



Meeting Agenda

Sustainability Commission

Friday, February 13, 2026

8:00 AM

Admin 2-B

CALL TO ORDER

CITIZEN COMMENTS (Open for citizens to be heard on any issue or concern, including those related to items on the agenda. Please submit a Speaker Card at the beginning of the meeting if you would like to address the Commission. If you would like to speak on an agenda item, the Chair will hold your comment until the public comment period associated with the item. As provided by law, the Commission shall make no decisions or consideration of action of citizen comments for items not on the agenda, except to refer the matter to the Planning Director/Staff for administrative consideration, or to a schedule the matter for consideration at a later date. Those addressing the Commission are requested to come to the microphone and identify themselves by name and address for the official record. The Chair may restrict the period for public comment, including the length of the public comment period, the number of individuals who can speak and the length of time each individual may speak. When time allows, the standard individual public comment time is two minutes.)

Comments on agenda items may be made in person or by emailing PlanningIntake@FranklinTN.gov before noon on the day of the meeting. Emailed comments will be provided to the Commission and included in the minutes, but not read aloud in their entirety during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consideration Of Approval Of Minutes

NEW BUSINESS

2. Announcements
3. Litter Survey Overview
4. Bee City USA Update
5. 2026 Topics and Activities

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Anyone needing accommodations due to disabilities please contact the ADA Coordinator at 615-791-3277 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

**City of Franklin
Meeting Minutes
Sustainability Commission**



January 16, 2026

8:00 AM

Administration Conference Room 2B

Call To Order

Chair Christina Christiansen called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Anna Timme, April Eaton, Christina Christiansen, Brian Stone, Keith Gordon, Meredith Zehnder, Alan Pramuk

Members Absent: Jim Mahurin, Alderman Beverly Burger

Staff Present: Andrew Orr, Joel Aguilera, Eric Conner, Kelly Dannenfelser, Trevor Hannon, Bill Squires, Katie Walker, Walter Denton, Brian Walker, Paige Cruse

Citizens Present: Ned Dannenburg, Kay Matthews

Citizen Comments

Ned Dannenburg made comments regarding recycling services and trash reclamation in Franklin.

Approval of November 14, 2025, Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the November 14, 2025, meeting minutes as presented, by Keith Gordon, seconded by Brian Stone. The motion carried with all in favor.

Consideration of Electing Chair and Vice Chair

A motion was made to nominate Christina Christiansen for Chair by Brian Stone, seconded by Keith Gordon. The motion carried with all in favor.

A motion was made to nominate Brian Stone as vice chair by Anna Timme, seconded by April Eaton. The motion carries with all in favor.

City Acquisition of 171 Hillhaven Lane (Ropers Knob Park) Update

Andrew Orr introduced the agenda item. Commission member, Jim Mahurin has taken a special interest in this park. He is advocating for a trail network and creating a level 1 or 2 arboretum as well as removing the invasive understory trees. The acquisition of the additional acreage has made access to the location possible.

Brian Walker, Franklin Parks department, spoke briefly about the history of the location including the use of the property during the Civil War. Vegetation includes hardwoods and evergreens. The plan for the property is to create access to Ropers Knob. There will be a master plan developed to gather input from stakeholders but there is no specific timeline yet.

Brian also addressed the Creekside property and the home that is currently occupied by



**City of Franklin
Meeting Minutes
Sustainability Commission**



renters. These renters are maintaining the property and once they vacate, the Parks department will take over the maintenance and care. There will be a master plan process for this property as well. The vision for the historic home is a visitors center.

Citizen Comments: Kay Matthews, The Habitat Connection, stated that its great news that the City has acquired the additional property. Her main concern with Roper’s Knob is the health of the trees and encouraged that a survey of the trees be done. She went on to state that a level 1 arboretum needs at least 30 native tree species. She requested access for The Habitat Connection to the property at some point because they do Bird Sanctuary Certification and she believes it could be certified by the National Wildlife Federation.

Discussion of Surplus Solar Panels

Andrew Orr introduced this item as an idea that was proposed at the previous Sustainability Commission meeting in November. He reached out the Franklin Special District but has not heard back. At this point, there is not a huge urgency but it would be nice to identify the landing spot for the surplus panels.

