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NEWS RELEASE

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Grant funds push Frontier Park improvements forward

PROSPER (April 12, 2016) The much-anticipated development of the north end of Frontier Park is about a half-million steps closer to completion, thanks to the approval of a \$500,000 grant request, says Paul Naughton, Landscape Architect.

“We recently got word that our grant request to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission was approved,” he said. “The \$500,000 grant will get us that much closer to completing the plans for the much needed improvements and expansion to the north end of Frontier Park.”

Approved by the Town Council last year, the development plan includes the construction of three artificial-turf, lighted fields for either baseball or softball, as well as two artificial-turf, multi-purpose fields that can accommodate soccer, lacrosse and football. A covered pavilion with enough space for community gatherings, an enhanced hike and bike trail, additional paved parking, and the construction of an ornamental bridge over the pond are also part of the proposed plan. Currently, the north end of Frontier Park is largely an unused open field.

Though the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission acts as the designating agency for the funds, the grant money is part of the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Additionally, a portion of the grant’s funding is from the sporting goods sales tax through the Texas Recreation and Parks Account, and the Texas Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account. To qualify, applicants must ensure that all proposed projects be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, and they must provide evidence that the parkland will be properly maintained, and that it be open and accessible to the public.

The plan to develop of the north end of Frontier Park was designed by Dunaway Associates, a parks design firm which has completed several projects for Prosper and surrounding cities and towns. Design drawings are expected to be completed by early fall. Construction is then expected to start and take about 12 months to complete.

The expected total cost of the project is slightly over \$9.5 million. Costs will be covered by a combination of funds from existing and future bond fund programs, General Fund allotments, and additional grants.

“Our expectation is that the fields on the north end of Frontier Park will be ready for fall sports starting in 2017,” said Naughton. “Of course, weather and other factors can often disrupt plans, but we’re hopeful that we can stay on schedule.”

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ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 17,800 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 70,000 residents, Prosper’s vision is to remain a “Place Where Everyone Matters.”