

Controller's Office

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council of the City of Houston, Texas:

I hereby certify, with respect to the money required for the contract, agreement, obligation or expenditure contemplated by the ordinance set out below that:

- ( ) Funds have been encumbered out of funds previously appropriated for such purpose.
- ( ) Funds have been certified and designated to be appropriated by separate ordinance to be approved prior to the approval of the ordinance set out below.
- ( ) Funds will be available out of current or general revenue prior to the maturity of any such obligation.
- ( ) No pecuniary obligation is to be incurred as a result of approving the ordinance set out below.
- ( ) The money required for the expenditure or expenditures specified below is in the treasury, in the fund or funds specified below, and is not appropriated for any other purposes.
- ( ) A certificate with respect to the money required for the expenditure or expenditures specified below is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.
- Other - Grant Funds Available

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
General Pool

Date: 9-15, 2020

City Controller of the City of Houston, Texas

FUND REF: 5040-5000 - AMOUNT: -0 - ENCUMB. NO. 6 N 50100-21

*17e*

City of Houston, Texas Ordinance No. 2020-788

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO AND ACCEPTANCE OF AN AWARD FROM THE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION FOR THE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM (THE "GRANT"); BY THE CITY OF HOUSTON MAYOR'S OFFICE OF RESILIENCE; DECLARING THE CITY'S ELIGIBILITY FOR SUCH GRANT; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF RESILIENCE TO ACT AS THE CITY'S REPRESENTATIVE IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS; AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON'S OFFICE OF RESILIENCE TO ACCEPT THE GRANT AND EXPEND THE GRANT FUNDS, AS AWARDED, AND TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT ALL SUBSEQUENT AWARDS, IF ANY, PERTAINING TO THE

*[Handwritten Initials]*

**GRANT; CONTAINING PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

\* \* \* \*

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS:**

Section 1. That the City Council approves the submission of the grant application and acceptance of the award to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (“NFWF”) by the Mayor’s Office of Resilience for a requested total amount of **\$400,000.00** for the Urban Prairie Project which will integrate principles of resilience within New Hope Housing’s Reed Campus affordable housing development (“Project”) grant, for the total project period from September 2020 through December 2022 (“the Grant”).

Section 2. That the City of Houston is certified as eligible to receive the above Grant assistance from the NFWF.

Section 3. That the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Resilience (the “Director”) is authorized and directed to represent and act for the City in dealing with the NFWF for the purpose of the above Grant and is authorized to execute such documents and all related documents on behalf of the City of Houston.

Section 4. That the official designated is specifically authorized to make applications, in substantially the form attached to this ordinance and incorporated by this reference, to the NFWF for the Project and/or Grant, for the total project period from September 2020 through December 2022, and any renewal periods thereafter, not to exceed five years. The initial budget period is from September 2020 to December 2022 for a requested amount of \$400,000.00.

Section 5. That the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Resilience is designated as the official authorized to apply for, accept and expend the funds, as awarded, for the purpose of this grant program and to apply for, accept and expend all subsequent awards, if any, for subsequent renewal periods, not to exceed five years, pertaining to the above program. The Director of the Mayor’s Office of Resilience is hereby authorized, without further City Council action, to execute all related contracts, agreements, amendments and documents, for budget periods not to exceed five years thereafter in connection with the above-mentioned Grant, with the approval as to form of the City Attorney. The Director and/or the Mayor’s Office of Resilience are authorized to execute all documents accepting current and future grant funds. The City Secretary is hereby authorized to attest to all such signatures and to affix the seal of the City to all such documents.

Section 6. There exists a public emergency requiring that this Ordinance be passed finally on the date of its introduction as requested in writing by the Mayor; therefore, this Ordinance shall be passed finally on such date and shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; however, in the event that the Mayor fails to sign this Ordinance within five days after its passage and adoption, it shall take effect in accordance with Article VI, Section 6, Houston City Charter.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of September, 2020.

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the City of Houston, Texas

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 6, Houston City Charter, the effective date of the foregoing Ordinance is SEP 22 2020.

At J. H. H. H.  
City Secretary

(Prepared by Legal Dept. Jeanie H. H.)  
(SS:LPN 08/27/2020 Senior Assistant City Attorney)  
(Requested by Marissa Aho, Chief Resilience Officer, Mayor's Office of Resilience)  
(L.D. File No. 0422000107001)

AYE	NO	
✓		<b>MAYOR TURNER</b>
....	....	<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>
✓		PECK
✓		DAVIS
✓		KAMIN
✓		EVANS-SHABAZZ
✓		MARTIN
✓		THOMAS
	✓	TRAVIS
✓		CISNEROS
✓		GALLEGOS
✓		POLLARD
✓		MARTHA CASTEX-TATUM
✓		KNOX
✓		ROBINSON
✓		KUBOSH
✓		PLUMMER
✓		ALCORN
CAPTION	ADOPTED	



# NFWF

EasyGrantsID: 68171

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Resilient Communities Category 3: Green Infrastructure  
for Affordable Housing Grants 2020, Full Proposal

Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

## Grant Information

### Title of Project

Urban Prairie Project

<b>Total Amount Requested</b>	\$ 400,000.00
<b>Matching Contributions Proposed</b>	\$400,575.00
<b>Proposed Grant Period</b>	12/01/ 2020 - 12/31/ 2022

### Project Description

The Urban Prairie Project will integrate principles of resilience within an affordable housing development and consists of two components: (1) restoration of a prairie ecosystem, that demonstrates their importance for climate adaptation throughout the 48 acre complex and (2) developing a green corridor within existing gas line easement for community growth and integration. The Project will serve as a demonstration for how best to integrate green stormwater infrastructure and incorporate an urban prairie ecosystem that prepares the community to be more resilient. It will demonstrate the restoration of natural habitat in developed areas and highlight the benefits to communities in terms of flood mitigation, reduction of urban heat island effect, ecosystem restoration, water capture, and improved quality of life. It will also serve as a model for education for children, families, and workforce development and integrating additional amenities to improve quality of life.

### Project Abstract

Through the Resilient Houston Strategy and the Complete Communities Initiative, and the work at New Hope Housing and Star of Hope, the Urban Prairie Project can address poor air quality, environmental degradation, flooding, climate change, drought, inequity, and urban heat island effect through tallgrass prairie ecosystem restoration. At the same time, it creates opportunities to grow nature-based infrastructure jobs through the alignment of these projects with education, training and work-force development opportunities geared toward local residents. By creating a green corridor within a utility easement into the community, it removes a barrier that prevents the community from accessing nature. The project serves as a demonstration on how neighborhoods can be improved so that all of Houston's residents and business owners, particularly the most vulnerable, can have access to quality services and amenities and be more adaptive and resilient. The proposed project will take less than 24 months to complete, and include pdesign, outreach, construction and training and education components. Partners will be able to align in adaptation and resilience implementation across the city, including education strategies for children and workforce. The partner organizations can provide technical expertise, funding and in-kind services. Houston has an opportunity to transform and lift the most vulnerable while encouraging multi-functional design that result in prepared and thriving Houstonians.

### Organization and Primary Contact Information

Organization	City of Houston
Organization Type	State or Local Government
City, State, Country	Houston, Texas, North America - United States

Region (if international)



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Organization: City of Houston

**Primary Contact**  
Position/Title  
Phone and E-mail

Laura Patino

x ; [laura.patino@houstontx.gov](mailto:laura.patino@houstontx.gov)

### Additional Contacts

Role	Name
Principal	Marissa Aho



# NFWF

EasyGrantsID: 68171

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Resilient Communities Category 3: Green Infrastructure  
for Affordable Housing Grants 2020, Full Proposal

Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

## Project Location Information

**Project Location Description** 2605 Reed Rd., Houston, Harris County, Texas 77051 - Reed Campus is a 48 acre multi-family, supportive housing development that provides over 180 permanent housing units, emergency and transitional services, and other amenities to families with children, women, veterans and homeless individuals.