Keith Gordon stated that he’d hate to see the panels go to waste and agreed the topic should be addressed at the next meeting.

Brian Stone mentioned that Columbia State might also be interested in the panels.

Discussion of Litter Surveys

Locations for Litter Surveys were assigned. The deadline is February 9th and the results will be shared at the February 13th meeting. The City uses the surveys to determine areas that need to be cleaned up or prioritized.

NEWS/UPDATE/ADJOURN

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 AM with a motion from April Eaton and a second from Keith Gordon. The motion carried with all in favor.

Chair Signature

Date





File #: 26-0158

DATE: 2/13/2026

TO: Sustainability Commission

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Litter Survey Overview

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Sustainability Commission concerning

BACKGROUND/STAFF COMMENTS:

(Brief description of the history and supporting information regarding the item, including an explanation of why staff is recommending the action.)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

(Include the cost of the item, how the item will be funded, which fund it will come from, if there are grants or loans involved and whether the item is included in the current approved budget.)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that (item name) be (action)



Area 1 West Franklin

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
Mack Hatcher Parkway NW Ext. (Hillsboro Road to 96W)	1	1	cardboard, trashbag, plastic bag
96 West (Mack Hatcher to Westhaven BLVD)	1	0	plastic bags, cardboard
96 West (Mack Hatcher Parkway to 5 th Ave North)	1	0	plastic bags, can, bottle
Del Rio Pike (Hillsboro Road to Carlisle Lane intersection)	1.5	1	plastic bag, cardboard, cans
Carlisle Lane (Del Rio Pike to 96 West)	0	1	
Roy F. Alley Court (Carlisle Lane intersection to Franklin Christian Academy)	1.5	3	plastic bag, water bottle, sonic cup, plastic container
Del Rio Pike/Cotton Lane (Carlisle Lane to Fieldstone Parkway intersection)	3.5	3	bottles, plastic, cans, plastic bags, containers, cups, waldo's bag, beer cans; worst north and south of Mack Hatcher
Area 1 Average	1.36	1.29	
<i>Scorer: Trevor Hannon on 2/6/26</i>			

Street Segment	2026	<i>2025</i>	2026 NOTES



Area 2 Southwest Franklin

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
Columbia Avenue (Five Points to Downs BLVD)	0	0	
Columbia Avenue/Columbia Pike (Downs BLVD to Winstead Elementary)	1	1	Very minimal incidences of plastic bags, cardboard, tossed cups along Columbia (from hardware store and to shopping stretch) and
Carters Creek Pike (Downs BLVD to Horton Lane)	0	0	
Horton Lane (Carters Creek Pike to Boyd Mill Ave)	0	0	
West Main Street (Downs BLVD to 9th Avenue)	0	0	
Natchez Street (West Main Street to 9th Ave S)	0	1	
Culberson BLVD and Shawnee Drive (Boyd Mill Ave to Shawnee Drive to Edgewood BLVD to Brookwood Ave to West Main St)	0	2.5	
Area 2 Average	0.14	0.64	
<i>Scorer: April Eaton on February 7, 2026</i>			

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES



Area 3 North Franklin

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
Hillsboro Road (96 W to Del Rio Pike)	0	0	just limbs from the storm
Hillsboro Road (Del Rio Pike to Mack Hatcher Parkway)	0	1	just limbs from the storm
Hillsboro Road (Mack Hatcher Parkway to Fieldstone Parkway)	1	1	one large piece of trash on road near Publix; paper plate in front of Fieldstone Park, broken down box in front of Christ
Spencer Creek Road (Fieldstone Parkway to Mack Hatcher Parkway)	0.5	1	no trash except near wooded areas by new stop sign with orange flags
Mack Hatcher Parkway (Hillsboro Road to Franklin Road)	2	1	a lot of trash in front of shopping area, trash in median near bridge across from water treatment, trash along fence in front
Franklin Road (Mack Hatcher Parkway to Mallory Station Road)	1.5	2	trash along wooded areas otherwise clean
Franklin Road (Mallory Station Road to Moores Lane)	1.5	2	trash along wooded areas near Christ United Methodist otherwise pretty minimal
Area 3 Average	0.93	1.14	
<i>Scorer: Christina Christiansen 2/9/2026</i>			



