

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****March 22, 2022**

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SUBJECT: FORT WORTH BOTANIC GARDEN MASTER PLAN

The purpose of this Informal Report is to provide an update to questions raised by City Councilmembers at the February 18, 2022 Council Work Session.

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is conducting a robust, citywide public engagement process to inform the public on its long-term master plan, which will include “a particular focus on Fort Worth’s rich and growing diversity.” This effort is in conjunction with Studio Outside, Bennett Partners and DEI Consultants.

In addition to online comment capabilities through the website www.brit.org/masterplan, initially five 90-minute community forums were planned and conducted. These included the following.

January 26, 6:30 p.m.	Rockwood Park Golf Course Clubhouse
January 27, 6:30 p.m.	Como Community Center
January 29, 10:00 a.m.	MLK, Jr., Community Center
February 16, 6:30 p.m.	Chisholm Trail Community Center (rescheduled from February 2 due to weather)
February 17, 6:30 p.m.	Heritage Church (rescheduled from February 3 due to weather)

At the request of City Council, an additional community forum was held at Worth Heights Community Center at 6:30 p.m. on February 7, 2022.

While turnout was modest (39 total attendance, an additional 38 persons as of March 7, 2022 took the online survey), citizens attending were highly engaged in small group discussions, reviews of images of various possible landscapes/venues, potential offerings for children, and an opportunity to individually “map” an ideal day in the garden. Master Plan Consultants Studio Outside is compiling that information, which will be available to the public along with published minutes of master plan committee meetings. Additional opportunities for public input are planned at upcoming meetings in May, late summer, and at Park and Recreation Advisory Board meetings in the fall.

Any questions can be directed to Richard Zavala, Director, Park & Recreation Department, 817.392.5704.

David Cooke
City Manager