**Project Country(ies)** North America - United States

**Project State(s)** Texas

**Project Congressional District(s)** District 9 (TX)

## Permits and Approvals

**Permits/Approvals Description:** Permits to build and modify drainage on site will have to be obtained once design is finalized.

**Permits/Approvals Status:** Intend to Apply

**Permits/Approvals Agency-Contact Person:** City of Houston - Houston Permitting Center

**Permits/Approvals Submittal-Approval Date:** 07/31/2021

**Permits/Approvals Description:** Permit to be required to obtain access to utility easement, in conversations with Pipeline company and Houston Public Works. A right-of-entry and use may only be required.

**Permits/Approvals Status:** Intend to Apply

**Permits/Approvals Agency-Contact Person:** City of Houston - Houston Permitting Center

**Permits/Approvals Submittal-Approval Date:** 07/31/2021



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National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Resilient Communities Category 3: Green

Infrastructure for Affordable Housing Grants 2020, Full Proposal

Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

**Activities and Outcomes**

**Funding Strategy: Capacity, Outreach, Incentives**

Metric: WF - Building institutional capacity - # FTE with sufficient training

Required: Optional

Description: Enter the number of full-time employees provided with capacity-building or training through the project.

<b>Starting Value</b>	0.00 # FTE with sufficient training
<b>Target value</b>	10.00 # FTE with sufficient training

Note: This specific amount will be determined and valued during the design charrette in partnership with Houston Public Works and Houston Parks Board.

**Funding Strategy: Capacity, Outreach, Incentives**

Metric: WF - Building institutional capacity - # of orgs contributing to goals

Required: Optional

Description: Enter the number of of organizations contributing to the initiative's conservation goals

<b>Starting Value</b>	0.00 # of orgs contributing to goals
<b>Target value</b>	6.00 # of orgs contributing to goals

Note: Currently, there are zero organizations listed as funding and implementation partners directly, including consulting companies. However, six organizations have shown interest in contributing. Three of those organizations have made commitments to matching contributions in cash or in-kind that will go through once the grant is approved. Remaining organizations include but are not limited to The Nature Conservancy, the Katy Prairie Conservancy, Urban Harvest, Houston Area Research Center, and other City of Houston Departments and Divisions (Mayor's Office of Complete Communities, Mayor's Office of Education). Additional organizations to involve will also be identified through the Stakeholder Engagement planning process. This will ensure we meet the goal of minimum 6 organizations to build institutional capacity while contributing to project goals.

**Funding Strategy: Capacity, Outreach, Incentives**

Metric: WF - Economic benefits - # jobs created

Required: Optional

Description: Enter the number of jobs created

<b>Starting Value</b>	0.00 # jobs created
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EasyGrantsID: 68171

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Resilient Communities Category 3: Green Infrastructure for Affordable Housing Grants 2020, Full Proposal

Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

**Target value** 2.00 # jobs created

Note: Per Katy Prairie Conservancy report, 2 jobs will be created for the amount of land restored in this site.

**Funding Strategy: Habitat Management**

Metric: WF - Green Infrastructure - # trees planted

Required: Optional

Description: Enter the number of trees planted.

**Starting Value** 0.00 # trees planted

**Target value** 50.00 # trees planted

Note: This specific value will be determined during the charette. However, the impact of trees towards reducing urban heat will be evaluated and utilized to further determine the appropriate amount to provide a cooling effect as well.

**Funding Strategy: Habitat Management**

Metric: WF - Green Infrastructure - Volume stormwater prevented

Required: Optional

Description: Enter volume of stormwater captured by new green infrastructure practices including BMP installation for stormwater management.

**Starting Value** 0.00 Volume stormwater prevented

**Target value** 717913.00 Volume stormwater prevented

Note: The specific volume prevented from green infrastructure will be calculated during the design phase. Currently, the detention basin is designed for the specified amount of 717,913 cubic feet. These will see an increase based on the Green Stormwater Infrastructure features implemented. The goal is to increase the value of stormwater prevented into the stormwater system.

**Funding Strategy: Habitat Restoration**

Metric: WF - Land restoration - Acres restored

Required: Optional

Description: Enter acres restored through practices such as revegetation, thinning, mortality removal or prescribed burns

**Starting Value** 0.00 Acres restored

**Target value** 8.00 Acres restored



# NFWF

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National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Resilient Communities Category 3: Green

Infrastructure for Affordable Housing Grants 2020, Full Proposal

Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

Note: Up to 8 acres of land to be restored.

**Funding Strategy: Habitat Restoration**

Metric: WF - Land, wetland restoration - Acres restored

Required: Optional

Description: Enter the number of acres restored

**Starting Value** 0.00 Acres restored

**Target value** 8.00 Acres restored

Note: Up to 8 acres of land to be restored.

**Funding Strategy: Capacity, Outreach, Incentives**

Metric: WF - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people reached

Required: Optional

Description: Please enter the number of people trained through your project

**Starting Value** 0.00 # people reached

**Target value** 200.00 # people reached

Note: Over 200 children and families will be reached through this project, not including external training programs that will also be utilizing this space.

**Funding Strategy: Habitat Restoration**

Metric: WF - Removal of invasives - Acres restored

Required: Optional

Description: Enter the number of acres restored

**Starting Value** 0.00 Acres restored

**Target value** 8.00 Acres restored

Note: This specific amount is to be determined during site evaluation and charrette.

**Funding Strategy: Capacity, Outreach, Incentives**

Metric: WF - Volunteer participation - # volunteers participating

Required: Optional

Description: Enter the number of volunteers participating in projects



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Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

<b>Starting Value</b>	0.00 # volunteers participating
<b>Target value</b>	10.00 # volunteers participating

Note: Volunteers will be needed for the design charrette and project implementation. These will be recruited through New Hope, Houston Parks Board Initiatives and Houston Public Works and Houston Parks and Recreation Department.



2020, Full Proposal  
 Title: Urban Prairie Project  
 Organization: City of Houston

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 Infrastructure for Affordable Housing Grants

I. PERSONNEL										\$0.00
Staff Name	Position	Annual Salary	Project Hours	Hourly Rate	LOE (%)	Project Salary	% Fringe	\$ Fringe	Total Personnel	
						\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>						\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00

II. TRAVEL \$0.00

**Domestic Airfare – Per Flight**

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
			\$0.00
<b>SubTotal</b>			\$0.00

**International Airfare – Per Flight**

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
			\$0.00
<b>SubTotal</b>			\$0.00

**Train – Per Ticket**

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
			\$0.00
<b>SubTotal</b>			\$0.00



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**Rental Car – Per Day**

Purpose/Destination	Days/Duration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

**Taxis – Per Trip**

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

**Mileage – Per Mile**

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

**Gasoline – Per Gallon**

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

**Per Diem (M&IE) – Per Day**

Purpose/Destination	Days/Duration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00



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**Lodging – Per Night**

Purpose/Destination	Days/Duration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

**SubTotal** **\$0.00**

**Meals (no M&IE) – Per Meal**

Purpose/Destination	Days/Duration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

**SubTotal** **\$0.00**

**III. EQUIPMENT \$0.00**

Item Name	Description	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

**IV. MATERIALS & SUPPLIES \$0.00**

Type	Purpose	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

**V. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES \$400,000.00**

**Subcontract/Contract – Per Agreement**

Contractor Name	Description	Total Cost
Consultant To be Procured	Construction Services	\$400,000.00

