and any special requirements for this event deemed necessary by the City of Fairview and the Parks Department.

Name: [Signature] Date: 2/9/15

The Parks Department can be contacted at: Phone (615) 799-5544
Fax (615) 799-2076.

Bowie Nature Park

RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

By execution of this agreement, the undersigned waives any claims that any participant may have against the City of Fairview, any employees of the City of Fairview or any elected or appointed officials of the City of Fairview for any injury to persons or property that may occur as a result of participating in any activity in Bowie Nature Park.

I understand that we are assuming all risk of personal injury to any participant that may occur as a result of the City permitting use of this facility, whether the injury results from negligence of any city employee, or by any means whatsoever. We hereby agree to release and hold harmless of any liability, the City of Fairview, employees of the City of Fairview and all elected and appointed officials of the City of Fairview.

Name:  Date: 2/9/15

I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of Bowie Nature Park and any special requirements for this event deemed necessary by the City of Fairview and the Parks Department.

Name:  Date: 2/9/15

10B

Consultant shall perform the following Additional Services:

Task 6 – Property Acquisition Services

Our sub consultant, R&D Enterprises, Inc., will provide the services of an appraiser, review appraiser, and negotiator as described in the Code of Federal Regulations 49CFR Part 24 "Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition for Federal and Federally-assisted Programs" and the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Right-of-Way Procedures Manual Chapter 7, 8, 9, & 10, current edition.

Additionally, R&D Enterprises, Inc. will appraise the current value of the property known as Tax Map 46, Parcel 108.02 (Deed Book 763, Page 714) and currently owned by Raymond and Tammy McCoy and contact the owner in an effort to acquire the necessary property either through donation or purchase. Based on the final design plans, 0.188 acres of the 3.12 acre tract will be acquired for the use of the sidewalk. These services will be performed in accordance with the 49 CFR Part 24 and TDOT's Right-of-Way Procedures Manual referenced above.

It is assumed that the City of Fairview will handle all documentation and correspondence with the Williamson County School Board for Tax Map 46, Parcel 110.00 (Deed Book 1835, Page 761). It is assumed that this property will be given a license agreement for use and maintenance and not need to be acquired and transferred to the City of Fairview. The City will provide Kimley-Horn will all necessary documents in order to submit to the TDOT Region 3 Right of Way office for the request for Right of Way certification.

It is assumed that the City will provide title research and property closing services. Attorneys will close the purchases and sale of each property. These services will consist of the preparation of documents for each closing, closing for the Buyer and the seller and for a title opinion letter for each property. This service can be provided through a sub-consultant if the City Attorney cannot handle the closing of the property.

Task 7 – Pre-Bid Phase Services

Task 7.1 – Utility Certification

KIMLEY-HORN will coordinate with utility companies providing water, sewer, gas, electric, cable and telephone in the project area. Each utility company will be provided with a set of plans to review for potential conflicts. Considering the project area, it is assumed that there will not be conflicts with the proposed project and utilities and that each utility company will be able to provide a "no-conflict" letter. The plans and each utility "no-conflict" letter will be sent to the TDOT Utility office requesting Utility Certification.

Task 7.2 – Right of Way Certification

KIMLEY-HORN will also send the plans and pertinent information regarding property acquisition to the TDOT Right-Of-Way Division requesting right-of-way certification.

Task 7.3 – Environmental Certification

It is assumed that a Notice of Intent (NOI) for a Storm Water Construction General Permit will NOT be required for the project by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) since the project consists of less than one acre of land disturbance.

KIMLEY-HORN will submit plans and a letter stating that no environmental permits apply to this project to the TDOT Environmental Division requesting Environmental Certification.

Task 7.4 – DBE Goal Setting

Given the construction budget for this project, it is not anticipated that a DBE goal will be required for this project. Should TDOT require a DBE to be established for this project, these services can be provided as an Additional Service.

Task 8 – Bid Phase Services

Upon receiving Notice to Proceed to Construction from TDOT, KIMLEY-HORN will assist the City with drafting the advertisement for bids, supply the City with up to fifteen (15) copies of the Bidding Documents (plans and bid specification books) and conduct one (1) pre-bid meeting with potential bidders. The City will be responsible for advertising the bid. KIMLEY-HORN will respond to questions that arise during the bidding process and issue up to three (3) statements of clarification or bid addenda as appropriate. KIMLEY-HORN will be present for the bid opening and meet with the City following the bid opening to assist with bid review. In addition, KIMLEY-HORN will tabulate the bids received and evaluate the compliance of the bids with the bidding documents and in accordance with TDOT Policy No. 355-02, *Awards of Construction Contracts*. KIMLEY-HORN will prepare a written summary of this tabulation and evaluation. KIMLEY-HORN will submit the bid tabulation and other required documentation to TDOT seeking review and approval to award the contract to the lowest responsive bidder.

Consultant and Client agree to the following general schedule in connection with the Additional Services set forth above:

Kimley-Horn will begin the Right of Way acquisition process immediately upon the receipt of this signed amendment number 001. Typically the right of way acquisition process can take 90-120 days to complete. Once this is complete, the request for right of way certification, environmental certification and utility certification will be submitted to TDOT within 3 business days following the close of the property acquisition.

For the Additional Services set forth above, Client shall pay Consultant the following additional compensation:

Kimley-Horn will perform the services in Tasks 6 - 8 for the total lump sum fee below. Individual task amounts are informational only. All permitting, application, and similar project fees will be paid directly by the Client.

Task 6 – Property Acquisition Services	\$7,500
Task 7 – Pre-Bid Services	\$6,800
Task 8 – Bid Phase Services	\$6,600
<hr/> Total Lump Sum Fee	<hr/> \$20,900

Lump sum fees will be invoiced monthly based upon the overall percentage of services performed. Payment will be due within 25 days of your receipt of the invoice.

AMENDMENT NUMBER 001 TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CLIENT AND KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

AMENDMENT NUMBER 001 DATED October 28, 2014 to the agreement between the City of Fairview, Tennessee, ("Client") and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., ("Consultant") dated July 30, 2013 ("the Agreement") concerning Safe Routes to School Project - Cumberland Drive (the "Project").

The Consultant has entered into the Agreement with Client for the furnishing of professional services, and the parties now desire to amend the Agreement.

Therefore, it is mutually agreed that the Agreement is amended to include Additional Services to be performed by Consultant and provisions for additional compensation by the Client to the Consultant, all as set forth in Exhibit A hereto. The parties ratify the terms and conditions of the Agreement not inconsistent with this Amendment, all of which are incorporated by reference.

CLIENT:

CITY OF FAIRVIEW, TENNESSEE

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

CONSULTANT:

KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.



By: Christopher D. Rhodes, P.E. _____

Title: Vice President _____

Date: October 28, 2014 _____

From: Monique Hazlewood Monique.Hazlewood@tn.gov
 Subject: PIN 117004.00, Fairview SRTS project
 Date: March 6, 2015 at 12:12 PM
 To: frumber@fairview-tn.org


Hello Frank,

L-STP funds are now obligated to the Fairview SRTS project.

Thanks,
 Monique Hazlewood



Local Programs Development Office
 505 Deaderick Street
 Suite 600, James K. Polk Building
 Nashville, TN 37243
 (615) 532-3176
 Monique.Hazlewood@tn.gov

TO BE COMPLETED BY FHWA		 MODIFICATION OF FEDERAL-AID PROJECT AGREEMENT 94LPLM-F0-043 94LPLM-F1-044 94LPLM-F2-045	STATE TENNESSEE
Monthly Transaction Number			COUNTY Williamson
Product Report Number			Project No. SRTS/STP-M-9400(64)
Modification Number			

The Project Agreement for the above-referenced project entered into between the undersigned parties and executed by the Division Administrator on 8/10/2012 is hereby modified as follows:

	Former Amount	Revised Amount
Estimated total cost of project	\$ 23,465.00	\$ 125,245.00
Federal Funds	\$ 23,465.00	\$ 104,889.00

Other Revisions

APPN	Total Funds	Federal Funds
LU20	23,465.00	23,465.00
M2E1	101,780.00	81,424.00

*PIN 117004.00
Fairview SRTS*

This modification is made for the following reasons:
 INCREASE IN FUNDS ON THE BASIS OF REVISED ESTIMATE.

All other terms and conditions of the Project Agreement will remain in full force and effect. This modification is effective as of the MAR 04 2015 day of MAR, 2015.

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 (Official Name of Highway Agency)

By *Ronni Part*
 ACTING FOR THE COMMISSIONER
 (T2a)

By _____
 (For the) (Division Administrator)

By _____
 (T2b)

By _____
 (T2c)

M2E1 +81,424.00

MAR 02 2015

Project 2012-66-182 - Multimodal Connector Phase I

Date: February 24, 2015 at 12:22:18 PM CST

To: Monique Hazlewood <Monique.Hazlewood@tn.gov>

Cc: Wayne Hall <cm@fairview-tn.org>

Monique, Design and NEPA are complete. I need \$20,000 in engineering (property acquisition services, pre-bid services, bid phase services). For CEI during construction I need \$40,000. The remaining \$21,424 for construction. Thanks, Frank

On Feb 24, 2015, at 9:02 AM, Monique Hazlewood <Monique.Hazlewood@tn.gov> wrote:

Hi Frank,

I will forward the email below to the Enhancements/TA Office for PIN 117542.00 Multimodal Connector Phase I.

Please also verify the use of STP funds in the following amounts for PIN 117004.00 Fairview Middle School SRTS project:

\$20,000 NEPA phase

\$30,000 Design phase

\$31,424 ROW phase

\$81,424.00 Total STP funds

Once I know these amounts are correct, I will get the funds obligated.

Thanks,

Monique Hazlewood

<image001.png>

Local Programs Development Office

505 Deaderick Street

Suite 600, James K. Polk Building

Nashville, TN 37243

(615) 532-3176

Monique.Hazlewood@tn.gov

From: Frank Humber [<mailto:fhumber@fairview-tn.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 6:35 AM

To: Monique Hazlewood

Cc: Wayne Hall

Subject: Fwd: Project Cost Update for Old Franklin Road Sidewalk Project - TIP Project 2012-66-182 - Multimodal Connector Phase I

This is an updated cost estimate on PIN 117542.00 Thanks, Frank

Begin forwarded message:



City of Fairview Parks System



March 2015

Introduction and Background

The City of Fairview is dedicated to the enhancement of the community and the quality of life afforded its residents. Along with excellent schools and a relatively low cost of living compared to other Nashville suburbs, Fairview possesses a large amount of natural foliage including an expansive nature park. The Board of Commissioners approved the forming of a Park Commission in order to serve as an advisory committee to the Board in matters such as park improvements and expansion, and to serve as a conduit for public input to priorities and desire for those improvements.

Working with the City of Fairview Park Staff, the Park Commission has developed a comprehensive approach to the maintenance and development of our city park system. While Bowie Nature Park remains the cornerstone of our system, the survey recently conducted by the Park Commission clearly indicates a public desire to expand both the locations and services being offered.

The Park Commission has developed 6 areas of focus. In order to provide continuity and achieve the desired goal, each new project must conform to one of the long term focuses. They are:

- Maintenance of Current Services and Facilities

Prior to improving or expanding our parks system the City must first ensure that the current facilities are staffed and maintained. This is the first step in providing a quality list of recreation opportunities to the citizens. Currently, the Park Commission believes that the level of staffing is at maximum work capacity and as other projects are brought online the analysis of additional staff and equipment needs must be addressed as part of the development. Failure to keep pace with resources will negate any effort to improve the park system.

- Complete Outstanding Projects

Once a project is initiated, the completion of that project becomes a priority. Multiple semi-completed efforts are not an enhancement to the park system they are a detractor. The Park Commission endorses an approach that moves incrementally rather than one that starts a number of projects but completes none.

- American Disability Act (ADA) Accessibility

While the law requires certain actions to accommodate handicapped citizens, the overall goal of the park system ADA compliance effort should not be limited to just meeting the requirements but should be structured in a way that truly enhances the experience for our handicapped citizens and visitors.

- Expand Parks and Services

The survey provided several ideas for expansion of the park system. Prior to initiating any of these suggestions or any new suggestions that may arise, a full analysis of the best location, cost, and maintenance resources must be completed. While some projects may take multi-

years to fund and build, the goal should be to complete the new service or park within the same fiscal year cycle as approved.

