



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** September 8, 2025

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff input regarding the Librada “Lily” Cantu Inclusive Playground Master Plan at North Lakes Park.

### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Denton Parks and Recreation Department owns a park called North Lakes Park, located at 2001 W. Windsor Drive Denton, TX 76201. In 2022, City Council approved an application to rename the playground within the park to honor Librada “Lily” Rose Cantu. In the same year, the City Council also adopted the Parks, Recreation, and Trails System Master Plan. One of the priorities identified in this plan was the creation of an inclusive playground, which is a playground that is welcoming and accessible to people of all abilities. To bring this plan to life, the Parks and Recreation Department hired Mesa Design Company in 2023 to design the new Inclusive Playground. This project involved gathering input from the public, assessing the community's needs, creating design concepts, and developing construction plans and cost estimates.

Inclusive Playgrounds are important because they provide opportunities for children to develop physical, cognitive, sensory, and social skills. The new playground at North Lakes Park will be designed to be 'barrier-free', meaning it will be accessible to everyone regardless of their physical, intellectual, or sensory abilities.

The master plan officially began in May 2023. Throughout the summer, our team formed a focus group comprised of various local organizations, including Denton ISD, University of North Texas, Texas Women’s University, Denton County MHMR Center, Cook’s Children, Texas Health, Lewisville ISD, Lake Dallas ISD, and members from the Park Board and Committee with Persons on Disabilities, among others. Additionally, we met with the Cantu family to understand Lily’s life better and explore how the playground's design could honor her legacy.

In Fall 2023, the project paused temporarily due to a bond election, which included a proposition to fund the construction of this project. In November 2023, Proposition C passed, which provided \$3,450,000 of funding for the construction of the Inclusive Playground. Since that time, our team has completed the master plan efforts and are presenting the proposed concept that is based on the feedback gathered throughout this phase. Accompanying the proposed concept are phasing options for the project for which staff is requesting feedback to advance to detailed design.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

N/A

### **ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT**

Following approval of the proposed concept with a recommendation of a path forward on phasing, detailed design can begin in Winter 2025 with an estimated duration of 9 months until bid advertising for construction.

### **FISCAL INFORMATION**

Phasing Options:

1. Option 1 - \$4,692,333
2. Option 2 - \$4,615,517
3. Option 3 - \$4,699,963

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- Presentation

Respectfully submitted:

Gary Packan, Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:

Ziad Kharrat, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation