



SOUTH RIVER CITY CITIZENS | SEPTEMBER 2026

Big and Little Stacy Park

Safety and Usability Updates

Parks in neighborhoods with a fraction of our resources have been updated.
Ours has not.

Adam Lancaster | Travis Heights

WHY I AM HERE

A neighbor, not a committee

- I live across the creek from the wading pool. I am in this park most days of the week.
- I am not asking the association to write a check.
- I am asking for two things: an endorsement of the scope, and help finding the funding.
- Everything here is maintenance and parity. None of it changes what the park is.



THE STANDARD ALREADY EXISTS IN THIS PARK

Same park. Same department. Two standards.



TENNIS COURT

Lights. Fence. Benches. Modern playing surface.



BASKETBALL COURT

None of the above.



01

The basketball court

One of the most used amenities in the park, and the only one with nothing around it.

01

The wall ends up on the court

- Every big rain washes rock and gravel off the retaining wall onto the playing surface.
- It sits there until someone sweeps it by hand.
- Players are running on loose gravel over concrete.
- This is a drainage failure, not a wish list item.

Retaining wall above the court



01

The surface is worn smooth

- Slips happen in nearly every pickup game.
- Original concrete, cracked at the joints, worn down by many years of Texas heat with improper surfacing.
- The tennis court was resurfaced for exactly this reason.
- Same fix, same standard, one court over.





01

Loose balls end up where the kids are

- Nothing stops a ball leaving the court. Nothing at all.
- They roll into the walking path, the playground and as far away as the Shelter House.
- A fence keeps the ball in.
- It also gives kids a safe enclosed slab of their own to play games on.

The playground sits directly behind the court



WHAT WE ARE ASKING FOR

The basketball court

Fence

Keeps balls on the court and off the playground

Resurfacing

The same treatment the tennis court already has

Lights

Dark sky compliant, full cutoff, zero uplight, on a push button timer (like tennis court)

Benches

Players sit on the dirt wall. It's the only area without a designated bench.

Water fountain

For the people and the dogs already out here every day

SO WE ARE CLEAR

What this is, and what it is not

WHAT THIS IS

- Barrier wall/drainage correction.
- Updated surface, lights, fence and benches (at least to the tennis court standards)
- Open to everyone, all ages, no fee, no schedule
- A safer place for kids to play and for older players to avoid injury.
- a park that our neighborhood deserves

WHAT THIS IS NOT

- Not an adults only members club.
- Not big crowds and high level league play.
- Not lights burning all night.
- Not a gate, a lock or restricted hours.
- **Not an addition of impervious cover.**

02

The fitness area

The city already invested here once. It's time to make it useful again.



One metal incline bench + Pull-up bars

- The steel bench in full sun; too hot to touch most of the year.
- Nothing here is usable by our older neighbors and barely usable by the fittest kid on the block.
- The sign still credits Health and Human Services and Austin Parks and Recreation. Surely they still care about this.







02

What we are asking for

- Low impact outdoor gym for all ages and abilities
- More functional workout options in the public space that is designated for it.
- A proper surface underfoot in place of loose mulch
- Heat resistant material that won't rust, or sauté.
- Water fountain for soccer players and gym goers

What we're not asking for

No added impervious cover. No Lights. No exclusivity.



03

The open field

How it is actually used, and the one thing that would make it safer.

03

The city already settled this

This field has been the neighborhood dog field for years, alongside kickball and pickup soccer. We do not need to decide whether that is allowed. It already happened, and the city built for it.



Waste bag station, installed by the city



Fountain with a dog bowl, installed by the city

One fence at the tree line

- A simple barrier along the back edge where the field meets the woods or the walking path.
- Keeps kickballs, baseballs and dogs out of the poison ivy and out of the creek.
- Serves the kids and the dog owners equally.

WHAT THIS IS NOT

No change to the leash ordinance.
Not completely fencing the field in.
Not taking the field from anyone.



WHO THIS IS FOR

Everyone already using this park



Kids

Fewer loose balls through the playground. Safer grounds to play on.



Neighbors over 60

Public outdoor equipment they can actually use.



Dog owners

Dogs out of the creek and the poison ivy. More access to water.



Basketball players

A court they already enjoy, but safer and increased availability all year round.



Families

Somewhere to be outside after 5pm in January. More access to water fountains.

Nothing in this proposal takes anything away from anyone who already uses Little Stacy.

HOW THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENS

The path from here

01

Neighborhood support

SRCC endorses the scope so the city sees a neighborhood behind it, not one resident

02

CAPP application

Submitted to Parks and Recreation with the endorsement attached

03

Scoping and cost

The city sizes the work and confirms what is feasible on this site

04

Funding

City program funds, grants and neighborhood fundraising, with SRCC helping identify the sources

No construction happens without city review, city cost estimates and another round of neighborhood notice.

THE ASK

Endorsement, and help finding the money

A letter saying the neighborhood wants its park brought up to the standard other parks already have, and the guidance of people in this room who know the grant programs, the city contacts and the donors.

What else would you like to see?

Questions and curiosities appreciated 🙏

Adam Lancaster | Travis Heights

