

#INSIDER

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EAST MONTGOMERY COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Sneak Peek Look at Plans for Enhancing EMC's Nature



Enhancing EMC's Nature



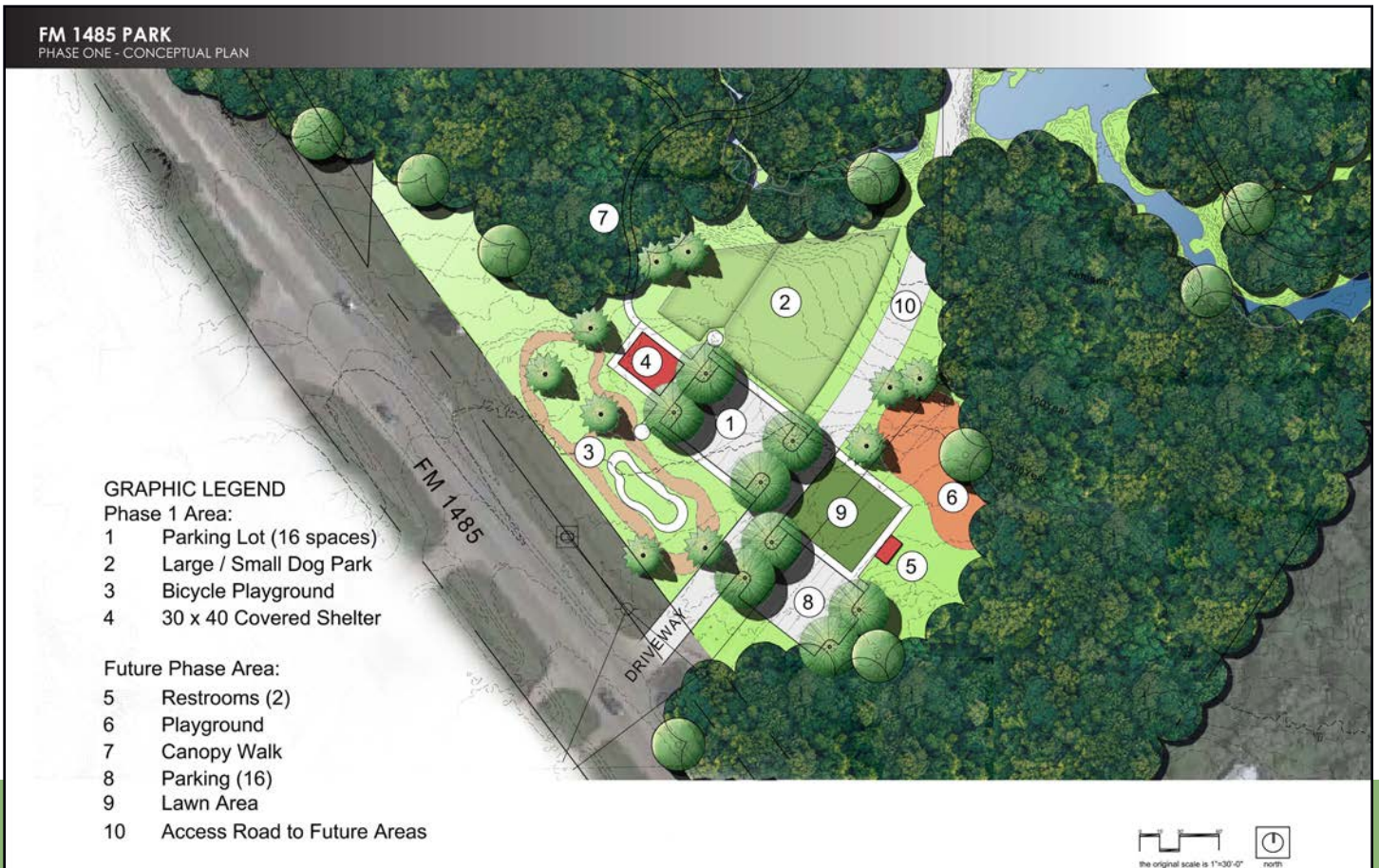
Images of nature, dogs running in a park, children playing on natural elements assembled on a playground, and families walking through a canopy of trees are just some of the images of a master park plan Burditt Consulting presented to the Board of Directors at its March meeting.