- Utilize Automation to Improve Operations

Currently the park system charges only limited fees for use. In the long term, fee for service is a method by which services can be expanded. There should remain some services that are free; however others should charge a fee in order to help transfer the cost from the taxpayer to the user. The current manual collection system needs an overhaul and the security of multiple locations will present new challenges for the Park Rangers that must be addressed. Automation and electronic surveillance are less expensive than manpower and should be pursued as the system expands.

- Partnership with Williamson County

Williamson County provides a wide variety of recreational services to our citizens. They have indicated a willingness to partner with us on the expansion of services to our city provided we share the cost. Rather than absorbing the cost entirely the City should actively pursue assistance from WCPR in the development of large cost projects.



PARK SYSTEM SURVEY

In 2012, The City of Fairview and Fairview Park Commission created a survey to better understand how Bowie Nature Park was being used and how often people typically visit. The survey also included questions about a citywide Park System, and what initiatives the public would like to see pursued in terms of the Park System as a whole.

The survey was first available in September 2012 at Nature Fest in Bowie Nature Park. It then was made available on the City of Fairview's website and at the Nature Center through December 2012. A total of 327 survey responses were collected.

The results from this survey have helped shape the issues, challenges, and opportunities for the City in developing a comprehensive recreation and parks vision.

Based on the survey, a majority of visitors to Bowie Nature Park come for the trails, with the majority of those accessing them for walking or hiking. The next largest group to use the Park comes to picnic or play on the Treehouse Playground.

A majority of responders indicated that they visit the Nature Park one to two times a month. When looking at how participants ranked initiatives more than 50% of the survey responders saw five initiatives as very important or somewhat important. They were 1) More programs and events 2) more trails 3) additional parks 4) more picnic areas and 5) a community garden



City of Fairview Parks Department Staffing and Equipment

Currently the Parks Department has the responsibility for the programs, camps and events at Bowie Nature Park and peripheral support for other events such as the annual Christmas Tree Lighting, decorating City Hall and the annual Independence Day celebration. Parks Maintenance staff provides lawn maintenance, development, oversight and performance of construction projects, emergency repair services and landscaping efforts at all the City Parks and City Hall. The Parks Maintenance staff also serves as a back-up resource during citywide times of emergency. The two work units are organizationally aligned under the Director Community Services Division who is also responsible for the Public Works and Streets Department. Security for the City Parks is provided by three part-time Park Rangers (Park Police Officers) who are aligned under the Fairview Police Department.

Currently the Park's staff is larger than at any time since Dr. Bowie deeded the land to the City of Fairview. The Park Staff is divided into 2 separate functions.

- The Park Maintenance Staff is managed by the Park Superintendant whose duties include overseeing the various parks maintenance and landscaping including City Hall; managing the Park's maintenance budget; overseeing the Park's different management plans (i.e. forestry, burn, trails, etc.); and ensuring the park maintenance equipment is properly maintained. In addition, smaller construction projects and event support fall to the maintenance team. This team includes an equipment operator and a part-time maintenance worker.
- The Program Director manages the Program and Event Staff. This team's duties include the planning, developing, and implementation of classes, summer camp, and special events; overseeing the volunteer program and marketing/public relations programs for the Parks Department. This team includes one full-time Naturalist, a part-time receptionist and several part-time camp counselors/naturalists.

Providing security and event support for the parks is the Park Police Officers (Park Rangers). The three part-time officers use a rotating schedule to ensure their presence during the times when the parks are most active and to cover events.

The Parks Department has its own set of vehicles and equipment. They include 2 trucks, a mini-van, two (2) zero-turn mowers, a utility vehicle for program use, a maintenance ATV for the trails, a small tractor and 2 trailers. Most of the equipment is aged, however each year as the budget allows, equipment or vehicles are being added or replaced.

As we expand our City Park System, the Parks Department will need additional staff and more equipment. The Board of Commissioners and the Park Commission are in support of this identified need and are taking steps to provide the resources required to make our Parks System better.



Bowie Nature Park is an important natural and recreational resource for the City of Fairview. It's almost entirely pristine terrain, spread over approximately 680 acres, accommodates a range of uses and needs, spanning from conservation of wildlife habitat to recreational activities such as mountain bike and horseback riding.

Bowie Nature Park is part of the Land Trust of Tennessee ensuring its viability for years to come. The Conservation Easement of Bowie Nature Park require that all permanent improvements or actions such as forestry plans, buildings, trails, picnic areas, etc. must have prior written concurrence from the Land Trust.

Bowie Nature Park is located just off Highway 100 within the City of Fairview in the northwest corner of Williamson County, TN. The property is accessed off of Bowie Lake Road which runs east-west off of Highway 100. Bowie Nature Park is primarily a natural forest habitat consisting of pine forest, mixed deciduous upland forest and mixed deciduous riparian forests. The Park possesses scenic natural beauty and is located in the midst of an area of increasing development and subdivision of land for residential and commercial purposes.

Elevations range from 900' above sea level in the eastern area of the Park, to 720' above sea level in the park's western-most portion, at the lower reaches of Little Turnbull Creek. Slopes are generally mildly steep and increase in the hollows.

Fairview City Hall, which fronts on Highway 100, is adjacent to the Park in the northeast corner. Fairview Fire Hall is located adjacent to the entrance of the Park on Bowie Lake Road.

HISTORY OF THE PARK

Beginning around 1954, Dr. Evangeline Bowie began buying property in the Fairview area. Large areas of this land were stripped to the bare soil for farming and tree farming purposes. Agricultural practices in the 1920's and 1930's by family owned farms did not include techniques used today to prevent erosion and soil depletion. Dr. Bowie was faced with barren land, scored by deep, long gullies that carried off 20 to 30 tons of topsoil a year during rains. Equipped with a bulldozer and pine seedlings, Dr. Bowie began a reclamation process that would continue well into the next century. Using different techniques of conservation, gullies, terracing, building dams and planting trees, Dr. Bowie was able to bring life back to what was previously an ecologically distressed land.

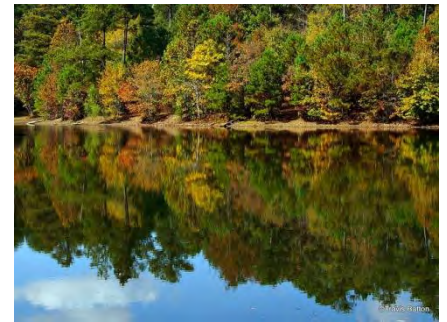
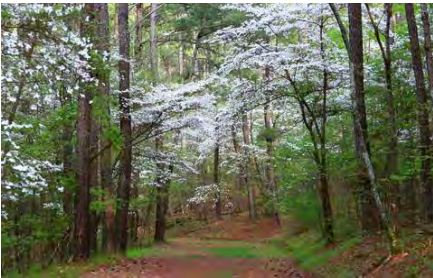
The land that is now known as Bowie Nature Park was deeded to the City of Fairview on December 22, 1988 by Dr. Bowie for use as a nature park and totaled 722 acres. Some of the land was sold or

used by the City to build City Hall and to allow for the land to build the Bowie Commons Shopping area. In 2003, Bowie Park Nature Center was completed and opened. The center offers programming activities, nature and art exhibits, as well as the opportunity for visitors to learn more about the park itself through brochures, art, and a small museum that details the Park's unique history.

The property is used by the City as a nature park with recreational and educational uses and is improved with typical nature park improvements. Bowie Park remains the cornerstone of the City of Fairview Park System however the park does have limitations designed to retain its core value as a nature park.

The Park contains over three miles of streams, all of which are located within the Harpeth River watershed and the Little Turnbull Creek sub-watershed. Little Turnbull Creek bisects the park from southeast to northwest and enters Turnbull creek northwest of the Park. Turnbull Creek flows into the South Harpeth River approximately 8 miles north of the Park. In addition, within the park, several first-order streams drain into Little Turnbull Creek. In addition the Park contains several fishing lakes. Anglers are required to possess a Tennessee fishing license. No boating or swimming is allowed in the lakes without Park Ranger approval.

The majority of the Park is designed as a Nature Park. Areas of access are generally intended for passive activities that minimize the disturbance to the natural areas. Currently the Park Staff, in conjunction with the Land Trust and the Park Commission, is working on a Forestry Management Plan that includes thinning some of the overpopulated Loblolly Pine Trees, establishing a regular burn cycle for the underbrush and a tree replacement program.



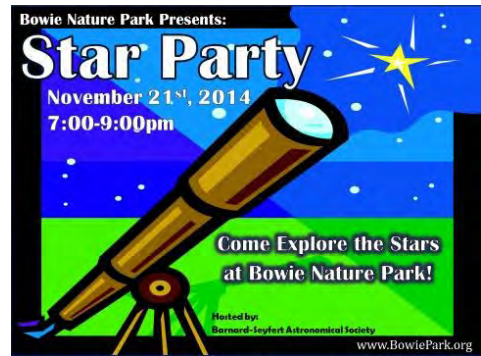
The park's trails offer many opportunities. They include hiking and walking, wildlife viewing, running, mountain bike riding and horseback riding. Most of the Park's trails, which also offer abundant educational resources, are semi-improved grass, dirt, mulch, or gravel paths. Several benches are provided along the trail system along with informational kiosks.

Trails are well marked with directional signage. These signs were purchased by The Friends of Bowie Nature Park. The signs help visitors find their way on the 17 miles of trails. Additionally spaced throughout the park are 7 informational kiosks providing information about trails, the Park and upcoming programs.



Active uses of the park are centered on the picnic and play areas. Three picnic shelters exist within the park. Two are on the shores of Lake Van, where picnic tables and grills can also be found. The third shelter lies in the northwestern part of the Park, between Lake Anna and Lake Byrd. Other opportunities for active use can be found at the Treehouse Playground, Bowie Nature Center, and Joann's Outdoor Classroom. All are situated in the east end of the Park, near the Lake Van area, with the Playground and Nature Center being accessible via the main entrance road. The Outdoor Classroom can be gained by means of a short trail leading from the rear of the Nature Center.

Programs at Bowie Nature Park include summer day camps, nature classes for adults and/or children, school tours, scout programs, special events like the Fall Fun Day, concerts, and Star Parties. The Program staff partner with organizations like Bernard Seyfert Astronomical Society and Williamson County Health Department to put on many events and programs. Programs have greatly increased in the last several years with participants in programs nearly doubling since 2011.



Bowie Park Nature Center was completed in 2003. It acts as a welcome center, and also houses programs, special events, the Bowie Museum, staff offices, and the Discovery Room. The Nature Center is occasionally rented by the public. The building has two public restrooms and the foyer consists of a large open area with fireplace, nature exhibits, Bowie Museum and welcome desk.

Joann's Outdoor Classroom was built in Bowie Nature Park October 2002 in memory of Joann Tiesler. The Classroom is a 1,000 square foot facility that can seat 100 people and features a stage, 2 lockable storage areas, mobile tables and benches, and a wooden fence with gates. Its primary use is as an outdoor classroom to support the park and schoolteachers when students come to the park for nature classes. Sharing a parking lot with the Nature Center, the Classroom also can be rented for special occasions. Electricity was provided to the Classroom in 2011 through a grant obtained by the Friends of Bowie Nature Park.



Treehouse Playground

In May of 1998 the Fairview Community built the “Treehouse Playground”. The Treehouse Playground is a fantastic playground for children and parents that provide safety without sacrificing fun. It has multi-level wooden structures with mazes, inter connecting tunnels, ramps, bridges and ladders. There are areas set aside for toddlers as well as a wheelchair assessable area. The playground area includes picnic tables and a 1/4 mile hard-surface walking trail.



Pine Tree Stage is an open-aired covered stage with bench seating in front located between Lake Van and the Main Power line. The stage had an expansion of floor and roof area after initial construction with monetary and labored help from the Friends of Bowie Nature Park in 2004.

The terrestrial environment of the Bowie Nature Park consists primarily of hardwood forest, pine plantations, and an open field area. Before Dr. Bowie purchased the land in the 1950's, most of the areas had been cleared for cultivation. Woodlands currently occupy more than 650 acres on the Bowie Nature Park, a majority of the park's total area. Pine and mixed deciduous hardwood forests dominate the natural landscape of the park.