**SubTotal** **\$400,000.00**



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 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation --  
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 Infrastructure for Affordable Housing Grants

**Subgrant – Per Agreement**

Subrecipient	Description	Total Cost

**SubTotal** **\$0.00**

**VI. OTHER DIRECT COSTS** **\$0.00**

Type	Purpose	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

**VII. TOTAL DIRECT COSTS** **\$400,000.00**

**VIII. INDIRECT COSTS** **\$0.00**

Explanation of Modified Total Direct Cost Base(MTDC)	Rate Type	NICRA Expiration	\$MTDC	Rate(%)	Total Cost

**IX. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS** **\$400,000.00**



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**Budget Narrative**

**Budget Narrative:** The amount that is being calculated for this project is estimated at \$800,000. The total requested amount is \$400,000 which will be focused on construction and implementation. The requested amount (\$400,000) will be utilized for construction of the specific elements that are designed through this process. Of the construction budget amount, \$400,000 of the requested funds will be utilized for the construction of drainage components, native species planting and landscaping, signage and trails, and additional components that are identified to be necessary for education and improvement of quality of life, that need to be integrated within the affordable housing built environment and prairie component. These will be contracted services which will undergo a City, State, and Federal compliant procurement process, once design is completed. Specifically, the \$400,000 received from the NFWF Resilient Communities grant opportunity will be utilized as indicated in the Contractual Services Section of this budget. This budget was generated by consulting landscape architects within the City of Houston, who have vast experience in the project implementation. These construction costs would be refined through the design and planning phase of the project. In terms of procurement, it is anticipated that as features and elements are designed, construction can begin in phases if possible allowed for a rapid, more expedited delivery, of the project. With our key funding and Implementation partner, New Hope Housing, the most expedited path for procurement of services will be explored and applied.

**1. Personnel**

Personnel -

**2. Travel**

Domestic Airfare - Per Flight -	NA
International Airfare - Per Flight -	NA
Train - Per Ticket -	NA



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 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation –  
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Rental Car - Per Day -	NA
Taxis - Per Trip -	NA
Mileage - Per Mile -	
Gasoline - Per Gallon -	
Per Diem (M&IE) - Per Day -	
Lodging - Per Night -	
Meals (No M&IE) - Per Meal -	

**3. Equipment**

Equipment -

**4. Materials and Supplies**

Materials and Supplies -

**5. Contractual Services**

Subcontract/Contract - Per Agreement -

These cost numbers will be further refined during the Charrette and design workshop, and through final design. The above scope and budget was generated by consulting landscape architects within the City of Houston. These construction costs would be refined through the design and planning phase of the project. In terms of procurement, it is anticipated that as features and elements are designed, construction can begin in phases if possible, allowed for a rapid, more expedited delivery,



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of the project. With our key funding and implementation partner, New Hope Housing, the most expedited path for procurement of services will be explored and applied. The Scope of Services under the contract would include the following:

- Planting and native grasses will be incorporated into existing detention areas (up to 3 acres). The total amount required is \$58,125. This includes \$16,667/acre for native planting in specified areas as well as a green infrastructure element design, including a bioswale.
- Green Corridor: establishment of green corridor and native planting, with green infrastructure features. This includes a total of \$69,000 to include bioswales and landscaping, priced at \$25,000 per acre for partial native planting and green infrastructure in an area of up to 2 acres.
- Amphitheater, which is already constructed, will be further beautified through landscaping of native grasses and trees, as well as incorporation on green infrastructure features. Rain gardens will be added that incorporate trees and enhance the drainage ability, provide shade and landscaping in a communal space. Th total cost for this activity is \$75,000.
- Reed Park will include playground equipment, integrated with accessible pathways, and green infrastructure. The total cost for this park is \$138,625
- Buffer strips will be incorporated within parking lots. These could include trees, raingardens, prairie planting, and rain gardens to highlight how even small buffer areas serve an important role within the built environment. The total cost is \$10,250
- Trails, with green infrastructure will be added – up to 2,200 linear feet. These will provide connectivity between the affordable housing development and green areas for access. This also includes path around detention basin and green corridor. The total cost of this component is \$18,000.
- Chapel green space and infrastructure will develop a small foundation planting, trees, turf, and establish a maintenance feature which includes natural irrigation for the green infrastructure Implemented. This is priced at \$42,000.

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Subgrant - Per Agreement -

## 6. Other Direct Costs

Other Direct Costs -



**NFWF**

2020, Full Proposal  
Title: Urban Prairie Project  
Organization: City of Houston

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**7. Indirect Costs**

Indirect Costs -



EasyGrantsID: 68171

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Resilient Communities Category 3: Green Infrastructure for Affordable Housing Grants 2020, Full Proposal

Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

**Matching Contributions**

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$250,000.00
<b>Type:</b>	Cash
<b>Status:</b>	Pledged
<b>Source:</b>	New Hope Housing
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	Cash contribution directly to fulfill grant objectives and activities. Please see attached budget and match narrative for details.

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$41,875.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Pledged
<b>Source:</b>	Kirksey Architecture
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	Kirskey Architecture is a partner working with Star of Hope and New Hope Housing and has pledged to donate trees, planting time, and support all planning activities for this grant. See attached budget and match narrative for details.

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$15,000.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Pledged
<b>Source:</b>	Houston Parks Board
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	Services for on-site and off-site educational activities for educational program and maintenance development. Please see attached budget and match narrative for additional details.

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$14,400.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Pledged



# NFWF

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Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

<b>Source:</b>	City of Houston, New Hope Housing
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	For compliance monitoring and reporting and procurement services. Please see budget and match narrative for details.

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$25,500.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Pledged
<b>Source:</b>	City of Houston, New Hope Housing, and GSMA
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	Professional services and expertise for all activities related to planning-outreach and stakeholder coordination. Please see budget and match narrative for details.

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$16,000.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Pledged
<b>Source:</b>	HPARD and Katy Prairie Conservancy
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	Planting and installation services, including seeds and materials. Please see attached budget and match narrative for details.

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$27,800.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Pledged
<b>Source:</b>	GSMA
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	Design services in kind by New Hope's consulting and architecture team.

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$10,000.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Pledged



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Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

<b>Source:</b>	City of Houston Public Works
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	Education and workforce development materials, crew and staff to perform work, develop maintenance guide and schedule. Please see budget and match narrative for details.

<b>Total Amount of Matching Contributions:</b>	\$400,575.00
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# NFWF

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National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Resilient Communities Category 3: Green Infrastructure  
for Affordable Housing Grants 2020, Full Proposal

Title: Urban Prairie Project

Organization: City of Houston

The following pages contain the uploaded documents, in the order shown below, as provided by the applicant:

Upload Type	File Name	Uploaded By	Uploaded Date
Wells Fargo RC Cat3 Full Proposal 2020	NFWF+FULL+proposal+Narrative+Houston+Wells+Fargo+COH_5.12.2020.pdf	Patino, Laura	05/12/2020
Photos - Jpeg	Cornerstone Identified Project Areas.JPG	Patino, Laura	05/12/2020
Photos - Jpeg	370th Prairie (Remnant).jpeg	Patino, Laura	05/12/2020
Photos - Jpeg	Reed Campus Open Area.jpg	Patino, Laura	05/12/2020
Statement of Litigation	Statement+of+Litigation (1).doc	Patino, Laura	04/20/2020
Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent	City of Houston - Mayor and City Council.pdf	Patino, Laura	04/20/2020
Other Documents	Houston Urban Prairie Park Budget and Match Narrative.pdf	Patino, Laura	05/12/2020

The following uploads do not have the same headers and footers as the previous sections of this document in order to preserve the integrity of the actual files uploaded.