EMCID purchased 64 acres of land at FM 1485 along Caney Creek in 2023. At the time this issue went to print, a contract for another 45 acres was at the title company and negotiations on a 100-acre piece of property are ongoing to create a nearly 200-acre natural park with hike and bike trails, a dog park, and pump track.

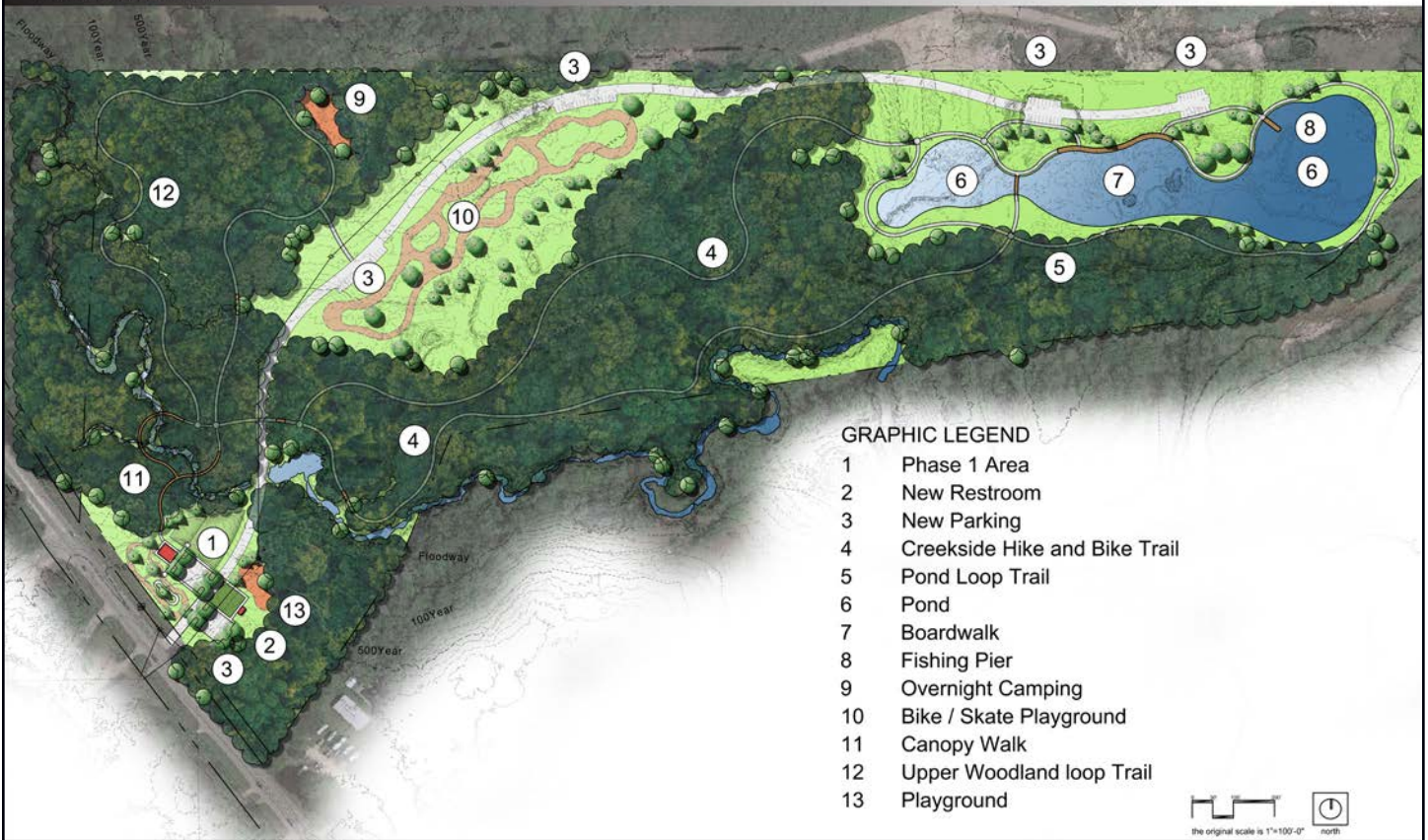
David Lestage, landscape architect with the Conroe company, presented both the master plan for the initial 64 acres and a first phase, which focuses on the land closest to the entrance at FM 1485. The first phase includes a dog park for large and small dogs situated in an area that includes natural shade from plenty of trees already on the property, a bicycle playground/pump track, a covered shelter, and parking.