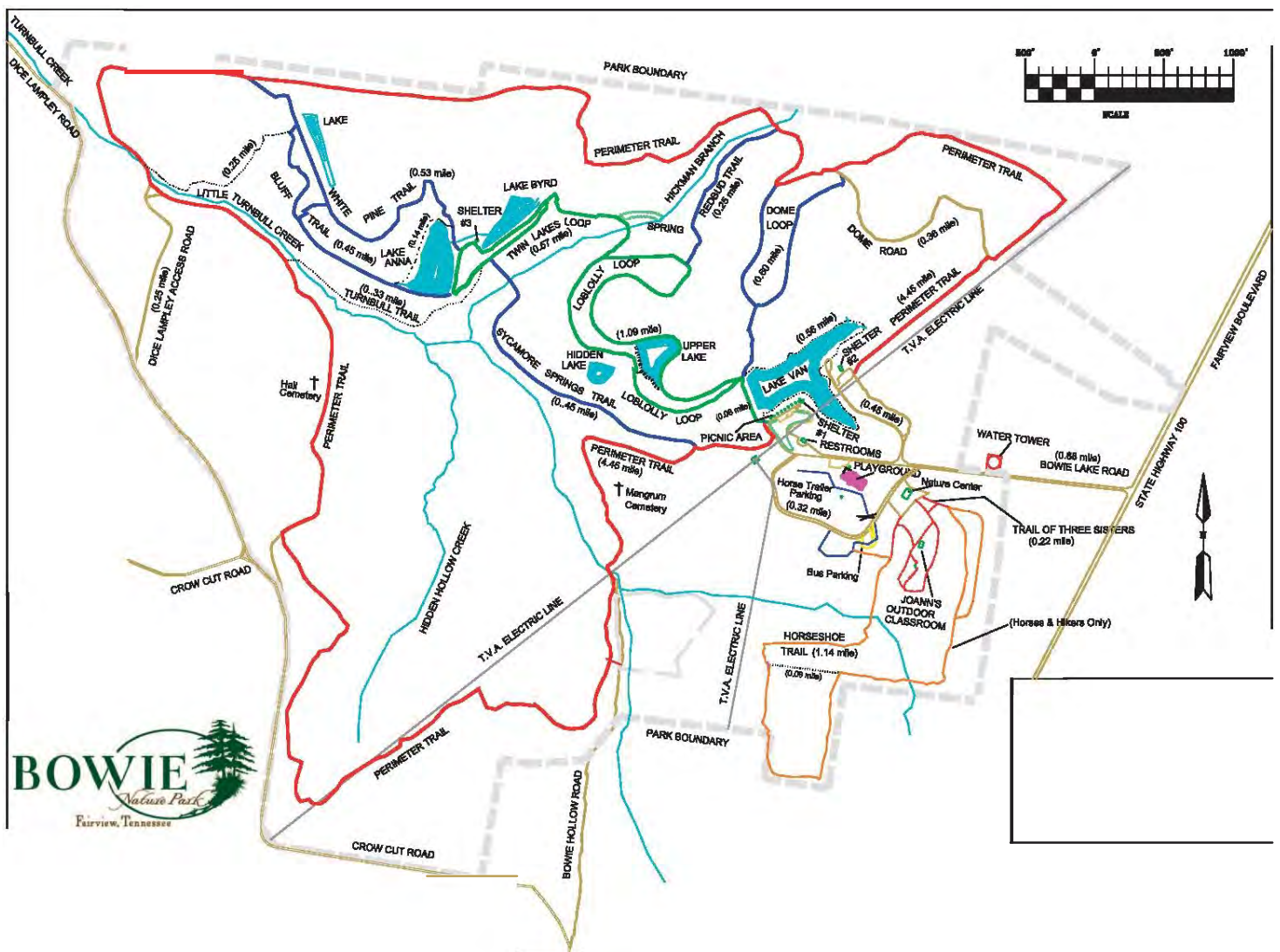


Bowie Park is home to a diverse community of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish depending on both terrestrial and aquatic habitat types. Over 40 species of amphibians and reptiles have been observed in the park, with more than 80 species of birds. Over 200 individual fish species representing 45 families were collected according to Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation protocols.

The Park offers several special events throughout the year. The most recently-added have been Barks for Parks, a summer concert series and a Fall Fun Day. The Park also participates in ecological events and celebrations.

In the long term, Bowie Nature Park will continue to serve important habitat, ecological, open space, and recreational needs for the City. In the short term the following improvements are underway and will be completed within the next six months.

- Walking bridge over Turnbull Creek
- ADA sidewalk and access to Joann's Classroom
- Phase II of the street and parking lot paving at the Nature Center



HISTORY VILLAGE



The restoration of the Triangle School and the History Village Area is a joint project between the City of Fairview and the Fairview TN Historical Association (FHA).

Triangle School opened as a three-room school in January, 1939. It served students in grades 1-8. From then until its closing in 1962, Triangle was the educational, social, and cultural center of the community. In addition, during World War II, it also served as a community cannery. Triangle School is the only remaining restorable country school building in the First District of Williamson County, an area that includes the City of Fairview. From 1962 until 2006, the building was used as a private residence and as a storage facility for the City of Fairview. With the founding of the Fairview Historical Association in late 2007, the initial goal was protection of the entire 3.5 acre site against division and development. The needed protection was obtained once historical zoning was established and the property was re-zoned from Residential to Historic. The plan of the Historical Association is to develop the 3.5 acre site into The Historic Village of Fairview. Triangle School will serve as the anchor for the Village. In addition to the restoration of the Triangle School, the FHA has secured and placed on the property the original 1858 Jingo Post Office and the original Medical Clinic in the 1st District of Williamson County. Both of these buildings are being restored and will be displayed in their original condition with artifacts from the time period.

The complex is scheduled for opening in May 2015. Not only will it serve as a museum, when finished but plans are to allow rental of the space for events and to possibly house the Fairview Chamber of Commerce or a City of Fairview Tourism office



VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK at EVERGREEN LAKE



Veterans Memorial Park (officially named Veterans Memorial Park at Evergreen Lake) is an approximately 5-acre, city-owned property that lies within the confines of the much larger Evergreen Industrial Park. Veterans Park has two picnic tables, three benches, and a lake or pond ringed by a walking trail. Covering 3.3 acres, the lake is approximately 200 feet long by about 150 feet across at its widest point, with a small foot bridge over its narrower, southwest end. The trail and the body of water are the predominant features, comprising the majority of the park's land area, although vegetation and trees—deciduous and loblolly pine in roughly equal amounts are abundant throughout. The park is located off Highway 96 on Black Pine Road.

The area comprising the Evergreen Industrial Park was left to the city by Dr. Evangeline Bowie as part of her estate upon her death on February 10, 1992. The lake, from the time of the city's acquisition in 1992, was used by local fishermen, but the Evergreen property was never officially designated as a city park until 2012. Until that time few efforts were made to improve the facility, however within the last few years that situation has changed in response to several major subdivisions beginning developed in the immediate area and the desire to expand the City Park System.

In June of 2012 the Board of Commissioners designated the Evergreen Lake property for use as a public park, and the following year the board named the park **Veterans Memorial Park at Evergreen Lake**, in honor of U.S. veterans. At that time, the Parks Department staff began an extensive project to clear brush and make other improvements. Presently the park can be used for picnicking, jogging, walking, and fishing.

An assessment of fish population of the lake was conducted in June of 2013 by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. TWRA found bluegill and sunfish (shell cracker) in ample sizes and numbers. The assessment also detected the bass population to be of insufficient sizes, and the abundance was not great. TWRA collected crappie but no channel catfish were detected. However, the pond has since been stocked with catfish, and based on the TWRA assessment and recommendations, the city decided to hold the 2014 fishing rodeo at Veterans Park.

Bowie Nature Park **Fishing Rodeo** Saturday, June 8th

Ages 16 and Under
7:00am—10:00am
(Registration begins at 6:30am)

Sponsored by:
Dick's Sporting Goods
& Publix



BOWIE



The Park Staff has already begun another round of improvements to this park. Among the items on the immediate horizon are the construction of an ADA trail including fishing access to the lake, a flag stand monument, fishing piers, improved signage and an improved parking lot.

As public awareness and use of the park continues to grow long range efforts will include restrooms and the upgrading of the access roads.



Cooperative Efforts with Williamson County



Recreation Center

The City of Fairview and Williamson County have had a strong relationship in providing recreational facilities and activities for the western part of Williamson County. Currently the WCPR provides a full-service recreation center complete with the following amenities:

- Gymnasium
- Meeting Room
- Classrooms
- Game Room
- Concessions/Restrooms
- Playground
- Walking Trail
- Wellness Center
- Sitting Service
- Arts & Crafts Classes
- Group Fitness Classes



Athletic Fields and Programs

In addition the WCPR provides several athletic fields and coordination for youth and adult leagues. At the time of this writing, Fairview has a youth football field, several soccer fields with additional fields in the works and a baseball/softball complex complete with concession and restroom facilities.



Swimming Facilities

WCPR provides a Seasonal 25-yard, 6 lane "Z-shape" competition pool with 4 tube waterslide and zero entry including pavilion facilities that can be reserved for events, parties or family gatherings.



Library Facilities

In conjunction with the Williamson County Public Library System, a branch library is available in Fairview for the citizens of Fairview and Western Williamson County. The branch is a full-service library offering reading programs for children and adults alike. Library accounts are free to Williamson County residents.

Recently the City of Fairview and WCPL embarked on an expansion and improvement project for the branch. Funded at 50/50 from each government, the improved facility will offer more meeting and computer space as well as a renovation and realignment of the current floor space.



Community Garden

With a cooperative effort, the City of Fairview and Fairview High School have opened a community garden. The idea was first raised in 2012 by a local citizen and through the efforts of the City Officials, the High School staff and many others became a reality in September 2014. According to Dr. Oyer, the Principal at FHS, "Our current plan for this garden is to use the spirit, the teaching opportunity, and the charisma of both our students and teachers during the school year. We need our master gardeners and citizen volunteers to help maintain, harvest and replant during the summer months so that we are creating that connection and partnership."

Future Cooperative Effort Plans

As Fairview continues to grow, so will the needs and desires of its citizens for improved recreational facilities. Williamson County Government has indicated willingness on a share and share alike cost basis to work with the City to provide these facilities.

Among the items under early consideration are:

- An expansion of our soccer fields including the possible construction of an indoor practice facility on the Elrod Road location.
- An expanded and modernized recreation center with additional basketball courts and other athletic facilities.
- A water park complete with pavilions and picnic facilities.
- A skate park



FUTURE PARK SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

The City of Fairview is dedicated to providing a park system that its citizens can be proud of and will use frequently. The overall goals of the system are for our parks to be diverse in the programs and facilities they offer, to be ADA compliant so that all can enjoy their use and for them to be safe so that citizens can enjoy the park system without worry.

