

Contractor hired for Buckner Phase II; Phase I opens

The City of Dickson has approved a contractor for Phase II of renovations at J. Dan Buckner Park while Phase I has officially opened.

At its Dec. 1 meeting, the Dickson City Council unanimously approved Resolution #2025-89 to approve and authorize Mayor Don L. Weiss Jr. to sign a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) contract with Hoar Construction, LLC for Phase II of the park project.

Under a CMAR, the contractor is involved in the design process and provides a guaranteed maximum price for the project. The City has previously approved an amendment to its master agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates to add Phase II design to its contract for Phase I.

Phase II consists of reconfiguring the area of ballfield #1 to create three smaller fields, a new concession stand/restroom facility, adding a covered batting facility in the area where the municipal pool was removed and a new playground.

The city amended its contract with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation in December 2024 to add a \$4 million Local Parks and Recreation Fund grant for Phase II to the \$1.25 million LPRF grant it received for Phase I. Both grants require a fifty percent local match.

City Administrator David Travis told the council the CMAR is similar to contracts previously approved for the proposed aquatic/recreation center at Henslee Park and City Center project, with Hoar Construction also selected for the City Center.

“We selected Hoar Construction to be the construction manager on this project with a \$20,000 pre-construction quote and 3.25 percent above costs as the job progresses,” Travis told the council.

While the contractor for Phase I has not turned in its final balancing statement, Travis said FTM Contracting is being assessed liquidated damages for each day the project has gone beyond its contracted completion date.

The Dickson Parks and Recreation Department announced that Phase I is complete and opened Dec. 9.

Phase I consists of the park’s east border along Weaver Drive where there is a new fenced playground, pavilion with restrooms, two basketball courts and two courts striped for tennis and pickleball, along with new parking and ADA-compliant sidewalks.

A formal grand opening for Phase I will be planned for Spring 2026.

The City contracted with Kimley-Horn in 2017 to develop a master plan for development of its parks system.

Since then the City acquired the former Dickson Country Club and began developing Henslee Park with a splash pad, playground, dog park, 18-hole disc golf course, Storybook Trail, fishing ponds and five miles of walking/jogging trails. Southern Architecture Workshop has been contracted to design and Solomon Builders contracted to build an aquatic/recreation center at Henslee Park. The City has approved an agreement with the Dickson County Family YMCA to operate the aquatic/recreation center.

In September, the council approved Kimley-Horn to update the parks system master plan in order to continue applying for grants for future renovations.

For more information on parks facilities and programs, call 615/446-1721, visit the Parks Department page at cityofdickson.com or the City of Dickson Parks and Recreation page on Facebook.