ATTEST/SEAL:

CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

Signed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED:

COUNTERSIGNED BY:

DocuSigned by:  
*Marissa Aho*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
807016308045401...  
Chief  
Mayor's Office of Resilience

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Controller

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DATE COUNTERSIGNED:

DocuSigned by:  
*Saira Shah*  
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Sr. Assistant City Attorney  
L.D. File No. 0422000107001

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# NFWF

## Resilient Communities Category 3 Full Proposal Project Narrative Houston Urban Prairie Project

The Urban Prairie Project will integrate principles of resilience to advance the goals set forth in *Resilient Houston* within New Hope Housing's affordable housing community and the Star of Hope Mission's Women & Family Development Center – referred to as Cornerstone Community Campus. The proposed project, off Highway 288 on Reed Road, consists of two components: (1) integration of up to 8 acres of land into prairie ecosystem within the 48-acre campus and (2) developing a green corridor within existing utility easement. The Project will also serve as a demonstration for how best to integrate climate adaptation strategies and green stormwater solutions into a built affordable housing environment, utilizing an urban prairie ecosystem as the main feature.

By restoring the tallgrass prairie ecosystem, whose wetlands act as “nature’s kidneys” for the Houston region, stormwater retention, water filtration, groundwater replenishment, wildlife habitat, and recreational land can also be accomplished. The utility green corridor will serve as a model for integrating disrupting features in a community to not only improve community aesthetics but also serve as a connector to an area that the community would not have access to otherwise. Successful implementation of the Urban Prairie Project at Cornerstone Community Campus will illustrate: (1) climate adaptation strategies within an affordable housing setting; (2) provide access to nature to an underserved population; (3) improve ecosystem health by restoring natural habitats; (4) provide and measure a vast array of social, economic, and environmental co-benefits (5) provide opportunities for education on nature based solutions and value of ecosystem services; and (6) demonstrate a process that can be replicable throughout.

The proposed project highlights activities that have been identified through an extensive stakeholder process, including *Resilient Houston*, *Living with Water Houston*, Houston's *Climate Action Plan*, *Houston Incentives for Green Development*, Complete Communities Initiative, and Houston Parks Board's *Bayou Greenways and Beyond the Bayou*, and *Cities Connecting Children's with Nature* efforts. It will also complement New Hope Housing and Star of Hope's vision to enhance Cornerstone Community Campus through nature-based infrastructure and planned efforts. The NFWF-Wells Fargo Resilient Communities Grant will allow to expand current tree planting efforts to develop a more holistic and integrated site plan and fund implementation of the design. The City of Houston has recently established a framework for multi-family building resilience as part of the Hurricane Harvey recovery programs. Projects that are applying for funding must include resilience measures that protect, adapt, provide back-up measures, and increase community as well as integrating green infrastructure elements. These measures are intended to integrate this holistic approach to building-resilience at every scale.

**Long-Term Conservation and Community Outcome(s):** Adapting to changing climate will require a continued paradigm shift away from controlling nature to utilizing nature for Houston's benefit: to clean our air, cool our sidewalks, absorb water, reduce energy costs, and keep Houstonians safe and healthier. Houston has experienced six federally declared disasters within a five-year timeframe, leading to devastating impacts across communities, disproportionately exacerbating challenges for children, elderly, low-income communities, and communities of color. Hurricane Harvey has granted the region new opportunities identify strategies to live safely with water and to engineer with nature, particularly to make vulnerable populations more resilient. The global COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us how restorative our green spaces and walking paths can be during times of uncertainty.

By implementing this project, it will positively impact the resilience of hundreds of Houstonians who live in adjacent developments and the larger Sunnyside community. The project's proximity to existing affordable housing will provide a neighborhood benefit to hundreds of families and provide access to nature and park space, while showcasing a flood mitigation initiative less common in Houston's urban environments. It will offer the possibility for Houston to become a leader in the climate adaptation space and share expertise with other cities and communities nationally and globally. The following outcomes are expected of the design and planning activities and implementation of the project.

- Demonstrate how prairie and nature-based solutions can be integrated into a built environment, affordable housing and private developments to enhance resilience of a site and diversify a landscape in a dense community.
- Create a space that serves to educate the Cornerstone Community Campus residents and the broader Sunnyside and Houston communities on the value of ecosystem services.
- Act as a training ground for workforce development to understand requirements for the design, implementation, and maintenance of a variety of green infrastructure elements into the built environment.

- Leverage partnerships between non-profits, private sector, and municipal government for funding and delivery of programs that meets the various interest and needs.
- Become a scalable and replicable project that creates a framework for similar investments across Houston, to build resiliency, through a publishable tool kit.
- Contribute to advancing the goals set forth by *Resilient Houston* which include:
  - Reduce flooding and minimize flooding impacts downstream of the site
  - Fulfill one of the 100 green stormwater infrastructure projects called for in the Strategy by 2025.
  - Contribute to the 4.8 million tree planting target called for in the strategy by 2030.
  - Enhance carbon capture capacity and contribute to the City's carbon neutrality goal by 2050.
  - Eliminate geographic health disparities through health benefits of ecosystem
  - Implement a project that can utilize and pilot the Houston Incentives for Green Development
- Contribute to the implementation of actions set forth by the Sunnyside Complete Community Action Plan, currently in development.
- Serve as a testing ground for selection of most appropriate native species for a healthy and sustainability prairie and wetland ecosystem which is easy to implement and maintain, while enhancing site aesthetics.
- Serve at-risk and vulnerable population, in a community with limited amenities, green space, and recreational and educational opportunities.
- Integrate with existing efforts to bring additional parks and greenspace to Houston through programs led by the Houston Parks Board.
- Engage the community to transform the perception of urban prairies as undervalued and unmaintained land in disenfranchised neighborhoods to showcase how, when properly planned and maintained, how these restored areas can be assets to all communities, providing benefits otherwise not accomplished in urban environments.

**Engagement:** The Urban Prairie Project will bring various stakeholders within the community and planning and implementation partners together to deliver a cohesive Urban Prairie and strategy that integrates to an existing 48- acre affordable housing and services complex. While the community is already incorporating resilience principles, and directly contributing to the goals specified in *Resilient Houston*, these can be further enhanced by developing and implementing an Urban Prairie Park that minimizes risk, enhances neighborhood amenities, and improves quality of life, particularly to a vulnerable and underserved population.

The proposed project is located off Highway 288 and Reed Road on a 48 acre campus of consolidated services. The Cornerstone Community Campus features The Women & Family Development Center, which is owned and operated by The Star of Hope Mission, with emergency and transitional housing services, a chapel, a 2.5 acre park, and a community center. Immediately adjacent to Star of Hope, across a privately owned street, New Hope Housing owns and operates their Reed complex with 187 apartment unit. This multi-family, supportive housing development serves formerly homeless and at-risk families and includes a private courtyard for residents with BBQ grills and playscapes for children of different ages. Together, the two non-profits provide services and affordable housing to disadvantaged populations. The community is also served by a bus stop and is nearby a Fire Station, three schools - elementary, middle, and high school, which serve the residents of the community. While this project will benefit the entire campus, it will most deeply impact those who call it their permanent home – those who reside at New Hope Housing Reed affordable housing.

Currently, more than 600 residents call New Hope Housing Reed home. This includes 219 adults and 407 children, of which 163 are 0-4 years old, 194 are school age (5-12) and 50 are teenagers. Ninety-five percent of households are led by a single mother, few of whom in receipt of child support and do not have employment. Of those residents, 82% have experienced homelessness or serious housing instability - and because the majority are transitioning from Star of Hope's homeless shelters or unstable housing situations, unemployment is either the cause or the result of their recent experience with homelessness or near-homelessness. Unaffordable childcare and transportation challenges mean many struggle to find work. Current demographic data shows that 90% of the families at New Hope Housing Reed identify as African American, Hispanic or Asian, and all are deeply within the lines of poverty. The average family income at New Hope Housing Reed is ~\$8,000/year and the average number of children per household is 2.25. More than 65% of New Hope Housing residents come from Star of Hope's Women & Family Development Center. Therefore, their demographics mirror those of Star of Hope clients.