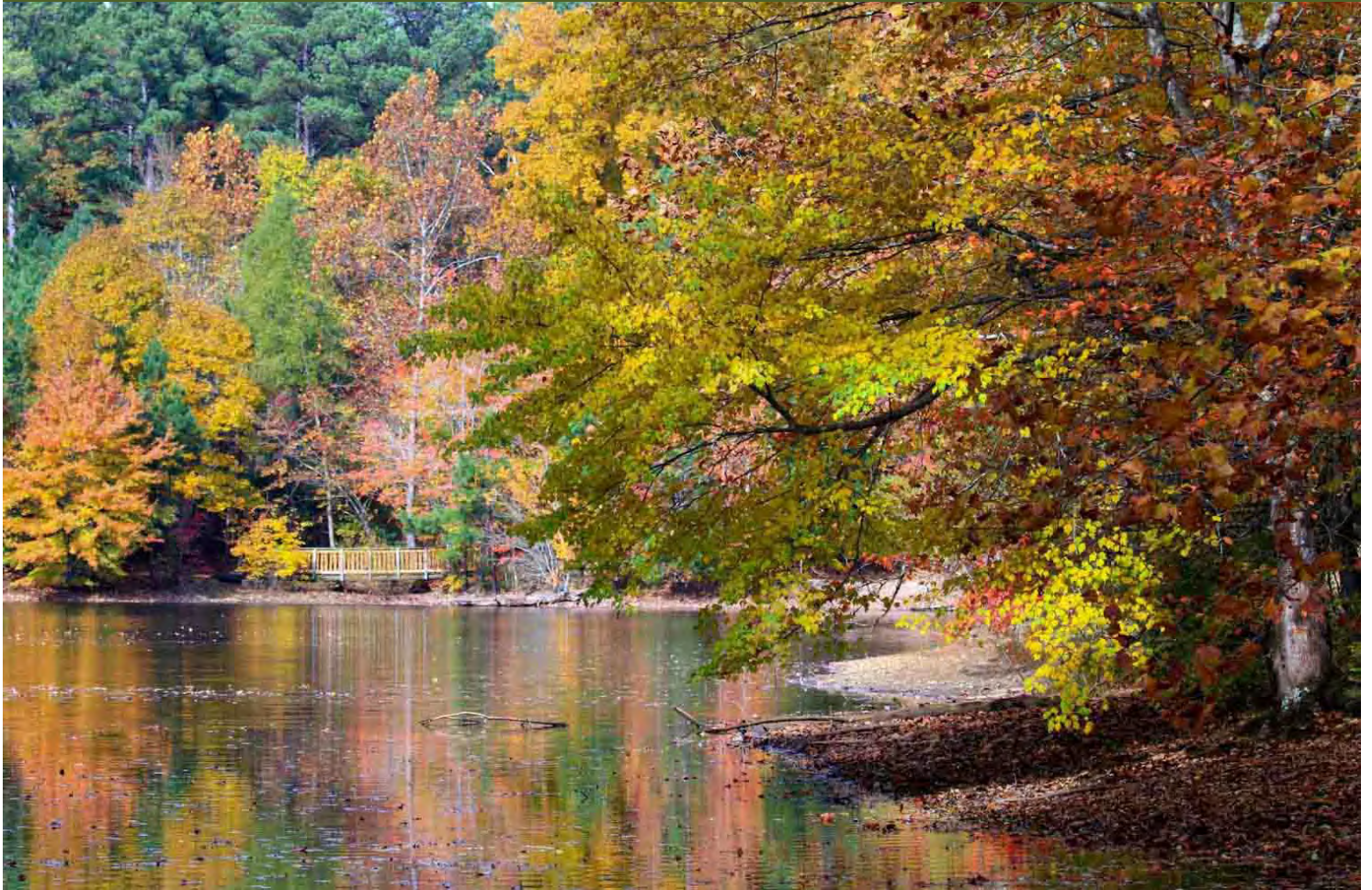
Through the survey process and the Park Commission as well as the City of Fairview Park staff, ideas are surfaced for consideration. A few of the items being discussed as future projects include but not limited to:

- A dog park
- Camping at one or more parks
- Neighborhood playgrounds
- Expanded greenways and connection of city sidewalks with park locations
- A horse riders arena and facility
- Additional bike trails

This overview is designed to provide an outline of the current thinking and development of the City of Fairview Park System. As the City continues to grow this document will need to be amended to identify and include new forms of recreation and the desires of the ever-changing population. We invite you to visit one of our parks and provide any thoughts or suggestions you might have to us through the City of Fairview website www.fairview-tn.org . We hope to see you soon!



Bowie Nature Park Master Plan



City of Fairview, Tennessee
March 2015



PROJECT TEAM

CITY OF FAIRVIEW PARKS DEPARTMENT

Keith Paisley, Community Service Director

Jenny Herrera, Program Director

Nancy Carter, Naturalist

Bryan Bissell, Park Superintendent

PARK COMMISSION

Ron Rowe, Chairman

Jack Cannon, Vice Chairman

Richard Edmondson, Secretary

Allen Bissell

Brandon Butler

Patti Carroll

Jim Power

Beverly Totty, Past Chairman

Bob Benson, Past Member

Mark Dietze, Past Member

Neil Rice, Past Member

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1 SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

Bowie Nature Park is an important natural and recreational resource for the City of Fairview. Its almost entirely pristine terrain, spread over 680 acres, accommodates a range of uses and needs, spanning from conservation of wildlife habitat to recreational activities such as mountain bike and horseback riding. Intended to be flexible and dynamic, this master plan can and should be adapted to Fairview's changing needs in the coming years. As with any master plan of this type, it is meant to guide management and maintenance activities in the park, as well as provide a framework and context for future decisions over the next 20 years, focusing on those aspects identified herein as priorities.

1.1 MASTER PLAN GOALS

The goals of the Bowie Nature Park Master Plan are:

- To provide a clear direction for the future of the Park by defining a vision and guiding principles that represent the fundamental role of the Park within the City;
- To recommend and prioritize specific actions necessary to preserve and improve Park resources; and,
- To build a foundation for planning and implementing future plans in the Park, including maintenance and management of habitat, vegetation, programming, facilities, and infrastructure.

1.2 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS

The Bowie Nature Park Master Plan refers to or integrates with a number of planning documents, including:

- Warranty Deed from Evangeline Bowie (Williamson County, Tennessee, 1988)
- Fairview Parks Department Master Plan (City of Fairview, 1997)
- Fairview 2020 Comprehensive Plan (City of Fairview, 2000)
- Conservation Easement (City of Fairview and The Land Trust of Tennessee, Inc., 2008)
- Ecology Report of the Bowie Nature Park (Civil and Environmental Consultants Inc., 2008)
- Bowie Nature Park Burn Management Plan (Fairview Parks Department, 2008)
- Bowie Nature Park Trails Maintenance Plan (Fairview Parks Department, 2008)
- Public Pond Management Recommendations (Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, 2013)
- Forest Management Plan-Pine Thinning Plan (City of Fairview, 2013)

1.3 PARTNERS

In addition to the City, several other organizations and agencies act in an advisory or consulting capacity for Bowie Nature Park. They are:

- The Land Trust For Tennessee, Inc., which oversees the Conservation Easement of Bowie Nature Park. Under the terms of the easement, all permanent improvements such as forestry plans, buildings, trails, picnic areas, etc. must have prior written consent of the Land Trust;
- Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, which has consulted and made recommendations for management of Park ponds;
- Tennessee Department of Agriculture (Division of Forestry), which has consulted and helped plan and administer the Park's prescribed burn plans and is currently consulting on a forestry plan for Bowie Nature Park;
- Tennessee Valley Authority, which has management rights of two power lines and the right of way around them in the Park;
- Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (Division of Water Supply) , which inspects and gives recommendations in regards to the dams at Lake Anna and Lake Van; and,
- Friends of Bowie Nature Park, which offers support to Park Staff via volunteer opportunities, fundraising events, Park projects, etc.

2 LOCATION & CONTEXT

This chapter describes the Park in terms of its location and physical characteristics. It also discusses the context of the Park from a land-use perspective, as well as examining its history and role within the City.

2.1 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Bowie nature Park is located just off Highway 100 within the City of Fairview in the northwest corner of Williamson County, TN. The property is accessed off of Bowie Lake Road which runs east-west off of Highway 100.

Bowie Nature Park is primarily natural forest habitat consisting of pine forest, mixed deciduous upland forest and mixed deciduous riparian forests. The Park possesses scenic natural beauty and is located in the midst of an area of increasing development and subdivision of land for residential and commercial purposes.

According to the “Ecology Report of the Bowie Nature Park”, prepared by Civil and Environmental Consultants (May 2008), the topography at Bowie Nature Park is rolling to steep. Elevations range from 900’ above sea level in the eastern area of the Park, to 720’ above sea level in the park’s western-most portion, at the lower reaches of Little Turnbull Creek. Slopes are generally mildly steep and increase in the hollows.

The Park has approximately seven-tenths of a mile of frontage on Crow Cut Road and seven-tenths of a mile of frontage on Dice Lampley Road, both public rights of way. The Park is also visible from Fairview Blvd./State Highway 100 with minimal road frontage.

2.2 NEIGHBORING LAND INFLUENCES

Much of the land surrounding the park has been converted to residential, commercial or municipal uses. There is one private in-holding inside the park, called Bowie Hollow, that is accessed via Bowie Hollow Road off of Crow Cut Road.

Fairview City Hall, which fronts on Highway 100, is adjacent to the Park in the northeast corner. Fairview Fire Hall is located adjacent to the entrance of the Park on Bowie Lake Road.

Within 2 miles of the Park are the following residential subdivisions: Castleberry Farms, Chester Estates, Sharpes Run, Meadow Wood, Fernvale Heights, Western Woods Village, Clearview Meadows, Kingwood, Cox Run, Valley Green, Pinecrest, and Aden Woods of Castleberry.

Also, directly adjacent to the Park, are several commercial businesses, including Bowie Commons, Tractor Supply, Walmart, and Scott Fetzer Electrical Group, as well as Fairview Public Library, which is operated by Williamson County.

2.3 HISTORY OF THE PARK

Beginning around 1954, Dr. Evangeline Bowie began buying property in the Fairview area. Large areas of this land were stripped to the bare soil for farming and tree farming purposes.

Agricultural practices in the 1920's and 1930's by family owned farms did not include techniques used today to prevent erosion and soil depletion. Dr. Bowie was faced with barren land, scored by deep, long gullies that carried off 20 to 30 tons of topsoil a year during rains. Equipped with a bulldozer and pine seedlings, Dr. Bowie began a reclamation process that this plan proposes to continue well into the next century. Using different techniques of conservation, such as filling gullies, terracing, building dams and planting trees, Dr. Bowie was able to bring life back to what was previously an ecologically distressed land.

The land that is now known as Bowie Nature Park was deeded to the City of Fairview on December 22, 1988 by Dr. Bowie for use as a nature park and totaled 722 acres. Dr. Bowie's deed (1988) included several provisions to include that any portion of the property could be liquidated if it would not diminish the utilization of the land as a wildlife preserve and/or park and funds derived from the sale would have to be reinvested in to improvements back in to the remaining property.

Improvements to the property from 1988 until 2003 include: trail management, paving of an entrance road to Shelter #1 and Shelter #2, as well as construction of outdoor restrooms, picnic tables and shelters, benches, a playground, stage, bridges, and boardwalks.

In 2003, Bowie Park Nature Center was completed and opened. The center offers programming activities, nature and art exhibits, as well as the opportunity for visitors to learn more about the park itself through brochures, art, and a small museum that details the Park's unique history.

In 2008, Bowie Nature Park, part of the legacy of land provided by Dr. Bowie, was placed in a conservation easement overseen by the Land Trust For Tennessee, preserving it for future generations.

The Park when placed in the conservation easement totaled 680 acres compared to 722 acres. Land that is no longer part of the original Bowie Nature Park property but still owned by the City include land for City Hall, the property known as the Out Parcel, and the land that the new Fire Hall and Community Service building sit on. The rest of the 42 acres not part of the current Park land (nearly 6 acres) was sold by the City and is now Bowie Commons shopping area.

2.4 ROLE OF THE PARK WITHIN THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW

The property is used by the City as a nature park with passive recreational and educational uses and is improved with typical nature park improvements. The "Fairview 2020 Comprehensive Plan" (2000) states:

The City of Fairview envisions Bowie Nature Park as one of the finest examples of "Nature Parks" in the state of Tennessee. By showcasing its outstanding natural beauty and unique cultural heritage, the park will offer to both present and future generations a place where people can experience the natural processes in a variety of ecosystems. By enhancing this park we can provide environmentally compatible recreation for city residents while teaching respect and care for the land and natural resources.

2.5 ROLE OF THE PARK WITHIN THE WATERSHED

The Park contains over three miles of streams, all of which are located within the Harpeth River watershed and the Little Turnbull Creek sub-watershed. Little Turnbull Creek bisects the park from southeast to northwest and enters Turnbull Creek northwest of the Park. Turnbull Creek flows into the South Harpeth River approximately 8 miles north of the Park. In addition, within the park, several first-order streams drain into Little Turnbull Creek. These are Walter Creek (also known as Hickman Branch), Hidden Hollow Creek and several unnamed tributaries. (Conservation Easement, 2008)

For more information see Appendix 9 of the “Conservation Easement”.

3 BOWIE NATURE PARK TODAY

This chapter examines the current conditions of Bowie Nature Park, including an overview of its prevailing uses, amenities in place today, current staffing, infrastructure and facilities, and the Park’s natural characteristics. These conditions help shape the issues, challenges, and opportunities discussed in Chapter 5.

