

# Request for Proposal (RFP)

## Hermann Park Conservancy | McGovern Centennial Gardens Great Lawn and Mound Restoration and 3-Year Maintenance

Proposal Due Date: October 11, 2024 by 5pm

### Introduction

Hermann Park Conservancy is seeking qualified contractors with demonstrable experience in managing high-profile public spaces to submit proposals for the restoration and ongoing maintenance of the McGovern Centennial Garden Great Lawn and the Mound. The Great Lawn is approximately 1/4 acre, currently planted with TIF 419 Bermuda, which is suffering from fungal infection and substantial weed growth. The Mound is an elevated greenspace with a heavily sloped turf area and corresponding shrubbery. The aim is to restore both areas to a lush, attractive, and well-manicured state suitable for heavy use, and to maintain these conditions for a period of three years. Ideally, the bulk of restoration will be done prior to December 2024, the ten-year anniversary of the Garden.

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### Project Overview

This RFP consists of two main components:

- 1. Restoration:** This includes the evaluation of the current state of the Great Lawn and the Mound, recommendations for restoration (including the possibility of resodding with a different engineered turf), and execution of the restoration plan.
  - 2. Ongoing Maintenance:** This involves the development and implementation of a comprehensive maintenance program that ensures the health and aesthetic quality of the Great Lawn and Mound for a three-year period.
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### Scope of Work

#### 1. Restoration Plan

##### A. Great Lawn

- **Assessment:** Evaluate the current condition of the Great Lawn, including soil health, drainage, and turf condition.
- **Resodding:** Consideration for resodding with a different engineered turf that may be more resilient to the conditions of the park.

- **Weed and Fungal Treatment:** Outline methods for treating existing weed infestations and infectious fungi, with an emphasis on sustainable practices and minimal herbicide use.
- **Soil Conditioning:** Recommendations for soil amendments, aeration, and other practices necessary to establish a healthy growth environment.
- **Irrigation Improvements:** Assess the current irrigation system and propose necessary upgrades to ensure consistent moisture levels.

#### B. Mound

- **Assessment:** Evaluate the current state of the turf and shrubbery on the Mound, considering the impact of the slope on water runoff and soil erosion.
- **Turf Restoration:** Provide a plan for restoring the turf, which may include resodding or overseeding with a more suitable grass variety.
- **Shrubbery Care:** Develop a plan for the rejuvenation or replacement of existing shrubbery, considering species that are drought-resistant and well-suited to the slope.
- **Erosion Control:** Suggest methods for controlling erosion on the slope, including possible grading adjustments or the installation of retaining features.

## 2. Ongoing Maintenance Plan

#### A. Great Lawn Maintenance

- **Mowing:** Develop a schedule for regular mowing, ensuring the lawn is kept at an optimal height for health and aesthetics. Mowing cannot negatively impact the beds along the lawn.
- **Fertilization:** Propose a fertilization plan that promotes healthy growth while minimizing environmental impact, specifying the types of fertilizers to be used.
- **Irrigation:** Detail a watering schedule that aligns with the lawn's needs, including adjustments for seasonal changes and rainfall.
- **Aeration:** Schedule regular aeration to maintain soil health and promote root growth.
- **Weed and Pest Control:** Outline a strategy for controlling weeds and pests, prioritizing non-chemical methods and specifying any herbicides or pesticides that may be used.

#### B. Mound Maintenance

- **Turf and Shrubbery Care:** Propose a maintenance plan that includes mowing, trimming, and seasonal care of the shrubbery.

- Irrigation: Develop an irrigation plan that considers the slope of the Mound and ensures even water distribution.
- Erosion Monitoring: Include regular inspections for erosion and recommendations for corrective actions if necessary.
- Fertilization and Soil Care: Recommend a fertilization schedule and soil care practices tailored to the specific needs of the Mound's vegetation.

### **3. Estimated Task Hours and Team Structure**

- Task Hours: Provide an estimate of the hours required for each task outlined in the restoration and maintenance plans, broken down by season and task type.
- Team Structure: Identify the team members who will be responsible for each aspect of the project, including their qualifications and experience.

### **4. Experience and References**

Firm Experience: Provide an overview of your firm's experience with similar projects, including examples of past work with photos and descriptions.

Project Team Experience: Include resumes or profiles of key team members, highlighting their experience with turf management, landscaping, and maintenance.

References: Provide at least three references from clients for whom your firm has completed similar projects.

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## **Proposal Submission Requirements**

1. Cover Letter: A brief introduction to your firm and an overview of your proposal.
2. Detailed Proposal: Include the restoration and maintenance plans, task hours, team structure, experience, and references as outlined below.
3. Cost Proposal: A detailed cost estimate for the restoration and three-year maintenance of the Great Lawn and Mound, including any contingencies and any billable expenses.

## Submission Deadline

Proposals should be sent electronically to [iclawson-davis@hermannpark.org](mailto:iclawson-davis@hermannpark.org) with the subject line "RFP Submission – Great Lawn and Mound Restoration." The following timeline will guide the process:

- Request for Proposals (RFP) Release: September 27, 2024
- RFP Questions Deadline: October 7, 2024
- Responses to Questions Sent Out: October 9, 2024
- **Responses Due: October 11, 2024 by 5pm**
- Interviews for Qualifying Firms: October 15-18, 2024
- Final Selection: October 21, 2024

## Evaluation Criteria

Proposals should be broken into two sections, one for restoration and one for ongoing maintenance. Proposals will be evaluated based on the firm's experience, proposed strategies, team expertise, past successes, and cost-effectiveness. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview to further discuss their proposal. HPC will award the contract in its sole discretion. Selection will not be made solely on basis of fee but on the proposal of the respondent.

*For any questions regarding this RFP, please contact via email:*

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