



**Agenda Item:** Update Regarding Seawolf Park Task Force

**Background:** On November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the City and Park Board had a joint coordination meeting. At this meeting Trustee Jason Hardcastle presented the Council with options in developing Seawolf Park. From that direction, Park Board Staff has prepared the below action plan.

**Seawolf Park:** Seawolf Park continues to be a high functioning facility. With recent changes and improvements to the Galveston Naval Museum and other improvements to the Park we continue to set annual revenue records each year. This success has yielded an annual payment to the City of \$300,000 of unrestricted funds. In an effort to expand the revenue sources, staff believe a small recreational vehicle (RV) park could be added and would complement the existing services. Seawolf Park is known to locals as the Cultural Heritage Park and has proven to be successful using the “Park within a Park” philosophy. Over the past 10 years major efforts have been made in Master Planning this facility, but due to limitations in wastewater processing these efforts have not been executed until now.

**Requested Action:**

- 1) Authorize the Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston to issue a Letter of Intent (LOI) for a private sector development of an RV Park
  - a. Park Board will bring back the results of the LOI to the City and will seek direction at that time on next steps.
- 2) Support continued Master Planning efforts by engaging with the Galveston Naval Museum in their plans for future expansion along with adding amenities to the Park that highlight the Cultural Heritage of Seawolf Park.

**Why a LOI:** A Letter of Interest (LOI) will allow the private sector to easily show formal interest in a project without major investment in time and financial cost one might expect through a more thorough process like a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). The LOI allows the City/Park Board to quickly identify the best course of action. If there is interest in the private sector investing on public lands this process also allows for the City/Park Board to negotiate terms and conditions with the private sector.

**Staff Recommendation:** No formal action needed, seek feedback from the committee.