3.1 CURRENT USES

Current uses in the park generally fall within three categories: Habitat, Passive Uses, and Active Uses. Each of these categories describes a particular type of use, but they are not necessarily spatially exclusive to one another. These use categories within the Park are each described in detail below.

3.1.1 Habitat

A majority of the Park can be placed in the Habitat category in that it is designated as a Nature Park. Habitat areas are generally intended for limited human use related to passive activities that minimize the disturbance to the natural areas. To further Dr. Evangeline Bowie’s wishes, the Habitat areas are managed for the conservation of the Park’s multiple biotic communities. Management and maintenance in these areas have included some invasive species removal, prescribed burns, and currently staff, in conjunction with State Foresters and the Park Board, are working on a Forestry Management Plan that includes thinning some of the overpopulated Loblolly Pine Trees.

3.1.2 Passive Uses

Park trails offer many opportunities for passive uses. These types of uses include hiking and walking, wildlife viewing, running, and mountain bike and horseback riding. Most of the Park’s trails, which also offer abundant educational resources, are semi-improved grass, dirt, mulch, or gravel paths, though with one paved path—connecting the Nature Center parking lot to, and around, the Treehouse playground. Several benches are provided along the trail system along with informational kiosks.

3.1.3 Active Uses

Active uses generally have a higher impact on surrounding habitat and typically are centered around picnic and play areas or fishing ponds. Bowie Park has relatively few active uses currently, with the majority located near or around Lake Van. Three picnic shelters exist within the park, two on the shore of Lake Van, where picnic tables and grills can also be found. The third shelter lies in the northwestern part of the Park, between Lake Anna and Lake Byrd. Other opportunities for active use can be found at the Treehouse Playground, Bowie Nature Center, and Joann’s Outdoor Classroom. All are situated in the east end of the Park, near the Lake Van area, with the Playground and Nature Center being accessible via the main entrance road. The Outdoor Classroom can be gained by means of a short trail leading from the rear of the Nature Center.

3.1.4 Programs

Programs at Bowie Nature Park include both active and passive uses. Programs include summer day camps, nature classes for adults and/or children, school tours, scout programs, special events like the Haunted Forest, concerts, and Star Parties. Bowie staff partner with organizations like Bernard Seyfert Astronomical Society and Williamson County Health Department to put on many events and programs. Programs have greatly increased in the last several years. Participants in programs have nearly doubled since 2011. In that year the Park had just over 6,000 participants, but by 2013 participants in programs had jumped to just over 12,000 people.

3.2 CURRENT STAFF

Currently the Park’s staff is larger than at any time since Dr. Bowie deeded the land to the City of Fairview. Positions include:

- Community Services Director—core duties include: overseeing the overall operations of the Parks and Public Works Departments.
- Park Superintendent—core duties include: overseeing and participating in the maintenance and up-keep of the Park and related equipment, assisting in planning, layout and completing of projects, and overseeing the different park management plans (i.e. forestry, trails, etc.)
- Program Director—core duties include: planning, developing, and implementing classes, summer camp, and special events, overseeing all naturalist staff, part-time receptionist, and summer camp staff, overseeing volunteer program, and marketing/public relations programs.
- Naturalist—currently the Park has one full-time Naturalist. Core duties include: assisting Program Director with programming classes, summer camp, and special events, teaching classes, answering calls and greeting visitors, and responsibility of live animals in the Discovery Room.

- Park Maintenance—currently the Park has 2 full-time Park Maintenance workers. Core duties include: trail maintenance, trash pickup, upkeep of outdoor restrooms, facility management, lawn care for the developed areas in the Park and City Hall, and setup, breakdown, and trash pickup during special events.
- Park Police—currently the Park has one full time and two part-time Park Police. Core duties include: park safety, closing the Park down at night, recording and reporting weather data to NOAA, and closing and opening trails based on trail conditions.
- Part-time Front Desk Receptionist—currently this person works Tuesday for a half day and works all day Saturday. Core duties include: answering calls, greeting guests, answering questions, some animal husbandry, and light cleaning of the front desk.
- Part-time Contract Naturalist—currently this person works as needed. Core duties include: heading the Park’s outreach program, helping with school tours at the Park as needed, and helping with special events as needed.

3.3 PARK AMENITIES

The Park has many amenities that would be found in a traditional “Nature” park. The table below identifies which amenities exist in Bowie Nature Park.

AMENITY	IN PARK	AMENITY	IN PARK
Benches	35	Shelters	3
Cooking Grills	8	Dog Waste Bag Stations	4
Fountain	1	Unsheltered Outdoor Classroom	1
Garbage Receptacles	17	Drinking Fountains	2
Gazebo	1	Kiosks	7
Horse Tie Offs	2	Pier	1
Picnic Tables	36	Bridges	10
Playground	1	Pay Stations	2
Stand Alone Swing Set	1	Workout Stations	4
Trails (Walking/hiking, horseback and mountain bike)	Approximately 17 miles	Stage	1
Boardwalk	1		

3.4 PARK INFRASTRUCTURE

3.4.1 Bowie Park Nature Center

The Nature Center was completed in 2003 and includes the main building, a small storage shed, small carport for Park ATV vehicles, and a parking lot. It acts as a welcome center, and also houses programs, special events, the Bowie Museum, staff offices, and the Discovery Room. The Nature Center is also occasionally rented by the public. Two main offices exist for staff, but various desk spaces, used by Park Police, and several empty spaces are available. The building has two public restrooms, for men and women, and one staff restroom. The foyer consists of a large open area with fireplace, nature exhibits, Bowie Museum and welcome desk. Completing out the Nature Center are one classroom and a storage room.

3.4.2 JoAnn's Outdoor Classroom

Janie Wells had Joann's Outdoor Classroom built in Bowie Nature Park October 2002 in memory of her daughter Joann Tiesler. The Classroom is a 1,000 square foot facility that can seat 100 people and features a stage, 2 lockable storage areas, mobile tables and benches, and a wooden fence with gates. Its primary use is as an outdoor classroom to support the park and schoolteachers when students come to the park for nature classes. Sharing a parking lot with the Nature Center, the Classroom also can be rented for special occasions. Electricity was provided to the Classroom in 2011 through a grant obtained by the Friends of Bowie Nature Park.

3.4.3. Signage

Trails are well marked with directional signage. These signs were purchased by The Friends of Bowie Nature Park. The signs help visitors find their way on the 17 miles of trails. Additionally spaced throughout the park are 7 informational kiosks providing information about trails, the Park and upcoming programs—while signage can also be found in the form of pay stations for horseback riders and mountain bike riders. Throughout the Nature Park, signs direct people to destinations and provide other useful information.

3.4.4 Roads and Parking Lots

One of the paved roads on the property is Bowie Lake Road, the entrance road to the Park off of Highway 100. Diverging from this road to the left, just after entering the park, is the chip and seal entrance road used to access the Nature Center and surrounding area. Bowie Lake Road also continues as a paved road past the Nature Center turn-off to the Treehouse Playground and the parking area for Lake Van. The other paved road is the Shelter #2 Loop Road which is located on the northeast corner of Lake Van.

The Nature Center parking lot is gravel and is located on the south side of the Nature Center. Other parking areas are paved and can be found near the Treehouse Playground, the outdoor restrooms, the picnic area near Shelter #1 and an area around Shelter #2. The open field south of the Playground is used for horse trailer parking and parking during large special events.

3.4.5 Outdoor Restroom

The outdoor restroom is a permanent building located just northwest of the Treehouse Playground. It includes a women's and men's restroom. The restroom includes electricity with heat.

3.4.6 Treehouse Playground

In May of 1998 the Fairview Community built the "Treehouse Playground". The Treehouse Playground is a fantastic playground for children and parents that provides safety without sacrificing fun. It has multi-level wooden structures with mazes, inter connecting tunnels, ramps, bridges and ladders. There are areas set aside for toddlers as well as a wheelchair assessable area. The playground area includes picnic tables and a 1/4 mile hard-surface walking trail.

3.4.7 Pine Tree Stage

It is an open-aired covered stage with bench seating in front located between Lake Van and the Main Power line. The stage's original dimensions are roughly 18'-3" wide by 14'-3" deep. The stage had an expansion of floor and roof area after initial construction with monetary and labored help from the Friends of Bowie Nature Park in 2004. In 2007 the Friends of Bowie Nature Park paid to replace the roof. The final dimensions are roughly 28'-3" wide by 14'-3" deep.

3.5 VEGETATION

From the "Ecology Report of the Bowie Nature Park" prepared by Civil and Environmental Consultants (CEC) in 2008:

The terrestrial environment of the Bowie Nature Park consists primarily of hardwood forest, pine plantations, and an open field area. Before Dr. Bowie purchased the land in the 1950's, most of the areas had been cleared for cultivation. Woodlands currently occupy more than 650 acres on the Bowie Nature Park, a majority of the park's total area. Pine (approximately 360 acres) and mixed deciduous hardwood forests (approximately 297 acres) dominate the natural landscape of the park.

For additional information about vegetation and Bowie Park Burn Plan, see Appendix 7 of the "Conservation Easement"

3.6 FISH AND WILDLIFE

Once again referencing the "ecology Report of Bowie Nature Park" prepared by CEC—Bowie Park is home to a diverse community of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish depending on both terrestrial and aquatic habitat types. Over 40 species of amphibians and reptiles have been observed in the park, with an additional 17 species listed as "likely to occur but not yet observed." More than 80 species of birds have been identified in the park by former Park naturalist Melissa Bell, and in excess of 200 individual fish species representing 45 families were collected according to Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation protocols.

According to the TDEC Division of Natural Heritage, 4 state-listed species of special concern were identified within a 4-mile radius of the Park—the Beaked Trout Lily (*Erythronium rostratum*), Eggert’s Sunflower (*Helianthus eggertii*), Small-headed rush (*Juncus brachycephalus*), and Large-leaved Grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia grandifolia*). In addition, CEC identified a Sharpscale Sedge (*Carex oxilepis* var. *pubescens*), also a state-listed species of concern. (Conservation Easement, 2008)

For more wildlife information see Appendix 7 of the “Conservation Easement”.

4 THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW'S PARK SYSTEM SURVEY 2012 SUMMARY

The City of Fairview and Fairview Parks Board created a survey to better understand how Bowie Nature Park was being used and how often people typically visit. The survey also included questions about the citywide Park System, and what initiatives the public would like to see pursued in terms of the Park System as a whole.

The survey was first available in September 2012 at Nature Fest in Bowie Nature Park. It then was available on the City of Fairview's website and at the Nature Center through December 2012. A total of 327 survey responses were collected.

The relevant results from this survey also help shape the issues, challenges, and opportunities discussed in Chapter 5.

A copy of the survey and the answers for questions number 1 through 4 can be found in Appendix A.

For analysis and summary the survey can be divided into 2 sections. The first section requested quantitative information from participants in questions 1 through 4. The second section asked qualitative questions in questions number 5 and 6.

4.1 QUANTITATIVE DATA SUMMARY (QUESTIONS #1-4 OF THE SURVEY)

Based on the 327 returned surveys, overwhelming numbers of visitors to Bowie Nature Park use the trails, with 245 of those accessing them for "walking/hiking". The next largest groups were those who use the Park to "picnic" (149 people) and those using the "Treehouse Playground" (125 people).

Participants were asked about what special events they had attended at Bowie Nature Park in the last 12 months. Out of the 327 survey takers, 203 had attended Nature Fest. May Fest was the second most attended event with 73 people.

When asked how many times the participants had visited Bowie Nature Park in the last year, the highest number of participants (92 people) had visited the park between 13 and 25 times. The rest of the ranges, from 1-4 all the way up to 25 or more times, were pretty evenly distributed. Sixty-three people had visited 1-4 times while 59 had visited the Park more than 25 times.

The last question in the quantitative section asked participants to rank the importance of a list of initiatives that the Park Administration could pursue. These initiatives could or could not be something they would pursue in Bowie Nature Park. When looking at how participants ranked initiatives—as either "very important" and "somewhat important"—more than 50% of the survey responders saw five initiatives as "very important" or "somewhat important". The "starting nature programs" initiative had 70.3% of responders ranking it as "very important" or "somewhat important". The second highest initiative ranked was "building more hiking trails," with 67.7% of the survey participants seeing the initiative as "very important" or somewhat important. Third was "acquiring new park land" (63.3%), fourth was "build more picnic areas" (58.4%), and fifth was "community garden" (57.8%).

