

# FORT BEND COUNTY HERITAGE UNLIMITED MUSEUM: RECREATIONAL SITE PLAN PROJECT

Texas Target Communities Planning Team

Dr. John Cooper  
Jaimie Hicks Masterson  
Vrushali Sathaye

## About the project:

Texas Target Communities worked on a recreational site planning project with the people of Fort Bend County Heritage Unlimited Museum and City of Kendleton over the summer of 2016. The museum officials had approached TTC with a 3.6 acre site abutting their museum premises and the Kendleton cemetery. The design and planning was primarily aimed to get a tax exemption for the three acre recreational site, but it also focused on creating a place that resonates with the values of the community and the museum's efforts in preserving the heritage of the county.

Community meetings being a big part of this project, they guided TTC in understanding the project requirements and then deriving a customized design program for this project. The design solution comprised of design elements like a wall of remembrance - to pay homage to the noble souls of this county who served for the United States during war times, a storage facility for the museum, a multi-purpose pavilion - which could also be used by the Kendleton cemetery and for other ceremonial purposes, environmental education workshops and audio history walking tours for the kids in the county, a butterfly garden, a railway dinner and a 3D map-mural of Fort Bend County.

The clients loved the site design and are now working on executing the project with the help of a local contractor.

## Activities proposed on the recreational site:

Note: The images attached along with the text are only for reference, and can be altered based on client preference and detailed design ideas.



### Wall of Remembrance

As we enter the Fort Bend County Museum's Recreational Area premises, we come across a 10 ft. tall "Wall of Remembrance" which is an ode to the noble souls of the Fort Bend County, who have served relentlessly for the county. It would have the names of all the prominent personalities in the history of Fort Bend County and their family members, inscribed in a family tree style on the wall.





### Arrival Landmark

An eye catching landmark at the entrance plaza of this recreational space, it could either have a visitor's map/model showing future developments on the plot, or the Texan flag, or a statue of a prominent personality in the history of the county.



### Reception kiosk

The reception kiosk could serve as an information desk for the recreational space, where visitors can get to know about all the weekly events scheduled, and which could also have a souvenir shop in the future. It can either be an interactive space or can have maps and information put up on boards.



### Meandering Maze Pathway

The idea of having a meandering maze pathway all along the site, is to engage the visitors in a slow stare gaze as they walk along the path. The path could act as an activity spine for the various activities.



### Walk of Life

Parts of the meandering maze path way can have names of people, who gave donations for this project, inscribed on the paving blocks. It could also have quotes or slogans inscribed in a few places.



#### Food cart space

Providing an opportunity for the local food vendors, an open space on the plot can be kept dedicated for food carts, cotton candy or ice cream carts for kids!



#### Pool of Lights

The pool of lights can be used for post ceremonial gathering/paying homage/festive occasions. It can be a place to bring people together.



#### Railway Diner

A Railway Diner would be a small restaurant on the site, for the visitors to experience dining on a railway. The external as well as the internal appearance of this diner can be designed to look like a railway compartment.



#### Fort Bend County Map Mural

A map mural of the Fort bend County, is an interactive play and learn attempt that can be built to educate the kids about the geographic extent of the county including cities, major landmarks, water bodies, etc.

#### Parking space

Depending on the activities and tentative number of people expected to be on the site, adequate parking space can be provided for the visitors.

#### Pavilion

The Pavilion will be an enclosed multi-purpose gathering space which could be used for rituals/ceremonial services by the museum as well as the cemetery authority. It can also be rented out for other festive/educational events. It will have in built toilet facilities.

#### Kiosk for closing ceremony

This will be a semi-open space essentially to be used for a cremation service, to perform closing ceremony.

#### Audio History Walking Tours

Along the meandering pathway, small audio booths will play audio information about major events that took place in the history of Fort Bend County.

#### Bird houses

Few existing cluster of native trees can be used to mount bird houses.

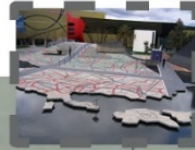
#### Kids activities

Activities such as geocache and weekly environmental education workshops can be conducted in the pocket spaces along the meandering pathways. The activity area will also have adequate seating space.

Design Proposal:



KEY PLAN



CAMILLE HUCKABY PHANT'S PLOT

MAYNE FRANCES HUCKABY'S PLOT

CEMETERY PLOT



**FORT BEND COUNTY HERITAGE MUSEUM RECREATIONAL SITE MASTER PLAN**

CONCEPTUAL PLANNING BY:  
TEXAS TARGET COMMUNITIES

**LEGEND:**

- |                             |                     |                    |                                  |  |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 - Wall of Remembrance     | 5 - Walk of life    | 9 - Pavillion      | 13 - Educational workshop area   | 17 - Butterfly garden/ communitygarden |
| 2 - Arrival Landmark        | 6 - Food cart space | 10 - Railway Diner | 14 - Audio History Walking Tours | 18 - Storage room                      |
| 3 - Reception kiosk         | 7 - Parking space   | 11 - Bird houses   | 15 - Fort Bend County Map Mural  |  |
| 4 - Meandering maze pathway | 8 - Pool of lights  | 12 - Geocache area | 16 - Seating space + Water spout |  |

