

SAFETY & SECURITY	
Strategy	Related Goals
Add a park ranger to monitor preserves on a more regular basis to increase sense of safety and maintain a regular presence in the preserves that do not have a preserve management or maintenance partner.	Manage
Establish a program for emergency markers along trails to facilitate emergency response and increase safety within preserves.	Manage
Invest in security cameras to help deter vandalism and illegal dumping and improve the sense of safety within preserves.	Manage

**FUNDING RESOURCES**

<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Related Goals</i>
Explore developing a cost sharing program between the county and member cities to show accountability and strengthen relationship with partners.	Manage
Support the establishment of a Dallas County Parks Foundation to help improve parks through private donations.	Enhance, Manage
Continue to work with partners to pursue grant funding for preserve improvements to diversify funding sources available to accomplish projects.	Manage
Collaborate with partners to seek donation opportunities from corporations and philanthropists as a way to diversify funding sources.	Enhance
Work with NCTCOG on regional trail initiatives to learn about resources and funding opportunities.	Connect

MAINTENANCE	
Strategy	Related Goals
Establish guidelines for 'maintenance modes' for each preserve classification, providing direction for frequency and type of maintenance procedures.	Manage
Develop a design and construction standards manual for preserves within the unincorporated area that guide improvements and maintenance to provide consistent standards and brand.	Manage
Work with other County departments with drone equipment for special projects and remote monitoring elements such as vegetation and wildlife health, facility inspections, development planning, and emergency response guidance.	Manage
Remove existing debris and proactively deter illegal dumping to provide visitors with a safe and welcoming experience at preserves.	Manage
Conduct conditions assessments of each preserve on an annual or bi-annual basis to determine amenities and facilities in need of maintenance or replacement and to maintain accountability.	Manage

PARTNERSHIPS	
Strategy	Related Goals
Explore opportunities with allied organizations to hold programs within preserves such as bird walks, clean ups, and BioBlitz events to provide new experiences for preserve visitors.	Enhance, Connect
Work with partners such as the Audubon Center and Trust for Public Land to expand stewardship, education, and community access opportunities.	Protect, Manage
Build relationships with nature conservation organizations to pursue funding for habitat conservation.	Protect, Manage
Coordinate with Dallas County Health & Human Services to increase community awareness, engagement, and promote healthy lifestyle activities related to open space accessibility.	Connect, Manage
Partner with a local university with a GIS department to digitize trails and location of amenities within preserves as a way to outsource tasks in a cost effective manner.	Connect, Manage
Explore a partnership with Leave No Trace to bring awareness to caring for the outdoors.	Protect, Manage

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	
<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Related Goals</i>
As the number of programs, partnerships, and projects that the Parks & Open Space Program manages increases, add additional staff to balance new responsibilities and reduce deferred maintenance.	Manage
Update Chapter 50 of the County Code to reflect more modern practices that align with the recommendations of this Master Plan such as changes to daily operations and natural/cultural resource management.	Manage
Update current criteria for accepting property into the parks & open space program focusing on expanding access to existing preserves, increasing ability to provide desired facilities or amenities, and protecting valuable natural or cultural resources.	Enhance, Manage
Allocate funding for professional development trainings and attending conferences to grow staff knowledge and learn best practices from peer entities.	Manage
Continue to grow the volunteer program run by the Dallas County Open Space Coordinator to improve the preserves and reduce overall maintenance costs.	Connect, Manage
Develop a FAQ about the program to share with preserve management partners and potential partnering entities in order to share consistent information on common topics.	Connect, Manage
Establish a regularly occurring meeting between Dallas County and the preserve management partners to stay informed about recent accomplishments and challenges.	Manage
Establish interdepartmental agreements with relevant county departments to align County initiatives and request support where appropriate.	Manage
Implement and maintain a regular communication schedule for each preserve management partner including email, virtual and in-person meetings to actively maintain partnership and coordinate project updates.	Manage

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	
Strategy	Related Goals
Align future open space preservation and planning with goals from local Watershed Protection Plans to ensure protection of water resources within preserves.	Protect, Manage
Coordinate with relevant agencies to assist with cultural resource management including determining the best way to share these resources with the public in an appropriate manner.	Protect, Manage
Coordinate with Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) and US Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) where threatened and endangered species are identified within preserves to ensure appropriate action steps are followed.	Protect, Manage
Partner with university and academic institutions to study ecosystem services within preserves as a way to determine the contributions preserves provide for Dallas County residents.	Protect
Work with partners such as the Texas A&M Forest Service to monitor impact of EAB over time within the preserves.	Protect, Manage
Incorporate permeable surfaces and other low-impact design solutions when updating, enhancing or developing parking lots and trailheads to reduce impacts of run-off during rain events.	Enhance
Utilize best practice clearing techniques to remove invasive plant species and allow native plant species to flourish.	Protect, Manage
Utilize software such as i-Tree Eco to quantify the environmental (e.g. carbon sequestration) and monetary benefits that the tree canopy within the preserve system brings to the County.	Manage

ACCESS	
Strategy	Related Goals
Strive for equitable and accessible distribution of preserve lands throughout the unincorporated areas to fulfill unmet open space and outdoor recreational needs of county residents.	Connect
Require new soft-surface trails be designed by a professional firm to utilize their expertise on the best routes, surface materials, and maintenance over time.	Enhance
Explore feasibility of larger soft-surface trail loop that would connect Goat Island, Riverbend, Cottonwood Creek, and Palmetto-Alligator Slough to promote eco-tourism opportunities.	Enhance, Connect

AWARENESS	
Strategy	Related Goals
Continue to pursue designations to highlight unique elements of the preserves as a way to promote awareness and attract visitors.	Enhance, Connect
Utilize interpretative signage to highlight unique habitats to support awareness and engagement within the local community.	Enhance, Connect
Develop a promotional campaign for 2026 to celebrate 50 years since Lester Lorch Park, the first park in the Parks & Open Space Program, was dedicated as an opportunity to bring awareness to the program.	Connect
Regularly maintain and update the Dallas County Parks & Open Space Program website to provide consistent and current information to the public.	Connect
Implement a robust social media strategy with frequent and varied content to grow awareness of the program and attract new visitors.	Connect
Create easily updated marketing materials such as QR codes or digital brochures to increase accessibility to information and minimize time required for future updates.	Connect
Develop educational materials to share with elected officials regarding the benefits of various land management practices to serve as a resource.	Manage
Provide translation of all published materials into predominant languages for Dallas County to increase the audience this information reaches.	Connect
Create a DCOSP “How to Enjoy Your Visit” printed brochure with a map of the preserve system or individual preserves and distribute brochures via local and regional entities to share knowledge of the variety of experiences the preserves offer.	Manage
Develop consistent signage to be implemented at preserve entrances and throughout preserves to serve as a recognizable brand for the Parks & Open Space Program.	Enhance
Have a visible presence at preserve partner community events or activities when appropriate to bring awareness to the Parks & Open Space Program.	Connect