Area 4 Cool Springs

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
Mallory Station Road (Franklin Road to Mallory Lane)	1	1	Minimal litter but multiple brush piles between Franklin Road and RR tracks
Mallory Lane (Mallory Station Road to Moores Lane)	1	2	minimal litter a few branches and brush piles
Moores Lane (Mallory Station Road to Carothers Parkway)	2	1	cardboard and litter near bridge over I-65
Bakers Bridge Ave (Carothers Parkway to Seaboard Lane)	2	1	multiple pieces of small litter along curb on west side of road
Seaboard Lane (Bakers Bridge Ave to Aspen Grove Drive to Cool Springs BLVD)	1	0	minimal litter a few cardboard pieces in the industrial area along seaboard
Cool Springs BLVD (Aspen Grove Drive to Carothers Parkway)	2	0	large brush pile in median near PF Changs, some litter near I-65 overpass
Carothers Parkway (Cool Springs BLVD to Bakers Bridge Ave)	1	1	minimal litter however very large brush piles and significant clean up needed from storm in median near Rutledge
Cool Springs Galleria Mall Parking Lot (drive around perimeter of the Galleria)	1	2	minimal litter on outside mall property near fencing along I-65
Area 4 Average	1.38	1	
<i>Scorer: Brian Stone in 2026 on 2/5/26</i>			

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES



Area 5 McEwen

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
McEwen Drive (Cool Springs BLVD to Cool Springs BLVD)	1		mostly noted on the south side; more concentration between I-65 and Carothers
East McEwen Drive (Cool Springs BLVD to Wilson Pike) (Under Construction)	NA		
Oxford Glen Drive (E. McEwen Drive to Liberty Pike)	3		bottles and cans
Liberty Pike (Oxford Glen Drive to Mallory Lane)	2		highest concentration between Turning Wheel and I-65, none in McKay's Mill
Mallory Lane (Liberty Pike to Jordan Road)	1		
Jordan Road and Aspen Grove Dr (Take Jordan Road to Aspen Grove Drive to Cool Springs BLVD)	1		there is a pallet on north side of Jordan Road
Area 5 Average	1.6		
Scorer: Anna Timme on 2/9/26			

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES



Area 6 Murfreesboro Road Corridor

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
Murfreesboro Road (Mack Hatcher Parkway to North Royal Oaks)			
North Royal Oaks BLVD (Murfreesboro Road to Liberty Pike)			
South Royal Oaks BLVD (Murfreesboro Road to Mack Hatcher Parkway)			
Mack Hatcher Parkway (South Royal Oaks BLVD to Murfreesboro Road)			
Southwinds Drive and left on Oak Meadow Drive (terminating on South Royal Oaks BLVD)			
Oak Meadow Drive (South Royal Oaks BLVD to the Elk Lodge)			
Murfreesboro Road (North Royal Oaks to Clovercroft Road)			
Clovercroft Road (Murfreesboro Road to Wilson Pike)			
Oxford Glen Drive (Clovercroft to Murfreesboro Road)			
Murfreesboro Road (Oxford Glen Drive to Clovercroft Road)			
Carothers Parkway (Murfreesboro Road south to Harpeth River Bridge before entering Ladd Park)			

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
Carothers Parkway (Harpeth River Bridge to Long Lane)			
Long Lane (Carothers Parkway to Bagsby Lane)			
Area 6 Average			
Scorer:			



Area 7 South Franklin

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
Mack Hatcher Parkway (Columbia Ave to South Royal Oaks Parkway)	2		small but frequent items like plastic water bottles plastic bags, misc
Lewisburg Pike (Mack Hatcher Parkway to Donelson Creek Parkway)	0.5		very minimal
Lewisburg Pike (Donelson Creek Parkway to Southvale BLVD)	1.5		area between Goose Creek Bypass and Southvale has litter but Goose Creek to Donelson is clean
Goose Creek Bypass (Lewisburg Pike to Long Lane)	0.5		very minimal-some around in-n-out construction
Peytonsville Road (Long Lane to Pratt Lane)	1.5		litter in ditch mostly on west and south side of road
Long Lane (TA Truck Stop to Carothers Parkway)	2.5		trash between truck stop and Alfred Ladd Road
Old Peytonsville Road (Lewisburg Pike to Five Mile Crossing)	0		virtually none
Area 7 Average	1.21		
<i>Scorer: Meredith Zehnder on 2/8/2026</i>			