This project is located within the Sunnyside Complete Community, designated as part of the Mayor's Complete Communities initiative in 2019, and is one of ten Complete Communities throughout Houston. The Complete Communities program focuses on reversing historic disparities and creating greater equity across Houston. It is about improving neighborhoods so that Houston's residents and business owners have access to quality services and amenities. The Sunnyside community has legacy of perseverance despite not having comparable investments as other

neighborhoods. It is home to over 29,000 residents and is characteristic for having a higher population density than Houston's average. The neighborhood is predominantly Black or African American with its second highest population characterized as Hispanic or Latino. The neighborhood's median household income was \$27,628 in 2017, which has increased substantially since 200 but continues to be far below the median household income in Houston overall. 36% of families in the area have incomes below the federal poverty, compared to the Houston average of 21%. The percent of families living below the federal poverty level has remained the same in Sunnyside for over two decades.

Although Sunnyside has several parks, none exist within proximity to the Cornerstone Community Campus. The closest, being Sunnyside Park, is a former landfill that is proposed to become the largest solar field in the United States. Sunnyside Park is across a heavily trafficked highway (288) which limits safe pedestrian access from Reed Road. Sunnyside is within the Sims Bayou Watershed and while the Campus is not within the floodplain, many areas of the neighborhood experience localized flooding due to poor and aging drainage systems. Integrating the Urban Prairie Park across the Cornerstone Community can enhance the community by: (1) revitalizing the area, providing green space and amenities for a community that would otherwise not have access to; (2) providing water storage and reducing the amount of runoff offsite, through green infrastructure, potentially mitigating flooding to the property and downstream residents within the neighborhood; (3) offering a space for education opportunities for all ages, with a focus on children and work force development on a specialized skillset relating to nature-based employment; and (4) serving as a demonstration for a resilient community that maximizes the co-benefits of nature-based solutions for climate adaptation – adding green space to a dense area, to reduce urban heat - while integrating to existing community development programs offering financial, legal, and emergency and transitional services.

While the Urban Prairie Project will directly serve the community within the 48-acre Campus, it will have a larger footprint as Houston moves forward in the implementation of green infrastructure. Successful implementation of the project will reach a broader audience, demonstrating the ability to integrate green infrastructure within the built environment to address multiple challenges and providing a positive impact to communities that are most in-need.

**Activities:** The Urban Prairie Project consists of two main components: (1) integrate and restore up to 8 acres of prairie and wetland ecosystem across the entire Campus that will allow for detention of stormwater and mitigate flooding in wet years, while serving as a water storage facility in dryer years; and (2) integrate an green corridor into a 50-ft existing utility easement that spans for 1,300 feet, which acts as a barrier to the community, wildlife, and water flow. The proposed project will also serve to demonstrate resilience and climate adaptation strategies within affordable housing developments and provide educational opportunities for the community and children on the value of ecosystem services for improved quality of life and environmental health, and reduction of flood risk, urban heat island effect, and water pollution. The result will be a resilient Campus – one that operated like a junior college campus of integrated and consolidated services - that provides health and financial services to a vulnerable population, affordable housing, and integrates the value of natural habitat to the built environment to create a stronger, healthier, and more resilient community. It will also serve to demonstrate best practices for integration of nature into the built environment that can be replicated and scaled city-wide. The following activities describe the key activities will need to take place for implementation.

#### **Task 1: Project Management**

- Communication activities including press conference and public meetings
- Compliance and reporting requirements
- Procurement of services
- Internal team meetings

#### **Task 2: Planning and Design**

In order to develop an appropriate prairie for the site, final concept plans and design of the features must be completed. This should include coordination with existing and future plans for the facility and neighborhood.

- **2a. Outreach and stakeholder coordination: (3 months)** includes participatory engagement, ensuring all stakeholders are identified, represented, and involved. This will ensure a successful project that addresses various issues and leverages and enhances partnerships city-wide. Tasks include:
  - Develop stakeholder engagement and communications plan
  - Conduct interviews with key stakeholders
  - Conduct focus groups with residents and future users of the site, which will allow for the design of educational programs, workforce programs, and input on site design components (including accessible methods for commenting on design elements).
  - Public Meetings
- **2b. Charette Preparation and Research (1 month)**

- Commission site surveys, if needed
- Examine existing drainage and utilities
- Create basemaps
- Conduct site visits and take photos: evaluate existing on-site ecosystems
- Develop presentations, materials, and activities
- Identify and coordinate existing and future plans and nearby activities that overlap with proposed project.
- **2c. Conduct a Design Charrette:** design charrette will be conducted for all the specific areas which have been identified for native prairie and wetland habitats (detention area, pipeline easement, pocket park, amphitheater, and parking buffer zones). This design charrette will look at the site holistically to ensure features are strategically placed to enhance the complex, residences, and Center. Each potential section will evaluate the option to include a community garden, health and fitness component, theater and other gathering areas, and nature sanctuaries. This includes:
  - Drainage design– to ensure that the facility will mitigate flood risk, tie into the appropriate drainage systems, and meet the design requirements. Multiple solutions will be evaluated, including detention basins, bioswales and raingardens, and other green infrastructure features.
  - Ecosystem and Landscape – to ensure that the facility provides ecosystem benefit and provides a habitat for native fauna and flora, ideal plants will need to be evaluated, while taking into account look and feel of the site. This is to ensure that the community values the Prairie as an asset rather than an inaccessible, wild area.
  - Identify additional co-benefits – to ensure that the Urban Prairie provides multiple benefits. The planning and design phase will also evaluate opportunities to reduce urban heat island effect, increase rainwater harvesting opportunities, and incorporate trails and access areas for the community.
  - Identify education needs and opportunities for children and families and workforce development.
- **2d. Design Phase (8 months)**
  - Conceptual design - combine results of design charrette into a conceptual design for review and approval by project partners and stakeholders.
  - Design development - create a 60% set of drawings based on the approved conceptual design for evaluation and approval.
  - Signage design -include signage design component that coordinates with the educational programs anticipated on the site.
  - Final design - create construction documentation based on approved design development drawings to prepare for construction phase.
  - Bidding - bid out construction of the project with assistance from designers.
  - Construction administration - monitor and evaluate construction process to ensure quality and successful construction of designs, with assistance from designers.

### **Task 3: Permitting (4 months)**

Conduct environmental permitting activities as necessary to be identified in design phase.

- City permitting
- Potential USACE wetland permit required
- Right of Entry/Use of pipeline easement agreement

### **Task 4: Construction (8 months)**

The construction phase will implement the final design that resulted from the design charette.

- Construction of drainage components
- Native species planting and landscaping
- Signage and trails
- Additional components identified to be necessary for education, improvement of quality of life, which need to be integrated within the affordable housing built environment and prairie component

### **Task 5: Develop educational program component (4 months)**

The integration of an educational component will allow for the community to understand the value of the services that the Prairie and ecosystems are providing to the entire campus as well as offering an opportunity to serve as a demonstration and training grounds for holistic design that integrates nature-based solutions for climate adaptation. This would be developed in partnership with the Houston Parks Board and Urban Harvest.

- Children and families STEM educational strategy
- Design, Construction, and Maintenance Guide
- Work Force Development Strategy

### **Project Timeline**

The project will take less than 24 months to complete, including a maximum of 14 months for procurement, design, programming and participatory stakeholder engagement and a maximum of 8 months for construction.