4.2 QUALITATIVE DATA SUMMARY (QUESTIONS #5 & 6 OF THE SURVEY)

To summarize the data, answers for question #5 were looked at separately from question #6. For each question answers were read several times. Common themes were determined among the answers for each question. Answers were then coded under the different themes. Top answers are summarized in the next sections.

4.2.1 Results for Question #5 What other amenities or facilities would you like to see added to our park system?

Out of the 327 survey responses, 147 had a response to question #5. The following are the top 5 recurring answers:

1. Horseback Riding: 34 different people

The largest group of answers pertained to horseback riding, with the majority wanting more horse trails or the opening up of old ones, and many also desiring to see the trails open more often. Below is a breakdown of the results:

	# of responses	% of those who answered #5 (147)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Mentioned Horses	34	23%	10%
More horse trails	22	15%	6%
Trails open more often	15	10%	5%
Make horse ring/arena	4	3%	1%
Horse picnic area	2	1%	Less than 1%
Shower or water for horses	2	1%	Less than 1%
Horses to rent	1	Less than 1%	Less than 1%

2. Recreational facilities: 25 different people

The second largest group of answers were from people who wanted more recreational opportunities. (Most wanted these not to be in the Bowie Park, but would like to see them in the City.) Below is a breakdown of the results:

	# of responses	% of those who answered #5 (147)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Mentioned Recreational Needs	25	17%	8%
Add soccer, football, volleyball courts	19	13%	6%
Swimming Pool	8	5%	5%
Skate Park	4	3%	1%

3. Programming: 19 different people

The third largest group of repeated answers included people wanting more programming. Programming wants were split into classes, concerts/plays and Rehab center. Below is a breakdown of the results:

	# of responses	% of those who answered #5 (147)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Mentioned Programming Needs	19	13%	6%
More concerts/plays	11	7%	3%
Add classes	7	5%	2%
Wildlife Rehab facility	1	Less than 1%	Less than 1%

4. Camping: 18 different people

The fourth largest group of repeated answers included people wanting some form of camping; this included everything from primitive to RV opportunities

	# of responses	% of those who answered #5 (147)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Mentioned wanting campsites	18	12%	6%

5. Add physical structures in Bowie Park: 13 different people

The fifth largest group of repeated answers included people wanting some kind of facility in the park to include more restrooms, meeting places, and stage. Below is the breakdown of the results:

	# of responses	% of those who answered #5 (147)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Mentioned Structural needs in Bowie Park	13	9%	4%
Restrooms	8	5%	2%
Meeting/rental space	5	3%	2%
Better stage/amphitheater	3	2%	1%

4.2.2 Results for Question #6 Please include any COMMENTS you have below.

Out of the 327 surveys there were 88 surveys that had a response to question #6. The following are the top 4 recurring answers:

1. Nice Park/Great Job: 24 different people

The biggest recurring answer for question #6 included remarks about the park doing a great job and/or how great they think the park is.

	# of responses	% of those who answered #6 (88)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Nice Park/Great Job	24	27%	7%

2. Need for Sports/Rec Facilities: 22 different people

The second highest repeated answer was about the need for sports and rec facilities (Soccer, football, volleyball). Also included are those that wanted a pool and a skate park.

	# of responses	% of those who answered #6 (88)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Need for Sports/Rec Facilities	22	25%	7%

3. Leave Park Alone: 18 different people

The third highest group of answers included people that wanted the park to be left the way it was. (There seemed to be a lot of confusion in regards to the survey being just for Bowie Park rather than that is was for the entire Park System.)

	# of responses	% of those who answered #6 (88)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Leave Park Alone	18	20%	5%

4. Horseback Riders Wants/Concerns: 10 different people

The fourth highest group of recurring answers included comments of wanting more horse trails and/or separate horse only trails and also concerns with how often the trails were closed.

	# of separate responses	% of those who answered #6 (88)	% that filled out a survey (327)
Horse Wants/Concerns	10	11%	3%

5 KEY ISSUES, CHALLENGES, & OPPORTUNITIES

Chapter 5 explores the key issues, challenges, and opportunities facing Bowie Nature Park over the next 20 years. This chapter provides the rationale for the recommendations made in Chapter 6, based upon a number of factors. These factors include the context and current conditions of the Park, community input through the 2012 Park System Survey, and staff recommendations.

The key issues confronting the Park can be placed in these 4 general categories:

- Park Facilities and Infrastructure
- Habitat Management
- Programming Opportunities
- Staffing

Each of these 4 categories is explored in the chapter. For each category, a summary of related challenges and opportunities is shown, along with additional detail and discussion. Actions to address these challenges and opportunities are offered where applicable. The intent of this chapter is to provide a basis, rationale, and a desired outcome of the projects. It is expected that specifics of programs or projects will be reviewed and refined in the future based on the needs and constraints in place at the time.

5.1 PARK FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Although the role of the Park is to provide a natural resource area, some facilities and infrastructure are necessary to ensure that visitors can fully enjoy it as a recreational and educational asset. However, careful selection and placement of improvements is critical to stay consistent with the Park's primary mission as a natural resource area and to stay within the confines of the Conservation Easement.

5.1.1 Amenities for Active and Passive Uses

The number of Park visitors has grown in the last several years, mirroring the City of Fairview's growth and increasing the need for more amenities to better serve Park users. More benches should be added in scenic and commonly visited areas of the Park. Benches allow visitors to sit and enjoy nature and/or take a break while on the trail.

When looking at the 2012 survey and how people use the Park, picnicking was one of the top uses. More picnic tables should be added outside the Playground area, near the horse parking, and around Lake Van.

A 150 linear foot long pedestrian bridge should be built to connect Shelter #1 to Shelter #2. This will allow better accessibility to the eastern part of Lake Van and provide Shelter #2 renters easier access to restroom facilities.

A scenic bridge should also be built over the culvert on Lake Van's spillway. A majority of trail users walk, ride, or run over this culvert to get to the trails or exit the trail system. There should be a more eye pleasing and more natural looking entrance to the trails over this culvert.

A bridge should be built on the Perimeter Trail over Little Turnbull Creek to help walkers safely cross. Special attention should be made in designing and building this bridge to take into account the sensitive area in and around the Creek.

If feasible, a water spigot should be added to the horse trailer parking to provide water for horses. Riders would bring their own bucket to fill and use the water the Park provides. Currently there is no water source near this area, so research needs to be done on how to get the water there and if an outside agency or company will be needed to help.

Though the Park has very adequate signage, many of the signs need to be updated or replaced. An inventory of sign needs should be done and prioritize for those that have the most need for fixing or replacement. Signs should be replaced on as-needed basis.

A wildlife viewing blind should be added to the Park to give visitors a better chance to see wildlife. An ideal location would be behind the Nature Center. It would be convenient to keep bird feeders filled, attracting birds, squirrels, and other wildlife. It would also allow it to be more easily utilized with a program.

5.1.2 Facility Needs

Bowie Nature Park has several facilities that help enhance park visitor's experience, however some are in need of upgrades, and as park use continues to grow, new buildings will soon be needed as well.

Nature Center Upgrade

The Park would greatly benefit from a larger Nature Center, accommodating for more programs and rental space. With one classroom that also serves as the Discovery Room for the public, expansion in programming is limited as are also rental opportunities.

Staff would like to offer summer camps to multiple age levels during the same week; however with one classroom this is not possible. Because the classroom is also the Discovery Room, the public is excluded from the Discovery Room during the weeks of camp.

The Nature Center provides much needed meeting space in Fairview, but very few people take advantage by renting it due to several factors: a) limited space, b) live snakes and turtles in the classroom/Discovery Room, and c) lack of a kitchen.

An evaluation should be completed to find the most economical way to expand classroom and rental space available. Possibilities could include the addition of a multipurpose room to the back-eastern part of the building, or conversion of staff offices into classroom space with the option of moving staff to a new building. This evaluation

should be a priority so plans may be put into place to fund such a large capital improvement.

The new space should include some sort of small kitchen for rentals as well as space that can be used in multiple ways, coupled with partitioning so as to allow several different programs to run simultaneously. Also needed are spaces for the Nature Center captive animal maintenance to take place out of the public eye, and more tables and chairs that can be easily stored and moved for different programs or rentals.

JoAnn's Outdoor Classroom Upgrade

JoAnn's Outdoor Classroom is a creative hands-on, covered, open air, teaching area where students can discover their connections with nature. It is well shaded with the tree canopy, making it very dark inside even on sunny days.

More lights should be added to better light the Classroom. In 2012 the Friends of Bowie Nature Park acquired grant money that allowed the addition of electricity. Lights and fans were added, however it still is not quite enough light to illuminate the Classroom for many more detailed labs and art projects the staff would like to do with students in the Outdoor Classroom.

Also, more tables are needed to better facilitate programs there. These tables should resemble the rustic look of the benches and tables already in the Classroom.

Stage

The Pine Tree Stage that currently exists west of Lake Van should be replaced. It has structural issues that make it unsuitable for large equipment or for a large group performance, according to the Codes Department. The area also is too small for larger concerts and events. This stage could be rebuilt in the same spot to host smaller concerts or plays.

A larger stage should be built near the horse parking west of the Treehouse Playground. The field around it would provide space for many more people to enjoy a performance. The area already has electricity and temporary stages have been used in this area for past events in the Park.

Partial shade should be added to both stage areas. Shade can improve attendance in warmer months. Support poles should be installed as needed to hang removable, weather-resistant, triangular tarps that will provide shade for visitors.

Maintenance Building

Currently the park maintenance staff uses a shed and carport in the Public Works compound to house their equipment. This leaves large equipment such as a tractor and mowers out in the elements.

A new maintenance building should be built in the Park that can accommodate all the equipment needs and provide extra storage space. This protection will prolong the life of the large equipment the Park owns and move it closer to where it is mainly used.

5.1.3 ADA Accessible Amenities

The Park provides passive and active recreation for many user groups. However, those with mobility issues are presently underserved. The only hard surface path currently accessible to such persons is that connecting the Nature Center to, and around, the Treehouse Playground. One of the existing trails in the Park's trail system should be upgraded to bring it up to ADA standards. The Lake Van Trail has been considered as a possible choice for such a project. However, the logistics of the terrain, combined with the expense, make the plan economically unfeasible. Two other possibilities that have been discussed by the Park Board are a) ADA accessibility for a part of the Loblolly Loop Trail, and b) bringing the trail from the Nature Center to Joann's Classroom into ADA compliance. The latter would have the particular advantage of making Park educational activities and programs easily accessible to all participants.

The trail circling the Outdoor Classroom ideally should also be made ADA accessible. This will provide a trail leaving from the Nature Center, making it possible for school groups, including individuals with mobility issues, to journey into the woods while also accessing programming at both the Outdoor Classroom and the Nature Center. It also would provide an easy trail for all users, one upon which Nature Park staff could direct first time visitors to the Park wishing to take a short hike—and equally would be popular with families with small children in strollers.

An electric 4 to 6 person utility vehicle should be purchased or at least rented in warmer months. This vehicle could be used in warmer months to take those with limited mobility on a tour of the trails. Volunteers could be utilized to run these tours a couple times of week. It would give people who normally could not see the Park a chance to see and learn about the Park. It could also be used during special events to help transport people. This utility vehicle would also be ideal way to show small groups the Park, such as the Commissioners or a journalist and photographer.

5.1.4 Roads and Parking Lots

The road to the Nature Center and the Nature Center parking lot should be paved. There is a plan to accomplish this as part of the Entrance Road Widening Project Phase II that was started in early 2013.

5.1.5 Trail Maintenance

A "Trail Improvement" plan was developed in 1998 to address a badly eroded trail system. Two more plans followed, in 2002 and 2008. After spending several years rerouting, building water bars, and diverting erosion runs, the Park, for the most part, has an environmentally sound sustainable trail system.

