

Brazoria County Board of Park Commission

Guiding Principles

1. **Planning** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall develop a county-wide resident and tourist related master park plan consistent with its philosophy and the review of elected officials in the county and its citizens.
2. **Coordination** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall coordinate ongoing county park planning, acquisition and development with other governmental entities and with the private sector to minimize duplication of costs to the taxpayers.
3. **Staff** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall recruit and retain staff with proven professional experience and capability to administer with dedication parkland acquisition, development, maintenance, and operation.
4. **Private Sector Involvement** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall maximize private sector involvement to take advantage of tax incentives for charitable donations of land, money, materials, labor and equipment.
5. **Minimum Tax Funds** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall promote and develop a park system that is minimally dependent on local tax funds.
6. **Public Involvement** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall be broadly representative of the county and shall seek and promote citizen involvement in policy making as well as in development of its facilities.
7. **Outside Funding** – The Board of Park Commissioners and its staff shall intensely pursue all sources of funds and types of support from federal, state and local government as well as the private sector to minimize ad valorem support.
8. **Regional Parks** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall emphasize the acquisition of large regional or sub-regional parks or smaller parks with special or unique historic and natural attributes.
9. **Neighborhood and Community Parks** – The Board of Park Commissioners will not provide neighborhood and community level parks, but will work with community groups to facilitate planning and outside funding of local parks by the community in areas where there is no municipality or where the existing municipality has not developed the means for providing these parks.
10. **Park Development** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall emphasize facility development and place little or no emphasis on intensive recreation programming of the type now well administered at the municipal level.
11. **Education** – The Board of Park Commissioners shall conduct programs to raise public awareness of park and recreation opportunities in Brazoria County and to educate the public concerning its natural and cultural resources.