Task or Activity	Anticipated timeframe and completion date
Award	Anticipated by Nov. 2020
Council Approval, Procurement Process, Contract Award	4 months, to be completed by Feb. 2021. Schedule is subject to change based on approval.
Planning and Design Phase	Total 12 months, to be completed by February 2022
Permitting	4 months, to be completed by February 2022
Construction	8 months, to be complete by October 2022
Educational Program Component	4 months* in parallel with construction phase, to be completed by June 2022
Project Closeout	To be completed by Nov. 2022

**Outcomes and Indicators:** In order to ensure the project is successful several metric will be utilized throughout the design and construction phases, as well as to ensure the long-term outcomes and objectives are met. The following metrics can be utilized to measure the project's success:

- (1) Building capacity and project scalability which will be measured through the number of organizations and individuals engaged through the planning efforts and the release and launch of project design guide, made accessible to all. The efforts must align with at least 5 regional plans and/or efforts, developed by various organizations within Houston region.
- (2) Outreach and education will be measured by number of individuals, including children and families, engaged in the design charette and roll out of design, to ensure a robust participatory process.
- (3) In the long-term, once the project is implemented, to ensure success, the number of workforce training and development opportunities as well and integration with existing development programs for children, and tracking the number of individuals serve can determine the number of individuals that increase their knowledge on climate adaptation and green solutions.
- (4) Green infrastructure by costs avoided for flood mitigation, by understanding the value that green infrastructure bring, the costs of avoided damages as a result of flooding and urban heat can be measured. These will be estimated during the final design phase and measured post project implementation.
- (5) During the implementation and post-implementation of the project, the number of individuals with training can be measured and reported to ensure that institutional capacity is being built across all partner agencies and organizations.
- (6) The number of trees planted will be captured as well as the native species that constitute wetland and prairie habitats.
- (7) The total area in acres of land restored to prairie, wetland, or green infrastructure features.
- (8) Total volume of water captured or detain as a result of new integrated green infrastructure features.
- (9) Co-benefits: Measure a vast array of social, economic, and environmental co-benefits to be identified in design charette.

Additional metrics and the capture and reporting of these metrics will be defined by the design charette.

**Project Team:** The project team is multi-disciplinary and will consist of various agency representation:

*Marissa Aho, Chief Resilience Officer, City of Houston*

The City's Chief Resilience Officer is an urban planner and experienced project managed who leads the City of Houston in the development and implementation of Resilient Houston. Ms. Aho will serve as the Project Lead and coordinate all stakeholder to ensure progress is made, provide thought leadership to ensure alignment with *Resilient Houston*, and identify means to enhance and maximize benefits of projects. She will serve as the key liaison between City departments and the City's Departmental Resilience Officers to ensure support and provide planning expertise.

*Laura Patino, Recovery and Resilience Chief of Staff, City of Houston*

Ms. Patino has a background in environmental engineering and bioresources engineering, with a concentration in Integrated Water Resources Management. She will serve as the project focal point for the City, lead efforts to convene stakeholders, guide working group on scope and schedule, and ensure timely delivery of project. She will also provide subject matter expertise, where appropriate.

*Gloria Moreno, Finance Department, City of Houston*

Ms. Moreno has worked at the non-profit, local, state, and federal levels of government and currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Director for grants management and cost accounting with the City of Houston. She will ensure reporting and compliance requirements are met as well as appoint individuals within her team to facilitate process.

*Nicole Cassier-Mason, CFRE, VP Fund Development/Communications, New Hope Housing*

Ms. Cassier-Mason brings 17 years of experience in strategic fundraising and communications, including grant writing and grant management, research/evaluation, event coordination, project management, marketing and public relations. She will serve as the primary focal point between lead consultant, New Hope Housing and Star of Hope, while providing guidance and direction on solutions proposed and implemented. With extensive experience in grant management, she will also serve to ensure all reporting and compliance requirements are also met.

### *Consultant – TBD*

A consultant will be selected, in compliance with procurement requirements, to manage planning, design, and construction activities. Project Manager will lead the technical aspects of the project, including design, budgeting, and construction planning. The project manager will also ensure that all deliverables and milestones are met in a timeline manner, identify resources needed, and communicate any challenges faced throughout the planning and implementation of the project.

Additional individuals from key partners and stakeholders will be engaged as needed for expertise, this includes individuals from the Nature Conservancy, Urban Harvest, Katy Prairie Conservancy, Houston Area Research Center, Houston Parks Board, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Mayor's Office of Complete Communities. These partners have delivered projects and programs reflecting the outcomes stated in this proposal and have extensive expertise in urban green infrastructure, natural habitats, project management and delivery, grant management and implementation, monitoring, compliance, and reporting.

**Other (Optional):** Upon award, the key project partners will gather to evaluate and refine the scope of work. This will include executing agreements between agencies to be approved through City Council to execute the work, procure a consultant, and establish key project milestones. Once the City approves the recommendations, the key project partners will hold the design charrette, which is estimated to take place within 6 months of project award. Design activities are anticipated to be completed within a 12-year timeframe. The implementation and construction is anticipated to have a period of performance of 8 months.

**Budget Narrative and Match Contribution Description** – A detailed budget and matching contributions description is provided in document titled : *Houston Urban Prairie Park Budget and Match Narrative*.

### **Cost Effectiveness**

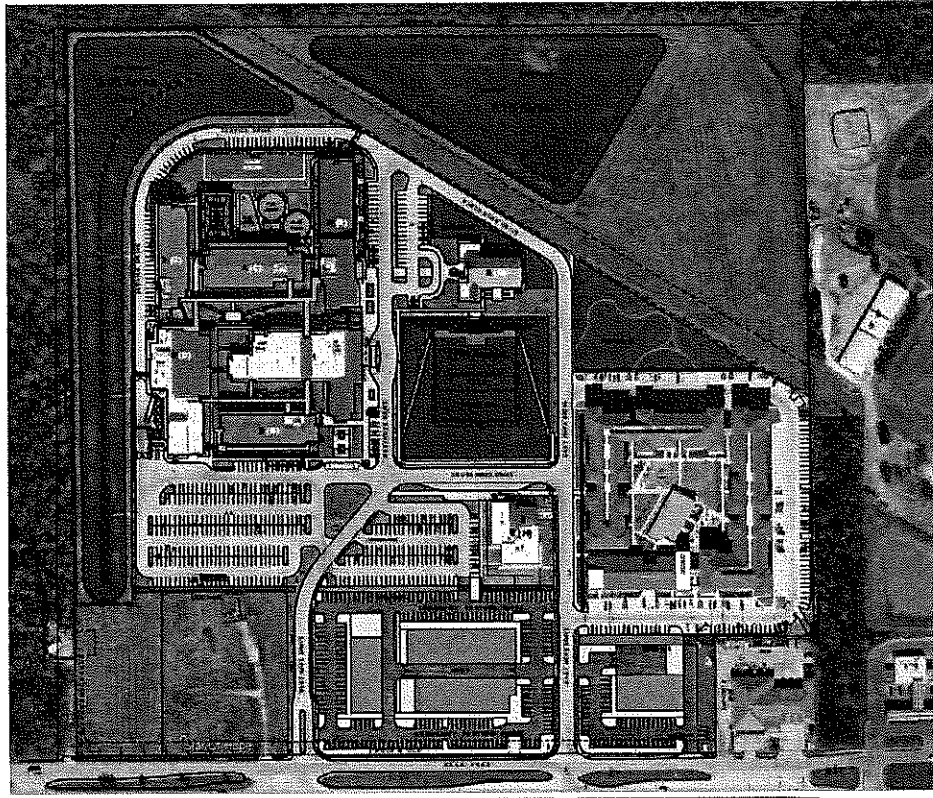
A report conducted by the Katy Prairie Conservancy<sup>1</sup>, analyzed the economic and social benefits across the Greater Houston region that 20,000 acres of restored prairie land provided. Initial numbers indicated that out of the total visitor spending alone, 22.9% and 9.8% are focused on nature-based activities and sports, respectively. Utilizing these values along with the reported visitor spending in 2016 (\$11.4 billion), an estimated \$190,000/acre can be directly obtained from the 20,000 acres of restored prairie land. In addition, it is estimated that the visitor spending alone contributed to over 117,000 jobs in the region. Utilizing the same logic, the report's data indicates that 1.7 jobs are created per acre of prairie land. These benefits can be directly applied to the Urban Prairie Pocket Park Project, which will increase areas for sports and recreation and provided a wide variety of ecosystem services. Although the latter is difficult to quantify, it is evident that by leveraging the existing development, donated land available, to address social, environmental, and economic challenges while obtaining a variety of resilience benefits can be achieved. This project will not only provide an aesthetic component, but will reduce the urban heat island effect, increase the capacity of the soil to capture more storm water, improve water quality, provide a healthy ecosystem for native species, serve as a educational program for children, and assist in developing a skillset in a workforce that is evolving. The results of this project will extend beyond the site, as through the design charrette, it will allow the City and partners to reach the broader region by setting the standard on how resilience principles can be incorporated into the built environment to make a community more resilient, particularly to serve a more vulnerable population.

