

**Priority Area:**

Address Declining Neighborhoods

**Goal/Objective:**

Improved appearance of neighborhoods through maintenance of properties.

**Strategy 5 - City to do better job maintaining city properties to set tone for improvement.****Action Steps:**

- a. Parks Dept. to fully implement all aspects of the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Plan/Standards in all parks and other public properties. Will require a dedicated beautification crew as well as utilizing targeted contracted landscape services. These activities to include parks, Main Street Planters (downtown and South Main), City Entryway Signs, city parking lots, etc.
- b. Re-start Adopt-A-Park program. This program will be administered by a park caretaker whose is already in this role. So, no additional resources needed.
- c. Public Works Dept. to adequately maintain all public properties under their care (frequent vacant lot mowing, cleaning ditches, etc.

**Resources Required:**

1. Funding for 4.0 staff and operational costs for new beautification crew in Parks Department (included in Parks Master Plan List for Parks/Stormwater sales tax renewal).
2. Ability to fully staff Public Works laborer positions or outsource mowing.

**Total Plan Cost:**

Total Additional FTE: 4.0

One Time Costs: Minimal

Staffing Annual Costs: \$170,000

Program Annual Costs: \$80,000

**Desired Benefit/Outcome:**

- Provides a continuous and timely effort of quality maintenance in parks and green spaces around the city.
- Provides community ownership in our park system.
- Enhances each park and green space for the community to enjoy.

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*"Grounds keeping. Our sidewalks look terrible. The road through Landreth Park has a weed problem that looks trashy." – Listening Tour Respondent*