In order to keep the trail system at this point Bowie Nature Park trails should:

- Support current and future uses with minimal impact to the Park's ecosystem;

- Produce little to no soil loss or movement while allowing vegetation to inhabit the area;
- Allow for pruning or removal of certain plants for maintenance;
- Not adversely affect the Park's wildlife (flora and fauna)
- Accommodate existing use while allowing only appropriate future use; and,
- Should require little rerouting and minimal long-term maintenance.

Currently the Trail Maintenance Plan is being updated by Park Staff and should be completed in early 2014. This Plan should be updated continually every 3 to 5 years.

5.1.6 Rental Policies

As facilities are being updated and/or expanded, rental policies and fees should be reviewed and updated.

5.2 HABITAT MANAGEMENT

There is a need for better defined habitat management plans that are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Since the Park is not an exclusive habitat conservation area, habitat management plans and enhancement projects should be carefully evaluated as to the anticipated impacts on Park users and designed to achieve a compatible balance of habitat and human needs.

To meet this need, the City of Fairview has contracted with a registered Forester to prepare a comprehensive Forest Management Plan that includes but is not limited to:

- An inventory of existing trees within the park
- A plan to thin the pine trees in order to temper susceptibility to insect infestation
- A burn plan to reduce fuel load within the park and reduce the chance of wildfire
- An invasive plant removal plan that prioritizes problem areas establishes removal techniques and calls for the replanting with native plants if possible.

Once approved the Forest Management Plan will be attached as Appendix B.

5.3 PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. Bowie wrote that she wanted Bowie Nature Park to be preserved so that the public could study and appreciate the wildlife and its preservation. Bowie Nature Park's programming reflects her wish by using the beautiful land she donated to teach children and adults about the natural world. Park program attendance has nearly doubled in the last 3 years, from 6,000 to

12,000. Programming staff should continue to expand the programs and programming partnerships currently in place so that attendance numbers can continue to rise.

5.3.1 Interpretative Programs

Interpretive programs provide visitors with an educational and fun experience, contribute to public awareness of natural resources, and attract tourists.

The interpretative programs currently offered at the Park are vast, including school tours at the Park and outreach programs, Scout programs, nature classes for people of all ages, and exercise in nature type programs.

Though the Park had nearly 20 different schools and home school groups visit in 2013, there is a huge potential for this number to grow. Greater cooperation and collaboration with area schools should be fostered. A brochure of school related offerings should be created, one that would list state standards, and which would be distributed to schools. A relationship should be cultivated with area principals to better encourage school visitation to the Park, while Park staff could possibly conduct teacher workshops, providing educators with ideas on how to incorporate nature into their classrooms and curriculums.

Programs offered to Scouts include badge workshops and Eagle Scout and Golden Award projects. Relationships with community troops should be cultivated and information disseminated about how programming staff can help boys and girls achieve and meet the requirements necessary to obtain nature-related badges. Relationships of this type can also attract more Scouts to help with Park projects such as designing and constructing new bridges or interpretive signs.

The Park's summer day camp, Camp Bowie, should be expanded as space becomes available, and should provide opportunities for different age ranges. Currently Camp Bowie is for children 9-12 years old and covers six weeks in June and July. Ideally the camp would have 3 classrooms with different age groups in each; all learning the same nature related theme for the week but tailored to their ages. Age ranges would be 5 and 6 year olds, 7 and 8 year olds, and 8 to 12 year olds. Until more classroom space is available, alternating different weeks for different age groups should be considered. For example, possibly 2 weeks of 5-7 year olds and 4 weeks of camp for 8-12 year olds.

Nature related programs for the public vary greatly from preschool-aged classes to adult only classes. The Park has programs throughout the year, however historically programs in the summer slowdown because of Camp Bowie and limited staff. During mild summers, the Park has many visitors and programs should be made available. Adding summer programs, similar to what is offered during the school year for the public, should be made a priority as staffing increases.

5.3.2 Special Events

The Park offers several special events throughout the year. The most recently-added have been Barks for Parks, Haunted Forest, Fall Fun Day, and May Fest. These events should be evaluated by staff to determine what works well, what areas are in need of improvement, and possible ways to attract more participants. As they are evaluated, new

ideas for special events may be added, either as new events, or to replace an existing event.

Staff and volunteers should continue to attend community special events such as Nashville's Earth Day Celebration and Fairview's Back to School Bash. These events allow the public to become informed about Fairview and Bowie Park, and provide staff an opportunity to get information out about upcoming programs

5.3.3 Going Green

The Park should take steps to become even more of a model of "green" habits and sustainable stewardship of our resources. The goal should be to reduce its ecological footprint, making the Park healthier for visitors and staff alike, and to inspire community members to think about solutions to the environmental problems we face together. A recycling program and composting demonstration area should be started. When new items are bought or built, recycled or sustainable products should be used when possible. Also, energy efficient and water wise products should be considered a priority. A small vegetable garden should be built and maintained near the Nature Center to be used as a teaching garden about sustainable practices and to teach children where their food comes from.

5.3.4 Promoting and Marketing Programs at the Park

The Park should work on effectively reaching the community, keeping it informed about programs and happenings in the park. Currently monthly press releases are sent out to area media outlets announcing upcoming events. The Park website and Facebook page is regularly updated with upcoming events as well. Program Guides are made quarterly, programs are promoted on Channel 19, and flyers are posted on Park kiosks. For larger events, banners have been made and flyers distributed around town by staff and volunteers. A few times radio or television commercials were purchased as well.

Paid advertisement for special events should be budgeted and made a priority. Press releases do not guarantee that the information will be used. Better outreach could be accomplished with paid ads—whether radio, magazine, newspaper, or television—and should be budgeted for these events.

The Park should also expand its online outreach. One way to do this is with a computer program such as Constant Contact™ (Markowitz), an email distributor which serves as an alternative to social networking sites. Constant Contact™ is a service (client) for creating professional looking emails, newsletters, cards, invitations, etc., and sending them out to an unlimited number of contacts. The service also provides feedback after distribution, data which includes the number of emails opened and links that are clicked on. This information can be used to evaluate the most effective time to send information and also to assess the interest of certain programs. Although it is not a free service, it would allow the Park to reliably send out emails to everyone on its mailing list and to minimally assess its outreach effort. This approach would allow the Park to contact users that do not have Facebook accounts but who still have email access.

The Park should research and evaluate cost effectiveness of mailing out the Program Guides to all Fairview residents 4 times a year. This would give everyone in the City a chance to see what is happening in the Park, even if they do not get the local newspaper or have online access.

A brochure with information about the Park that is professionally printed should be created. This brochure could be put in area visitor centers, bed and breakfasts, hotels, and made available in the Nature Center.

5.3.5 Membership Program

The Park should look into starting a membership program. Fees from membership can help offset costs of the many free programs the Park has to offer. The membership prices and benefits should be tiered to provide options. Benefits of membership could include early registration, discounts on camp, and free “members only” programs. The Park can join the Association of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA) and provide a Reciprocal Free Admission Program to members allowing them to receive free admission and/or discounts at other institutions across America and Canada. The Park can also partner with local plant nurseries and other nature-related businesses to offer discounts for Park members at these local businesses.

5.4 STAFFING

The Park will need additional staff as Park use and programs at the Park continue to grow.

The Park should boost the maintenance staff from 2 to 5 in the coming years. Many trail projects require several workers at one time, and with additional staff more projects and improvements can be accomplished simultaneously. In spring and summer months, maintenance workers currently spend nearly all their time keeping up with the mowing, in the park as well as around the city. With additional workers, the staff will be able to get the mowing done but also be able to work on maintenance of the trails and other structures in the Park during these months.

A full-time front desk receptionist should be hired. Currently the naturalist fills in at the front desk greeting people, answering phones, etc., but this takes the naturalist away from program planning; also, when the naturalist is teaching, it leaves no one at the front desk. If a membership program is put into place, the full-time front desk receptionist could be placed in charge of managing it.

In the last several years, volunteer numbers have risen. The coordination of this group will become increasingly more time consuming as more Scout projects are solicited and as projects like the exotic invasive plant removal programs are initiated. A volunteer coordinator should be hired to recruit and organize volunteers, and form relationships with them.

Another full-time naturalist should be added to the staff as programming grows. With ever more schools visiting the Park, and with plans in place for nature-related classes geared to different age groups (as well as an expanded Camp Bowie and amplified summer program schedule), an additional naturalist will be needed.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS, IMPLEMENTATIONS, AND ASSESSMENT

This chapter is intended to provide a blueprint for Bowie Nature Park over the next 20 years. The recommendations in this chapter address the key issues, challenges, and opportunities discussed in Chapter 5. Priorities for each recommendation reflect their importance to implementing the Park's guiding principles and long-term vision. Periodic assessment of these actions is also discussed.

6.1 GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND LONG-TERM VISION

In the long term, Bowie Nature Park will continue to serve important habitat, ecological, open space, and recreational needs for the City. The Park should be emphasized in a way oriented toward passive uses, habitat conservation, and environmental activities. At the same time, the Park will continue to support some active uses that serve important recreational needs for the City.

6.2 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations address management practices necessary to achieve the Park's long-term vision and implement its guiding principles most effectively. Management recommendations are prioritized but are listed with time frames. Each of these principles should be implemented as quickly as possible following adoption of the Master Plan. Where a dependency between recommendations exists, it is explained in the Notes column. The management recommendations are numbered as items M-1 through M-15.

Although each principle is given a priority of 1 to 3, with one being the highest priority, this should in no way indicate that the lower priority items are unimportant. Rather, the priority indicates the criticality of the recommendation to meeting the Park's long-term objectives. Failing to implement any of the practices listed would be likely to complicate successful achievement of the Park's long-term vision and the improvement recommendations listed in Section 6.3.

#	RECOMMENDATION	PRIORITY	NOTES
M-1	Finish the update for the Trail Maintenance Plan and make updates every 3-5 years. After spending several years rerouting, building water bars, and diverting erosion runs, the Park, for the most part, has an environmentally sound sustainable trail system. In order to keep the trails at this point Bowie Nature Park Trail Maintenance Plan should support current and future uses with minimal impact to the Park's ecosystem; produce little to no soil loss or movement while allowing vegetation to inhabit the area; allow for pruning or removal of certain plants for maintenance; avoid adversely affecting the Park's wildlife (flora and fauna); accommodate existing use while allowing only appropriate future use; require little rerouting and minimal long-term maintenance.	1	

M-2	A registered Forester should prepare a comprehensive Forest Management Plan and steps should be taken to begin implementing said plan. The plan should include an inventory of existing trees within the park, a plan to thin the pine trees in order to temper susceptibility to insect infestation, a burn plan to reduce fuel load within the park and reduce the chance of wildfire, and an invasive plant removal plan that prioritizes problem areas establishes removal techniques and calls for the replanting with native plants if possible.	1
M-3	Hire 2 to 3 more maintenance staff in the coming years. Many projects on the trails require several workers at one time. With additional staff more projects and improvements can be done simultaneously.	1
M-4	Engage local educators to use the Park in outdoor learning and environmental curricula. A brochure of school related offerings should be created with state standards listed and distributed to schools. A relationship should be cultivated with area principles to better encourage school visitation to the Park and possible teacher workshops that provide ideas of how to incorporate nature into their classroom and curriculum.	2
M-5	Cultivate community relationships with area Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops. Information about how staff can help boys and girls meet requirements for nature-related badges should be disseminated. Relationships with these troops can also attract more Scouts to do projects at the Park like designing and constructing new bridges or interpretive signs.	2
M-6	Expand Camp Bowie to reach more age groups. Ideally the camp would have 3 classrooms with different age groups in each; all learning the same nature-related theme. Age ranges would be 5 and 6 year olds, 7 and 8 year olds, and 8 to 12 year olds. Until more classroom space is available, alternating different weeks for different age groups should be considered.	2
M-7	Hire a volunteer coordinator. The coordination of this group will become increasingly more time consuming as more Scout projects are solicited and as projects like the exotic invasive plant removal programs are initiated. A volunteer coordinator should be hired to recruit and organize volunteers, and form relationships with them.	2
M-8	Reach the community in new ways to keep them informed about programs and happenings in the park. Paid advertisement for special events should be budgeted and made a priority. The Park should also expand its online outreach. One way to do this is with a computer program such as Constant Contact™ (Markowitz). This type of approach would allow the	2