### **Long-term sustainability**

To ensure the long-term sustainability of the program, it is essential that maintenance is considered during the design and construction of the project. It is the intent that through this public-private partnership, the City and implementation partners can further their knowledge of maintenance requirements, and develop a program that will help ensure the long-term sustainability of this site, while benefiting the community in which it is located. The design charrette is intended to bring stakeholders together to identify the appropriate features that New Hope Housing and Star of Hope can maintain, while minimizing costs and maximizing benefits. The design guide that will be a product of this will also help ensure the sustainability of this project and to ensure that it is a replicable project in other areas of Houston. Through a design guide, it is the hope of the partners to be able to share the success story and extend the learnings beyond the Houston region, across Texas and nation-wide. The educational component, including the work force development program, will also ensure that the site is well-maintained via training opportunities.

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NEED ROAD TREE PLANTING  
Kirksey

MOORE & BLOOM  
1000 10th St  
St. Louis, MO 63103  
314-433-1100







# NFWF

## Statement of Litigation

**Instructions:** Save this document on your computer and complete. The final narrative should not exceed two (2) pages; do not delete the text provided below. Once complete, upload this document into the on-line application as instructed.

**Litigation:** In the space provided below, state any litigation (including bankruptcies) involving your organization and either a federal, state, or local government agency as parties. This includes anticipated litigation, pending litigation, or litigation completed within the past twelve months. Federal, state, and local government applicants are not required to complete this section. If your organization is not involved in any litigation, please state below.

The City of Houston is a local government and therefore, not required to complete this section.



2019 CITY OF HOUSTON  
Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

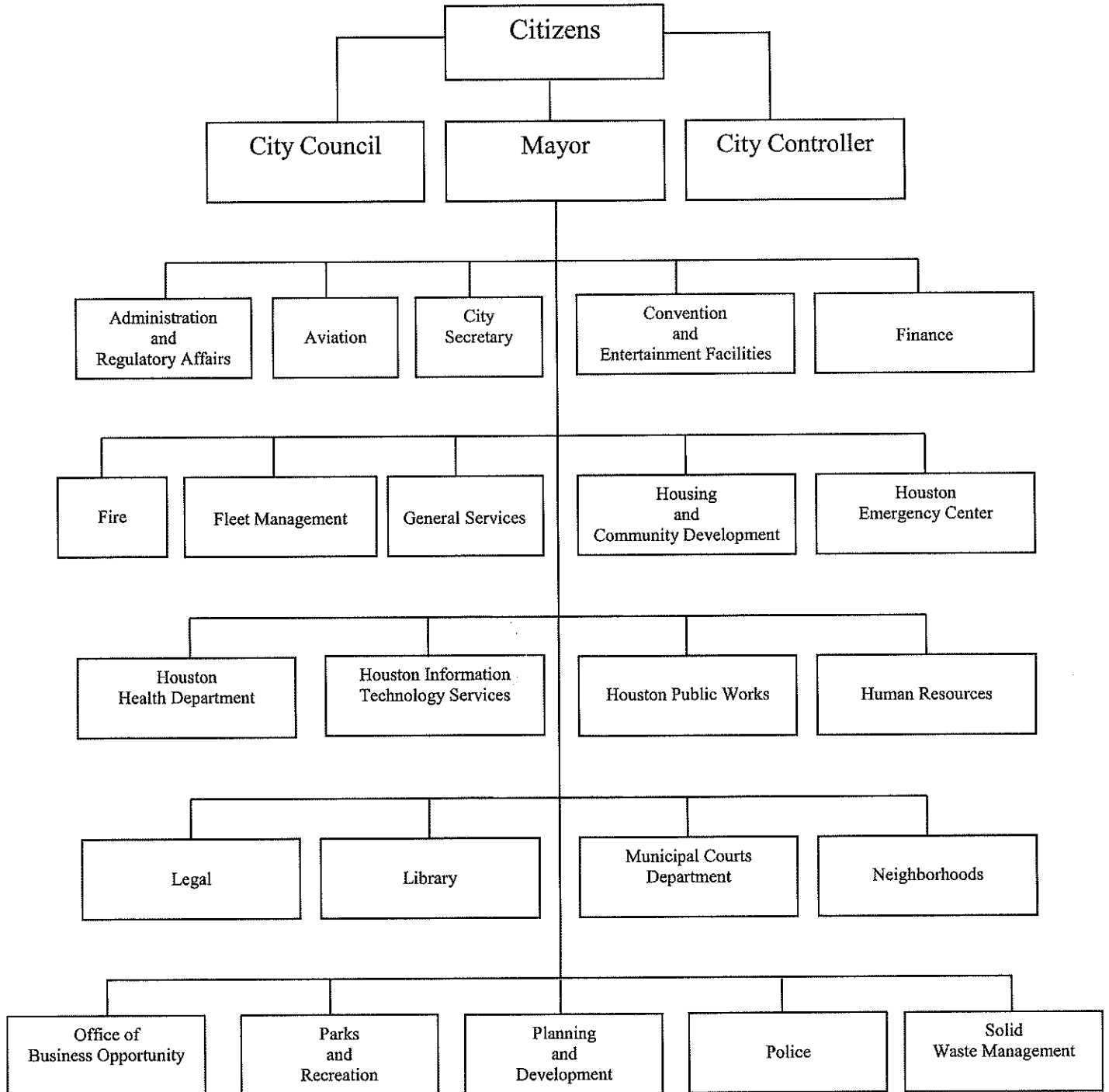
## Elected Officials City of Houston, Texas



2019 Houston City Council, Front row, left to right: Mike Knox, At Large, Position 1; Karla Cisneros, District H; Mike Laster, District J; Dave Martin, District E; Ellen Cohen, District C; Sylvester Turner, Mayor; Chris Brown, Controller; Brenda Stardig, District A; Steve Le, District F; Amanda Edwards, At Large, Position 4; Michael Kubosh, At-Large, Position 3; Greg Travis, District G; back row, left to right: Jack Christie, At Large, Position 5; Jerry Davis, District B; Martha Castex-Tatum, District K; Dwight Boykins, District D; Robert Gallegos, District I; David Robinson, At Large, Position 2.



