

County Commissioners Court Meeting Results

The County Judge and County Commissioners emphasized the following goals to be implemented by the Parks Department in the next five years:

- Existing boat ramps must be dredge in order to serve the large number of fishermen and women in this county.
- Existing parks must be expanded by adding more cabins in order to accommodate a growing number of out-of-town visitors, wishing to enjoy the gulf coast.
- A boat ramp should be constructed in Hanson Riverside County Park since the department is unable to acquire access to Hwy. 35. This will allow more usage of the San Bernard River.
- There is a need for a regional (linear) park in the northern part of our county, and a multi-use complex (sports fields) in the southwestern part of our county, to accommodate the needs of citizens in those areas.
- New facilities must be funded by funding sources and partnerships other than the County's General Fund.
- The role of the County Parks Department must continue to provide services not provided by city or state departments, rather than duplicating existing services.
- Special events and community activities are to be enhanced, and park advertisement should be a priority.
- The County Parks Department should keep an up to date list of services, programs and contacts readily available at community centers, hospitals, public libraries and other public facilities.
- It is necessary for the County to collaborate with other entities to maximize resources available.

Public Meeting and Stakeholder Findings

The Public Meetings consisted of representatives from each precinct, including Alvin City Parks Department, Clute City Parks Board, Keep Pearland Beautiful and members from Sweeny Little League. In discussion with these representatives, as well as private concerned citizens, the Brazoria County Parks Department was able to identify current facilities available as well as facilities needed in each precinct. The following is a summarized list of needs as expressed during the public meetings held:

- More advertising is needed. Several citizens were not aware of all of the county operated and maintained programs, parks, and boat ramps.
- Land acquisition is needed in Pct. 1 for sports fields with plenty of water fountains and benches, and RV parks providing group rates.

- Land acquisition is needed in Pct. 2 in order to serve the north end of Brazoria County. Considering citizens in this area have ample park space, a possible alternative is a linear park used to tie into the existing trail system, offering wildlife corridors and observation stations, soccer/baseball/softball fields and pavilions. More facilities are needed to accommodate high school kids, such as swimming, skating, bike riding and ATV usage.
- Land acquisition is needed in Pct. 3 in order to serve the southwest end of Brazoria County. A park located west of Alvin should include lighted walking trails and sports fields, and should include plenty of benches, water fountains and shade trees.
- Land acquisition is needed in Pct. 4, preferably near or around the Sweeny/Old Ocean area. Citizens in this area must drive to Lake Jackson to participate in youth sports events, paying extra fees in addition to higher fuel costs. Ideal location would be west of the San Bernard River, off of FM 524 or off of FM 1459. Ideal size would be 50-70 acres of land, and would include several baseball/softball/soccer fields surrounding a playground so that young siblings can be watched by parents attending youth sports events. Additional preferences are volleyball/basketball courts, lighted walking trails, fishing availability and possible RV sites. Also recommended, an equestrian park to be shared by horse and ATV owners.