	Park to contact users that do not have Facebook accounts but still have email access. The Park should research and evaluate cost effectiveness of mailing out the Program Guides to all Fairview residents 4 times a year.		
M-9	Develop and implement free summer programs for families and adults. The Park has programs throughout the year, however historically programs in the summer decrease because of Camp Bowie and limited staff. Adding summer programs, similar to what is offered during the school year for the public, should be made a priority as staffing increases.	3	
M-10	Continue to develop and implement special events and attend community events. Special events attract people to the Park and provide entertainment to area residents. Attending community events put on by other groups allows Park staff to inform people about Fairview and the Park and get information out about upcoming programs	3	
M-11	Make steps to be a model of green habits and sustainable stewardship of our resources. A recycling program and composting demonstration area should be started. When new items are bought or built, recycled or sustainable products should be used when possible. Also, energy efficient and water wise products should be considered a priority. A small vegetable garden should be built and maintained near the Nature Center to be used as a teaching garden about sustainable practices and to teach children where their food comes from.	3	
M-12	Look into starting a membership program. Fees from membership can go to offset costs of the many free programs the Park has to offer. The membership prices and benefits should be tiered to provide options. Benefits of membership could include early registration, discounts on camp, and free “members only” programs. The Park can also partner with local plant nurseries and other nature related businesses to offer discounts for Park members at these local businesses.	3	
M-13	Hire a full-time front desk receptionist. Currently the naturalist fills in at the front desk greeting people, answering phones, etc. This takes the naturalist away from program planning, and when the naturalist is teaching it leaves no one at the front desk. If a membership program is put into place, the fulltime front desk receptionist could be put in charge of managing it.	3	
M-14	Hire another full-time naturalist. The Park plans to have more schools visit the Park, offer more nature related classes for different age groups, and expand its Camp Bowie and summer programs schedule. In order to accomplish these plans an additional naturalist will be needed.	3	Depends upon M-4, M-7 & M-8

M-15	Update rental policies and fees. As facilities are being updated and/or expanded, rental policies and fees should be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.	3
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6.3 IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations listed below identify specific Park improvement projects that address the challenges and opportunities discussed in Chapter 5. A time frame is assigned to each recommendation: within 1-5 years, 5-10 years, or within 10-20 years. Priorities for each recommendation indicate their relative importance within each time frame. Where a dependency between recommendations exists, it is explained in the Notes column. Improvement recommendations are numbered I-1 through I-18.

#	RECOMMENDATION	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	NOTES
I-1	Add benches in scenic areas around the Park. Identify areas in the Park that new benches would be best used.	1	1-5 years	
I-2	Add picnic tables in the developed area. Add picnic tables on Lake Van and around the Treehouse Playground. Make sure trash receptacles are placed nearby.	1	1-5 years	
I-3	Add a water spigot at the Horse Trailer Parking Lot. Water will need to be routed up to this area to provide this amenity.	1	1-5 years	
I-4	Build an ADA accessible trail as part of one of the existing trails north of Lake Van. The hard surface material should be ecologically friendly.	1	1-5 years	
I-5	Update and replace signage in the Park. Prioritize those most in need of replacement and develop a schedule for implementation.	1	1-5 years	
I-6	Tear down and rebuild current stage. Demolishing the stage should be a priority for safety reasons given by the Codes Department	1	1-5 years	
I-7	Construct a bridge over the spillway of Lake Van. This bridge will add a more eye-pleasing entrance to the trails.	1	1-5 years	
I-8	Construct a bridge on the Perimeter Trail over Little Turnbull Creek. The Trail intersects the Creek so careful consideration needs be taken in planning and building in this sensitive area.	1	1-5 years	
I-9	Pave the road to the Nature Center and the Nature Center parking lot. There is a plan to accomplish this as part of the Entrance Road Widening Project Phase II that was started in early 2013.	1	1-5 years	

I-10	Create a brochure with information about the Park. The brochure will include directions to the Park, park amenities, and general park program information. This brochure will be put in area visitor centers, bed and breakfasts, hotels, and made available in the Nature Center.	2	1-5 years	
I-11	Update Joann's Outdoor Classroom to better accommodate programs. More lights and rustic type tables should be added	2	1-5 years	
I-12	Construct a new larger stage near the horse trailer parking. It should be permanent and large enough to house a large musical act.	2	1-5 years	
I-13	Construct a wildlife blind near the Nature Center. Feeders should be paced in filled during peak seasons to attract the wildlife.	2	1-5 years	
I-14	Build a maintenance building to house equipment. It should be large enough to house several mowers and tractors.	2	1-5 years	
I-15	Buy or rent in warmer seasons an electric 4 to 6-person utility vehicle. This vehicle needs to be able to manage the trails in a variety of conditions.	3	1-5 years	
I-16	Enlarge Nature Center for programs and rental space. The new space should include some sort of small kitchen for rentals, space that can be used in multiple ways, enough space with privacy that would allow several different programs to run simultaneously, space for the Nature Center captive animal maintenance to take place out of the public eye, and more tables and chairs that can be easily stored and moved.	1	5-10 years	Depends upon M-16 & M-17
I-17	Develop the trail to and around JoAnn's Outdoor Classroom to be ADA accessible. This will provide an ADA accessible trail that leaves from the Nature Center.	1	5-10 years	
I-18	Construct a bridge on Lake Van to connect Shelter #1 area with Shelter #2 area. This will allow better accessibility to the eastern part of Lake Van and provide Park users on the Shelter #2 side easier access to restroom facilities.	1	10-20 years	

6.4 MASTER PLAN ASSESSMENT AND REVISION

Although this Master Plan sets a 20-year vision for the Park, periodic review within that time is necessary to make minor revisions and modifications to address conditions that may arise. This plan should undergo assessment, review and revision every 5 years.

7 APPENDICES

APPENDIX A 2012 PARK SYSTEM SURVEY

Document to be inserted.

APPENDIX B FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN
Document to be inserted when completed

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P.O. Box 21
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2968
(615) 895-8221
Fax: (615) 895-0632

March 4, 2015

Mr. Wayne Hall
City Manager
City of Fairview
7100 City Center Circle
Fairview, Tennessee 37062

RE: BID RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATION
REBID FOR COX PIKE AND CUMBERLAND DRIVE STREET RESURFACING PROJECT
TDOT PIN: 115693.00 G&M PROJECT No.: 1073-05

Dear Mr. Hall:


Bids were opened for the above referenced project at 2:00 p.m. on February 26, 2015 at City Hall. Attached is a copy of the sign-in sheet for the persons in attendance at the bid opening. Four (4) bids were received and opened and all four bids were within the engineer's budget estimate. See enclosed bid tabulation of the bids that were received.

The apparent low bidder was Eubank Asphalt Paving and Sealing with a bid of \$268,883.00. We have reviewed Eubank Asphalt Paving and Sealing's bid and it appears to be in good order. We have checked with the State contractor's board and Eubank Asphalt Paving and Sealing's contractor's license, classification, and bond limit are in good order. Additionally, Eubank Asphalt Paving and Sealing is a TDOT prequalified contractor as required by TDOT. This project includes TDOT funding and requires bid package concurrence by TDOT. The bid package has been submitted to TDOT for their review and concurrence.

We recommend that the City of Fairview award the contract for the Cox Pike and Cumberland Drive Resurfacing project to the low bidder, Eubank Asphalt Paving and Sealing in the amount of \$268,883.00 contingent upon the City receiving bid package concurrence from TDOT.

Upon receiving TDOT concurrence, we would then notify Eubank Asphalt Paving and Sealing of the pending project award and request that appropriate bonds and insurance be submitted for review and approval. After we have received the appropriate bonds and insurance, the contract to perform the work would be executed by having the City and the Contractor sign the contract documents. Upon signing the contract documents, a pre-construction conference between City staff and the Contractor would be conducted and a Notice to Proceed will be issued to the Contractor. Please note that construction activities cannot take place prior to the Notice to Proceed is issued.


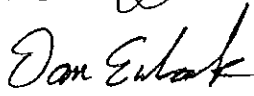
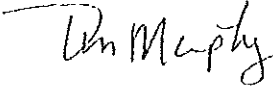




Sincerely,
GRIGGS & MALONEY, INC.


Will Owen, P.E.
Vice-President

STON-TW SHERT

COX PIKE + CUMBERLAND DR. RESURFACING

2/26/15 2:00 p.m. BID OPENING

<u>PRINT NAME</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
WILL OWEN		GREEN + MALONEY	615-895-8221
DAN EUBANK		TVP	615-394-2686
TIM MURPHY		LOTAC	615-394-9590
	Wayne Hall	City of Fairview	615-799-2484
FRANK ANTHONY J. JEFFERS		City of Fairview	948-3726 2684721
TOM DAUGHERTY		City of Fairview	948-3726
RANDY FANSTER		Eubank Paving	(615) 789-5761
SUSAN FOX		City of Fairview	(615) 387-6139

COX PIKE AND CUMBERLAND DRIVE RESURFACING
 FAIRVIEW, TENNESSEE
 GRIGGS AND MALONEY PROJECT NO.: 1073-14

BID DATE: FEBRUARY 26, 2015 AT 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME

Contractor's Name & Address				Eubank Asphalt Paving and Sealing P.O. Box 190 Charlotte, TN 37036		Tennessee Valley Paving Co. 135 Old Carters Creek Pike Franklin, TN 37064		Lojac Enterprises, Inc. P.O. Box 998 Lebanon, TN 37088-0998		Sessions Paving Company 6535 Robertson Ave. Nashville, TN 37209		Engineer's Estimate	
No.	Item	Estimated Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price
403-01.00	Bituminous Material for Tack Coat	15	Ton	\$550.00	\$8,250.00	\$645.00	\$9,675.00	\$700.00	\$10,500.00	\$650.00	\$9,750.00	\$600.00	\$9,000.00
411-01.10	ACS Mix (PG64-22) Grading D	2,200	Ton	\$71.00	\$156,200.00	\$78.48	\$172,656.00	\$83.00	\$182,600.00	\$90.75	\$199,650.00	\$115.00	\$253,000.00
415-01.01	Cold Planing Bituminous Pavement	2,250	Ton	\$10.00	\$22,500.00	\$15.75	\$35,437.50	\$15.00	\$33,750.00	\$20.00	\$45,000.00	\$26.44	\$59,500.00
712-01.00	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
712-06.00	Signs (Construction)	2,068	SF	\$6.00	\$12,408.00	\$6.75	\$13,959.00	\$9.00	\$18,612.00	\$7.50	\$15,510.00	\$7.00	\$14,476.00
712-08.03	Arrow Board (Type C)	2	Each	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$800.00	\$1,600.00	\$750.00	\$1,500.00	\$875.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
716-02.05	Plastic Pavement Marking (Stop Line)	240	LF	\$20.00	\$4,800.00	\$20.00	\$4,800.00	\$16.00	\$3,840.00	\$21.00	\$5,040.00	\$10.00	\$2,400.00
716-02.06	Plastic Pavement Marking (Turn Lane Arrow)	4	Each	\$200.00	\$800.00	\$200.00	\$800.00	\$185.00	\$740.00	\$210.00	\$840.00	\$130.00	\$520.00
716-05.01	Painted Pavement Marking (4" Line)	9.5	LM	\$750.00	\$7,125.00	\$900.00	\$8,550.00	\$840.00	\$7,980.00	\$850.00	\$8,075.00	\$850.00	\$8,075.00
716-12.01	Enhanced Flatline Thermo Pvmnt Mkrng (4in Line)	9.5	LM	\$4,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$3,675.00	\$34,912.50	\$4,200.00	\$39,900.00	\$3,500.00	\$33,250.00
716-12.04	Enhanced Flatline Thermo Pvmnt Mkrng (4in Dotted Line)	1,000	LF	\$2.00	\$2,000.00	\$2.00	\$2,000.00	\$2.25	\$2,250.00	\$2.10	\$2,100.00	\$2.00	\$2,000.00
717-01.00	Mobilization including Demobilization	1	LS	\$12,600.00	\$12,600.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
TOTAL BASE BID				\$268,883.00		\$295,477.50		\$331,684.50		\$341,115.00		\$404,221.00	

I certify this Bid Tabulation to be an accurate and complete summary of the Bids received 11/18/2014 at 1:00 PM CST.


 Will Owen, P.E., Griggs & Maloney, Inc.

3/2/2015
 Date