# Organization Chart City Government





**Resilient Communities Category 3 BUDGET AND MATCH NARRATIVE  
Houston Urban Prairie Project**

**Cost Estimates:**

The total estimated project costs are described below:

**ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST:**

Project Amount: \$800,000  
 Amount Requested: \$400,000  
 Amount Match (no land value): \$400,575

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT (City/Partner Staff): \$42,500**

	Hours	Hourly Rate	Total	Assumptions
Communications	6-	\$150	\$9,000	Press conferences; public meetings; public statements
Compliance and Reporting Requirements	60	\$150	\$9,000	
Procurement of Services	60	\$150	\$9,000	
Project Meetings	100	\$150	\$15,500	2 people, 24 months

**PLANNING - OUTREACH AND STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION: \$63,200**

	Hours	Hourly Rate	Total	Assumptions
Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan	48	\$150	\$6,200	
Conduct Interviews and Resident Focus Groups	120	\$150	\$18,000	10 interviews, 10 focus groups with involved agencies and organizations
Conduct Public Meetings	60	\$150	\$9,000	3 meetings
Research & Preparation for Design Charrette	120	\$150	\$18,000	Plan & local activity research; site visits and photos; inventory existing drainage/utility systems, ecosystems, etc.; presentations/materials
Conduct Design Charrette	80	\$150	\$12,000	Assumes large meeting with 5+ facilitators

**DESIGN: \$75,625**

	Quantity/Size	Cost Per X	Total	Assumptions
Design: includes conceptual design based on charrette, design development, construction documentation, bidding, construction administration and signage design	N/A	N/A	\$75,625	10-15%of construction costs
<b>CONSTRUCTION: \$477,250</b>				
	Quantity / Size	Cost Per X	Total	Assumptions
Detention Area: Add native planting; may not plant entire area (trail element separate below)	3 acres	\$16,667/acre for native planting in specified areas	\$80,000	Detention Pond already Constructed to provide XX acre feet of storage; Grant activities consist of Planting Only; Design process will determine how to maximize benefit for the system and for the educational value
Green Corridor: Add native planting and green infrastructure features; will not plant entire area (trail element separate below)	2 acres	\$25,000/acre for partial native planting and potential GI features	\$80,000	Planting and Bioswales; Design process will determine how to maximize benefit for the system and for the educational value
Amphitheater: Add landscaping and green infrastructure features	2 acres; partial planting	\$37,250/acre for partial planting including rain gardens, trees, manicured landscaping	\$75,000	Add rain gardens that incorporate trees, absorbent edge to amphitheater. Enhance drainage abilities and provide shade and landscaping.
Reed Park	1 acre	\$10,000/acre	\$162,000	Play Equipment + Accessible Pathways + Picnic Area + Planting + Green Infrastructure
Buffer Strips combined	0.25 acres	\$1/square foot	\$20,250	Potential combination of trees, rain Gardens / prairie planting. Current sq ft cost means plugs and seeds to start with (requires maintenance and weeding)
Trail Additions -Within Green	2,200 linear feet	\$10/linear foot	\$22,000	6-8 foot wide path, hardscape

Corridor -Around Detention Basin				
Chapel Green Space; land value included \$4.50/sq.ft	0.25 acres		\$50,000	Minimum Foundation Planting, Minimum Trees, Turf, Irrigation
<b>MAINTENANCE / ESTABLISHMENT: \$39,000</b>				
	Quantity / Size	Cost Per X	Total	Assumptions
Maintenance / Establishment	NA	NA	\$33,800	Establishing a maintenance program
<b>EDUCATIONAL/WORKFORCE PROGRAM: \$102,425</b>				
	Quantity / Size	Cost Per X	Total	Assumptions
Children + Families STEM Educational Strategy	N/A	N/A	\$40,000	Includes strategy and some funding for implementation
Design, Construction, and Maintenance Guide	N/A	N/A	\$15,000	
Workforce Development Strategy	N/A	N/A	\$45,125	Includes strategy and some funding for implementation, e.g. wage supplements, training, equipment

**Match Information:**

The match contributions for the project exceed the amount required by 1:1 ratio. The key main contributions, cash and in-kind have been listed in the table below. The NFWF Resilient Communities grant offers the opportunities to create new and unprecedented partnerships to showcase how nature-based infrastructure can help a community and the build environment become more resilient.

Activity	Match/Contribution Amount	Organization	In-Kind/Cash
Planning, and outreach activities, and construction of Reed Park area.	\$250,000	New Hope Housing	Cash contribution directly to fulfill grant objectives.
Tree Planting	\$41,875	Kirksey Architecture	In-Kind, includes donated trees, planting time, and planning activities
Educational Program Component	\$15,000	Houston Parks Board	In-Kind services for on-site and off-site educational activities
Design Services	\$27,800	GSMA	In-Kind design services

Project Management	\$14,400	City of Houston, New Hope Housing	In-Kind for compliance monitoring and reporting and procurement services.
Planning – Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement	\$25,500	City of Houston, New Hope Housing, GSMA	In-Kind, for all activities related to planning- outreach and stakeholder coordination.
Construction, planting and installation	\$16,000	City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Katy Prairie Conservancy	In-Kind planting and installation services
Educational Program Component	\$10,000	City of Houston Public Works	In-Kind Education and Workforce Development, training and crews to perform work and define maintenance schedule and guidance
<b>Total Match</b>			<b>\$400,575</b>
Detention Basin	\$115,800	Star of Hope	The detention basin was constructed in 2017. It is an integral part of the scope of this project as it will demonstrate how nature can be integrated within the built environment and traditional stormwater mitigation measures. The cost of construction of the detention is not considered as match, but should be valued as an essential component of this work.
Land Value - \$4.50/ sq.ft	\$1,666,170	Star of Hope	In-Kind land contribution to incorporate wetlands, prairies, and nature-based solutions. The land value is not incorporated as match, as there will be no transfer of ownership, however, this partnership illustrates how work can be
<b>Land Value and Detention Basin</b>			<b>\$1,781,970</b>

The important contributions provided by New Hope Housing and Star of Hope, including the property in which this project is proposed, have made this concept a possibility. Without the land and the work already taken place in the Cornerstone Community Community (ie. the detention basin), it would have been impossible to showcase how the integration of green stormwater infrastructure and prairies in the built environment can be accomplished in Houston. Houston has been extensively developed, limiting the amount of land available to reclaim and restore as natural environments, therefore, a partnership that takes advantage of private land to showcase the wide-array of benefits can be accomplished.

New Hope Housing will also be contributing \$250,000 to match the efforts accomplished through the NFWF Resilient Communities Grant. These funds will be applied to planning and design of the entire area and construction of the Reed Park facility.

The Houston Parks Board will be in close partnership with the City to develop environmental education programs for the residents of Cornerstone Community Campus. This education will introduce relevant environmental topics such as the major regional habitats, wildlife utilization of natural landscapes and the ecosystem benefits of natural and restored habitats. In addition, the Houston Parks Board will conduct at least 2 field trips to the adjacent Bayou Greenway system to expose participating residents to a wider natural setting for our regional habitats—many of whom would not otherwise have an opportunity to experience trails within the City.

Kirksey Architecture will be conducting tree planting across the property. The tree planting activities, materials, and planning resources are to be considered as part of this effort and essential to ensure a biodiverse ecosystem, embedded within the green stormwater infrastructure features. Species to be determined during the planning charrette.

The City and implementation partners will be tracking additional staff and volunteer hours, and donated materials which will contribute to the match within the various planning, outreach, design, construction, and education tasks. In addition, once design is finalized, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department could potentially identify volunteer hours and materials for installation and planting. These additional match contributions will be recorded and leveraged to ensure the project benefits are maximized.