Joseph S. & Lucie H.

Cullinan Park
Interlocal Agreement

Presentation to City Council Quality of Life Committee
Council Member Ellen Cohen, Chair
April 29, 2015

Presented by
Joe Turner, Director
Houston Parks and Recreation Department
Cullinan Park

- Located in Fort Bend County along Oyster Creek
- State Hwy 6 S between Voss & Highway 90
- Next to Sugar Land Regional Airport
- In City ETJ
Cullinan Park

- Acquired in 1989
- 755 acres
- City of Houston and Houston Parks Board own separate parcels
- HPB parcels acquired through donations by the Estate of Nina Cullinan and by the Brown Foundation
Interlocal Agreement for Cullinan Park

Parties to the Interlocal Agreement:

• City of Houston
• Houston Parks Board – Roksan Okan-Vick, Executive Director
• City of Sugar Land – Mike Goodrum, Assistant City Manager
• Cullinan Park Conservancy – Dan Neale, President
Cullinan Park Conservancy

• Established 2010

• Mission: To enhance and protect the natural beauty of the Park for the use and enjoyment of wildlife and human visitors alike

• Activities: Mapping of park boundaries, vegetation and improvements, plant surveys, cleanups, train maintenance, bridge repairs, photo contests, bird checklists

• Funded Master Plan in 2011
Master Plan for Cullinan Park

Planned Improvements:

- Fishing Access
- Nature Trails
- Picnic Areas
- Wildflower Meadows
- Hiking Trails
- Boat Pier
- Boardwalks
- Fishing Piers
- Overlooks
- Observation Areas
- Parking
- Habitat Enhancements
Purpose of the Interlocal Agreement:

- To provide for enhanced, local park management by Sugar Land with a mechanism for private funding from the Conservancy with ultimate oversight by Houston Parks and Recreation Department

This is a management agreement, not a lease or sale of the park
Steps to Finalizing Agreement:

- Following approval by City Council, the City of Houston Planning Department will begin process of releasing the park area from its extra territorial jurisdiction (ETJ)
Steps to Finalizing Agreement (cont.):

- **Cullinan Park Conservancy** will provide evidence that it has $500,000 for capital funding for the park.
- **City of Sugar Land** will begin process of annexing the park into its City Limits.
- **The agreement becomes effective when the City of Sugar Land takes final action to annex the park.**
Terms of the Agreement:

• City of Sugar Land will develop the park for specific uses that follow deed restrictions related to being a place of beauty and peacefulness and essentially excluding active organized sports.

• The City of Sugar Land will pay costs to operate, manage and control the park.

• The Cullinan Park Conservancy will provide funding for improvements, with a beginning minimum of $500,000.
Terms of the agreement (cont.):

- **The City of Sugar Land and City of Houston may but are not required to provide funding for improvements.**
- **The City of Houston may but is not required to review and approve all plans and construction work.**
- **Houston residents will have the same use of the park as Sugar Land residents.**
- **The term of the agreement is 30 years.**