



20-0739

TITLE: Consider/Discuss/Act on a Request for Funding Submitted by Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary (Project #20-10) in the Amount of Forty Thousand and NO/100 Dollars (\$40,000.00) to Upgrade Trails and to Improve Accessibility at the Facility Located at 1 Nature Place, McKinney, Texas.

COUNCIL GOAL: Enhance Quality of Life in McKinney

MEETING DATE: August 27, 2020

DEPARTMENT: McKinney Community Development Corporation

CONTACT: Cindy Schneible, President

ITEM SUMMARY:

- Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary is seeking funding for a project to upgrade trails that lead to the Heard's Animals of the World exhibit enclosures and the Native Texas Butterfly House & Garden to improve accessibility.
- The upgrade will feature a 65-foot wide concrete path, equipped with culverts and other soil erosion mitigation methodologies.
- The length of the trail is approximately 6300 feet.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Founded in 1967 by Miss Bess Heard, The Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary is a natural science exploration center focused on interpreting the natural world to people of all ages.
- The mission of the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary is to bring nature and people together to discover, enjoy, experience, preserve and restore our priceless environment through:
 - Educational programs emphasizing appreciation and conservation of

- nature;
- Preservation of a portion of North Texas land with its native vegetation and wildlife, in as near a natural condition as possible;
- Museum exhibits, examples of natural history, nature-related art works and memorabilia from Founder Bess Heard;
- Indoor/outdoor nature experiences geared to all age and educational levels.
- The Heard offers guests the unique experience to understand Collin County's natural heritage as well as how lifestyle decisions we make today will affect how Collin County will look in the future
- The Heard experience involves both indoor and outdoor activities throughout the 289-acre sanctuary.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

- Total estimated cost for the trail upgrade and accessibility improvements is \$40,000.
- The proposed project is eligible for consideration by the board under Section 505.152 of the Texas Local Government Code.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS:

[Application Packet](#)
[Presentation](#)