The Board was excited to see the plans but suggested the number of parking spaces be increased to more than the proposed 16. "We're pretty positive about this project, and I think people from all over are ready for something like this. That's why I think we'll need to be able to accommodate more cars," said Brenda Webb, Chairman of the Board.

Phase 2 includes adding restrooms, a playground that takes advantage of an area near Dry Creek, a canopy walk among the trees with elevated areas, a lawn area, and additional parking. The master plan beyond phase 2 proposes several new hike and bike trails, a trail around a pond, a boardwalk, fishing pier, a skate park, an overnight camping area, and additional parking.



FM 1485 PARK
CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN



“This is a great piece of property that includes heavily wooded areas as well as natural ponds we can take advantage of to plan around,” said Lestage. “We think there are opportunities for things like boardwalks and even fishing, and an area further away that could provide an excellent spot for some overnight camping options for groups like the Boy Scouts.”

Lestage also mentioned using interpretive signage within the park to highlight the conservation and preservation of floodplains and native wildlife and plants. Adding another 145 acres to the park opens up all kinds of additional possibilities, all with preserving nature in mind.



“Reaching the finish line by assembling 200 acres within a five-minute drive of the city limits of Houston is a monumental accomplishment, with this effort beginning about two years ago,” said Frank McCrady, President/CEO. “This is a legacy project for EMCID. We can’t wait to begin to enhance the naturally occurring features of this park for families to enjoy for years to come.”





EMC BUSINESS HAPPENINGS

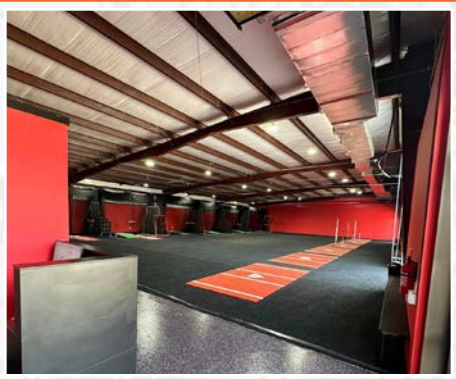
Nothing Bundt Cakes Set to Open in May

The signage for Nothing Bundt Cakes was installed at their newest location in East Montgomery County. Located at 21856 Market Place Dr., Ste. 200, in New Caney within Valley Ranch Town Center, the bakery focuses on various flavors of bundt cakes and is expected to open in May.



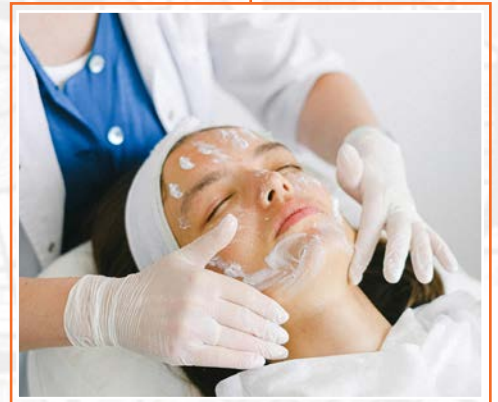
The Turf Zone Provides Indoor Space for Training

The Turf Zone opened at 24432 FM 1314, Ste. B, in Porter. The Turf Zone is an indoor sports complex with six top-of-the-line batting cages, sports agility, fitness classes like boot camps for women and baseball camps. This provides up-and-coming young baseball players the chance to work on their skills whether there is inclement weather or not since The Turf Zone is indoors.