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES



Area 8 Central Franklin

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
1 st Avenue (South Margin Street to North Margin Street)	1	2	some trash paper, bottles on Harpeth River side of 1st
2 nd Avenue (South Margin Street to North Margin Street)	0	0	very little
Franklin Road (1 st Avenue to Mack Hatcher Parkway)	1	2	generally good, some paper trash near Pinkerton and then again in ditch near Green property
Mack Hatcher Parkway (Franklin Road to Murfreesboro Road)	2	3	debris in ditches/side of road, one tire, mostly bottles, cans
Murfreesboro Road (Mack Hatcher Parkway to Public Square)	1	1	paper blown in high winds? Limb debris
Old Liberty Pike (Franklin Road to Liberty Pike)	1	0	
Liberty Pike (Franklin Road to Mack Hatcher Parkway)	2	2	trash near gas station and elementary and railroad
Ralston Lane (Murfreesboro Road to Liberty Pike)	1	1	generally ok
Eddy Lane (Murfreesboro Road to Liberty Pike)	2	2	wind blown trash? Limbs
Lewisburg Ave (South Margin Street to Railroad Tracks)	1	0	some trash near rails on both sides
Lewisburg Pike (Railroad Tracks to Mack Hatcher Parkway)	1	NA	some trash near canoe drop, did not check parking lot or trail

Street Segment	2026	2025	2026 NOTES
Area 8 Average	1.18	1.3	
<i>Scorer: Keith Gordon early February 2026</i>			

BEE  **CITY**  **USA**®
FRANKLIN

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

BEE CITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

FEBRUARY 13, 2026



OUTREACH

FIRE 1

DOWNTOWN BEDS

BICENTENNIAL PARK

SITE SITE VISITS

NEXT STEPS

ARBOR DAY & STATE OF THE CITY

BEE FACTS

- 1 About 35% of the world's food crops depend on pollinators to reproduce¹
- 2 Honeybees pollinate \$15 billion worth of crops in the United States each year, including more than 130 types of fruits, nuts, and vegetables²
- 3 Bees have 2 stomachs – one for eating, and one for storing nectar and processing it into honey.³
- 4 Bees have five eyes⁴
- 5 There are 3,600 species of bees native to the United States.⁵
- 6 Pollinators enable the reproduction of over 85% of all flowering plants and 67% of agricultural crops⁶
- 7 2 out of 3 wild bees live underground in nests⁷
- 8 The use of pesticides and herbicides has been tied to the decline of species important to ecosystems, including pollinators.⁸
- 9 It requires 1152 bees to make one honey jar of approximately 16oz. And 9216 bees make one gallon of honey.⁹
- 10 3,000 year old honey was found in King Tutankhamen's tomb when it was opened in 1922 and it was still edible!¹⁰



Bee City USA provides a framework for communities to come together to conserve native pollinators by providing them with healthy habitat that is rich in a variety of native plants, provides nest sites, and is protected from pesticides. As the name suggests, the focus of Bee City USA is bees, and primarily our native species. The steps that affiliates take to conserve our native bees, including creating safe habitats and hosting community events, will also help other pollinators including butterflies and moths as well as the non-native honey bee. One of the most impactful actions any affiliate can take is to encourage others to think beyond the honey bee and recognize the true diversity of bees that sustain our communities.



