



# **Friends of the Shipley Nature Center MOU**

September 5, 2023

# BACKGROUND

- Due to budget reductions, the Nature Center was closed in 2001. The community started a grassroots movement and created the Friends of Shipley Nature Center (FSNC) which began working with the City to improve the nature center.
- On November 1, 2004, City Council approved a MOU with FSNC to operate, improve and restore the nature center per the Master Plan approved by City Council on April 5, 2004. FSNC receives \$40,000 yearly for labor and utilities.
- On November 16, 2009 a five-year extension, was approved (Amendment 1) with an additional five-year extension (Amendment 2) approved on November 17, 2014 through October 31, 2019.
- The MOU establishes areas of responsibility of the City and FSNC for the operation and maintenance of the center. Upon approval, the MOU will have a five-year term with an additional five-year term upon mutual consent of the parties.



# CITY'S OBLIGATIONS

- To provide access to the facility for authorized FSNC activities
- A staff liaison to interface with FSNC
- To assist with grant applications for joint funds for capital improvements and operation
- In-house printing of brochures and flyers of up to 24,000 four-color ink pages per month
- Conduct an annual walk-through to determine a work plan for maintenance and capital needs
- Provide tree trimming, irrigation, lake and building maintenance, capital improvements, maintain the perimeter fence,
- Provide facilities for meetings and events, depending on availability
- Waive permit fees wherever feasible



# FSNC OBLIGATIONS

- To maintain a 501(c)(3) non-profit status and liability insurance, with the City as an additional insured
- Perform maintenance of the facility including eradication of non-native plant species
- Implement additional planting and watering of trees
- Use fertilizer, pesticide, fungicide, and herbicide in compliance with all regulations
- Obtain all necessary permits for improvements to the site
- May sell items on site to support the FSNC
- Responsible for weekly janitorial services
- Renovation of the center based on the approved master plan



# RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Based on the outstanding efforts of the FSNC to operate, maintain, and improve the Shipley Nature Center, staff recommends approval of this MOU.





# Questions?