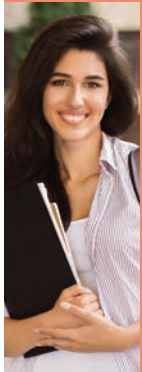
Beauty Services Abound in Valley Ranch Town Center

Rogers Premier Salon Suites Valley Ranch celebrated its grand opening at the beginning of March which gave residents the opportunity to visit the different suites to learn about various services. Rogers Premier features services like haircuts, coloring, eyebrows, facials and more. The business is located at 22186 Market Place Drive in New Caney within Valley Ranch Town Center.



\$1600 Scholarship

for all graduates within
the EMCID boundaries.



2024



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The Insider

InSights

Be the first to know about breaking news on businesses, events, and other community news with EMCID's newest eNewsletter, InSights!



Poster artwork by:
Brandon Nash, MBA



Recognizing the Officers of the Year

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024 | the NATHANIEL CENTER | KINGWOOD, TX

Every year, the East Montgomery County Improvement District honors local Officers of the Year nominated by their respective law enforcement agencies that serve our East Montgomery County communities. This year, we had the pleasure to recognize: Texas Department of Public Safety Troopers Ethan McAdoo and Trooper Tina Salazar, Lone Star College Police Officer Mark Kelley, Montgomery County Precincy 4 Constable's Office Deputy Bryan Hosler and K9 Joker, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Deputy Jason Alvarez and Detective Brad Crandell, Patton Village Police Department Detective Cristian Nava, Roman Forest Police Department Officer Jackie Garza, Splendora ISD Police Department Officer Elisabet Solais, City of Splendora Police Department Officer Alex Saldivar and Woodbranch Police Department Officer Randall Blacketter.



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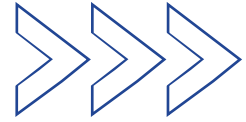


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FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK

The Road Ahead



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Commissioner Gray spent the first year and a half in office investing in the future of Precinct 4. New processes, new maintenance procedures, and new equipment have been put into place to focus on repairing roads.

To address growing infrastructure needs, \$2.2 million has been spent towards ramping up a new fleet of equipment. A reclaimer, a water truck, a new street sweeper, 2 additional dump trucks, and a road striping machine have all been purchased to kick off a robust road maintenance plan in the years to come.

With over 1,200 county maintained road miles, repaving every road is not feasible, especially when contracting the work out. This new fleet of equipment was a necessary purchase in order to do these road repairs and proper maintenance throughout the precinct.

Aside from road repairs being done by Precinct 4 crews, Commissioner Gray is continuing to seek additional funding sources such as partnerships and federal funding for larger infrastructure projects such as Ford Road and Old Houston Road.

“We are very proud to wrap up of the first segment of the Sorters Road Expansion project, and have several upcoming projects in the works as we look ahead. Recently, we were awarded \$7 million in federal funding by Congressman Crenshaw for the expansion of Ford Road. We have also secured \$14 million in funding towards FM 2090 and constructing braided ramps at the Grand Parkway and Valley Ranch. This additional funding puts us another step closer for all these projects.”

As we take advantage of as much grant funding and partnerships as possible, Commissioner Gray has also been partnering with developers on road repairs. As the new growth of our area comes at such a rapid pace, Precinct 4 is working hard to keep our community moving.



Commissioner Matt Gray



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BOOK
TODAY!



weddings | meetings | quinceañeras | corporate events | gaming cons
dances | birthdays/anniversaries | holiday parties | receptions



The Insider is a bi-monthly newsletter produced by the East Montgomery County Improvement District. Please direct questions or comments to: Kelley Mattlage, Chief Communications Officer, kmattlage@emctx.com.