**TRI-FOLD,
BOOKMARKS, &
SEED PACKETS**



BEE CITY USA
FRANKLIN

FIRE STATION 1



FIRE 1 MAINTENANCE

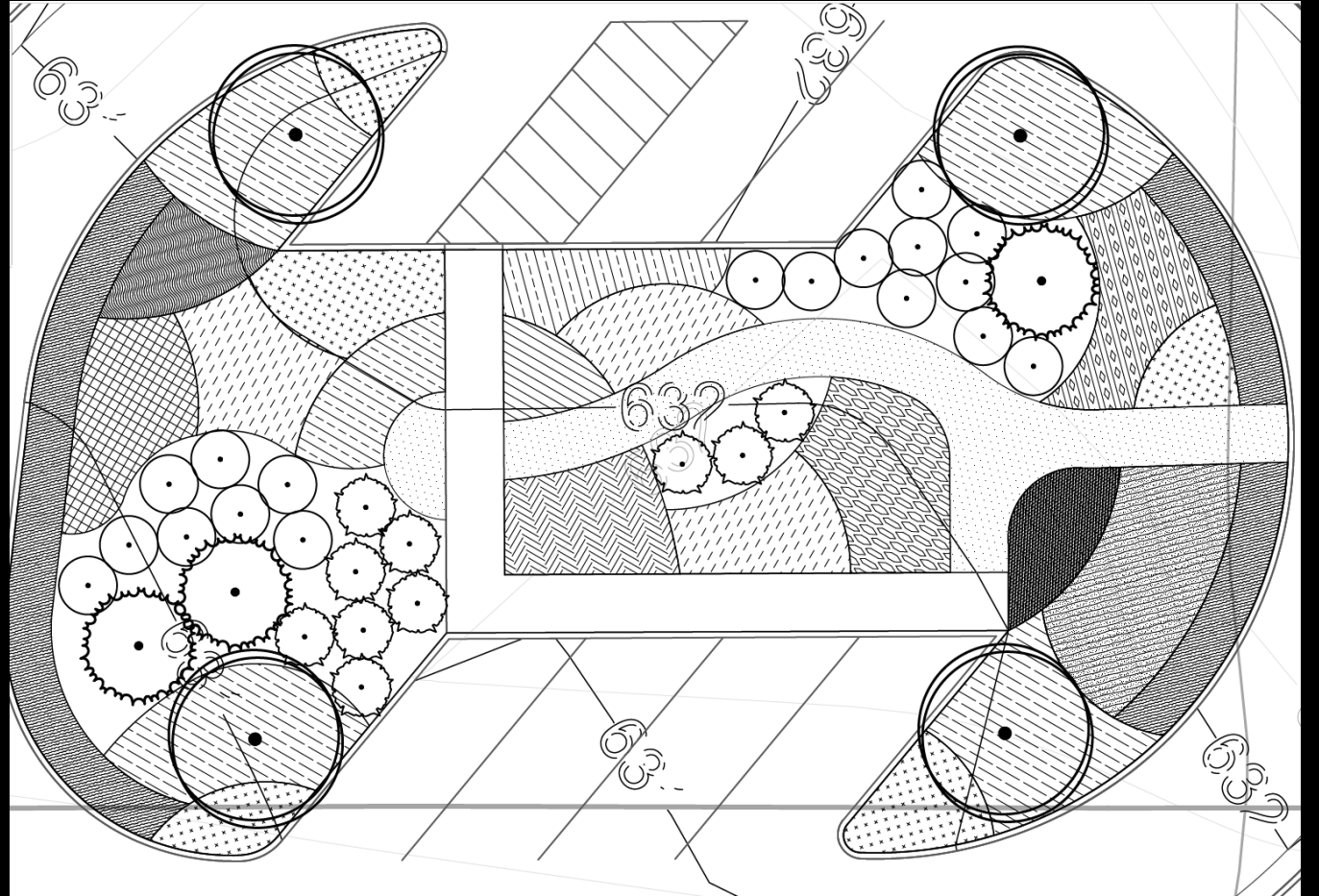
- Initial installation and bed preparations made by Atmos Energy and City of Franklin in October 2024
- 1st year maintained by a combination of staff
 - Difficult starting from seeds
 - Added more compost, refreshed all three gardens
 - Partnership with Natchez Glen
 - Combination of maintenance for Year 2
 - Interpretive Signage to be posted this year



