



# CITY OF MCKINNEY, TEXAS

## Legislation Text

---

**File #:** 24-1430, **Version:** 1

---

Consider/Discuss the Funding for and Development of the East McKinney Learning Garden

**COUNCIL GOAL:** Enhance the Quality of Life in McKinney

(5A: Create affordable recreational and cultural arts activities for all ages throughout the city)

(5C: Continue to market and highlight McKinney as a unique destination for residents and visitors alike)

(5E: Develop sustainable quality of life improvements within the City of McKinney)

**MEETING DATE:** April 16, 2024

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**CONTACT:** Amy Kinkade, Director of Parks and Recreation

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:**

- Discussion of the item.

**ITEM SUMMARY:**

- The concept of the East McKinney Learning Garden (EMLG) was created through a collaboration of the MCDC, McKinney Parks Foundation (MPF) and Parks and Recreation, to provide access to high quality food through a community garden that welcomes everyone.
  - The garden will be located on the land immediately adjacent to the east of the TUPPS building, which is owned by MCDC.
- The original plan was for this area to remain undeveloped as a passive landscape area to complement TUPPS.
- Through conversations with the MPF, the concept of this community garden was created to expand the use of the land as well as provide a benefit to the community.
- City Staff was enlisted to assist with the necessary designs, plans and permits associated with development and secured Kimley Horn and Associates to assist with plan preparation and conceptual renderings.
- The initial budget was estimated at \$200-\$300K and included a combination of City/MCDC

funds and MPF donations. However, as the project scope expanded and early cost estimates were received, it became apparent that this amount would not provide enough funding to accomplish the goals of the MPF and MCDC.

- If Council is supportive of this project moving forward, Staff is requesting direction on funding options for the remaining amount of money needed for the EMLG.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- The development of the garden and ongoing management will be led by MPF and will be staffed through a combination of volunteers and paid garden management.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY:**

- The current budget for FY23-24 Parks Construction CIP project PK2451 is \$169,392 of which \$95,728.44 remains available.

**BOARD OR COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:**

- n/a