

FY 25 ANNUAL REPORT

VETERANS PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

William A. English – Chair – Public at Large

Kevin J Burris – Vice Chair – Public at large

Donald Bailey – Member – Amvets Post 312

Melodi Wilson – Member – American Legion Post 254

Sergio Stephens – Member – Veteran of Armed Services

David Rambo – Member – VFW Post 8203

William Hadovski – Alternate I

Jeff Nelson, Parks & Grounds Manager – Staff Liaison

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The City Commission tasks the Veterans Park Advisory Committee with making recommendations regarding the planning and development of a new Veterans Park at the North Port City Center.

The Veterans Park Advisory Committee shall, within one year of its first meeting, provide the City Commission with the following recommendations:

- A.** A proposed name and general concept for the design for the Veterans Park and desired amenities. This proposal shall include recommendations from community members and stakeholders;
- B.** Possible funding, sponsorship, and grant opportunities, including recommendations from community members and stakeholders;
- C.** American with Disabilities (ADA) considerations for accessibility, shade, lighting, and other concerns;
- D.** Proposed educational, historical, and cultural opportunities;
- E.** Other ideas for design and monuments within the Veterans Park; and
- F.** Other recommendations related to Veterans Park as the City Commission may direct from time to time.

The Veterans Park Advisory Committee shall provide input and other recommendations to the Parks & Recreation Department related to initiatives to obtain funding, sponsorships, and donations for the Veterans Park's planning, design, and construction.

2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Recommended additional funding for the full design to Commission for approval.
- Reviewed plans and provided input.
- Brick pavers and additional sponsorship opportunities were added to the Tribute Program.
- Participated in the Circle of Honor Groundbreaking Event.
- Project construction is underway.

2026 GOALS

- Project completion.
- Participation in the Ribbon Cutting Event.