BICENTENNIAL PARK

SPONSORED BY GRESHAM

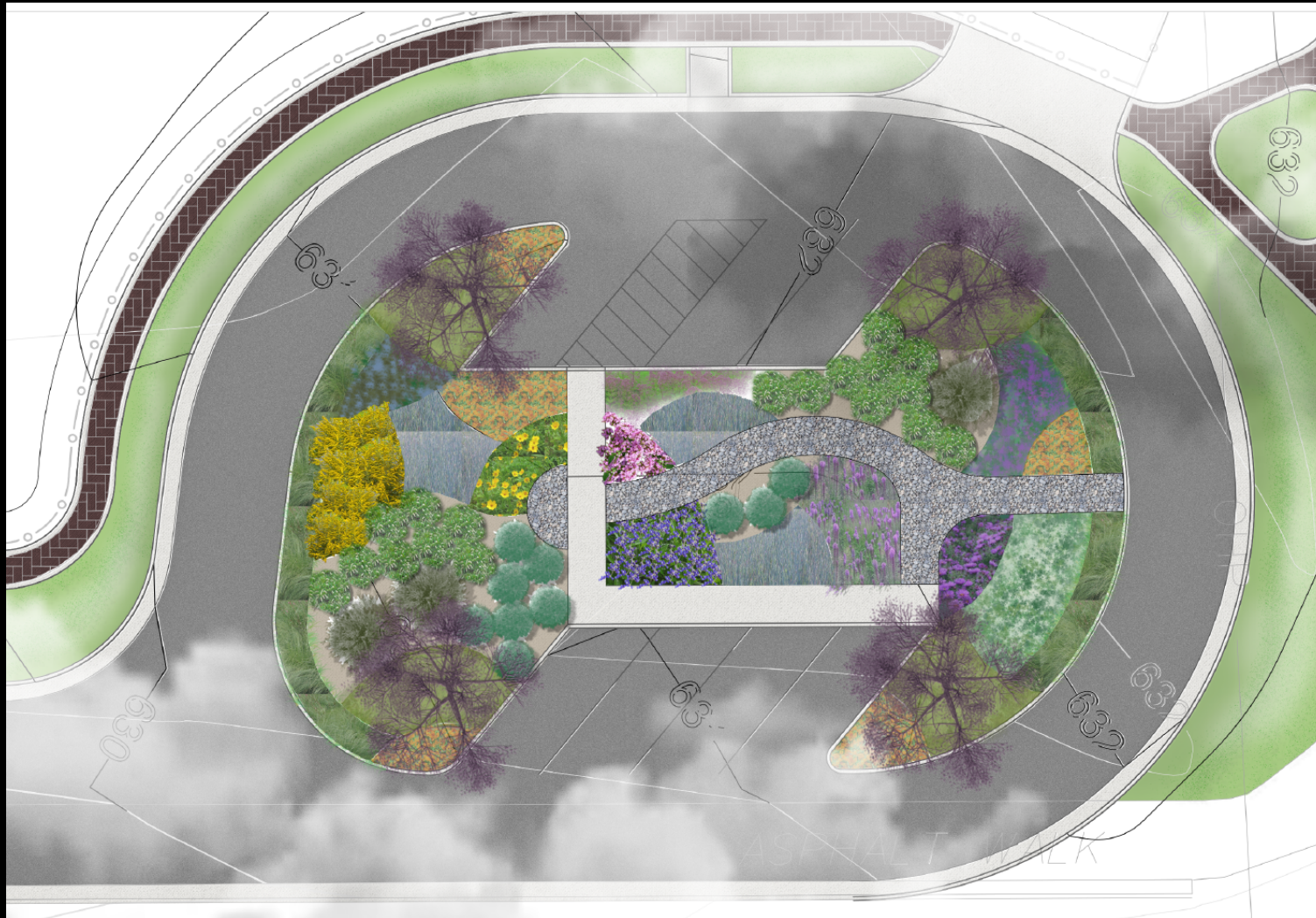
SMITH



BICENTENNIAL PARK

SPONSORED BY
GRESHAM SMITH

APRIL 2026
PLANTING



DOWNTOWN NATIVE PLANTS



STREETS ENHANCEMENT S

1ST AVE AND MCEWEN DR



NEXT STEPS

- Continued maintenance at Fire 1 and supplemental plantings as needed
 - Bicentennial Park Pollinator Garden Installation (Gresham Smith)
 - Add interpretive signage at both locations
 - Install at least one Bee City USA sign, most likely at Bicentennial Park
 - Streets Department Locations
 - Harlinsdale Park Native Grasses and Flowers Tract (Friends of Franklin Parks and Kindred Land Management)
 - [Nature Preserve at Harlinsdale Farm — Friends of Franklin Parks](#)
 - Ward 3 locations
 - Integrated Pest Management Plan
 - Annual Report and \$400 renewal fee
 - Continued Outreach and Engagement
 - Arbor Day Booth
 - State of the City
 - Pollinator Week June 16-20
 - National Honeybee Day in August
-