



**AGENDA
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING
CITY HALL BOARDROOM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ATTENDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS**
 - A) Nomination of Chair & V. Chair**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A) September 24, 2024 Minutes**
 - B) November 26, 2024 Minutes**
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A) Destin Forward Project**
 - B) Annual Report/Work Plan**
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A) Park Inspections**
 - B) Adopt-A-Park Schedule for Dog Park**
- 6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**
 - A) Isaac Birch**
 - B) Nikki Johnson**
 - C) Autumn Weidenhamer**
Pooch Palooza Pupdates
 - D) Bryan Otto**
 - E) Allison Stephens**
- 7. STAFF REPORTS**
- 8. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**
- 9. NEXT MEETING DATE: TBD**
- 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS** (Comments from the public on any matters considered at the meeting, or on any matters not on the agenda)

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council, committee, board, panel, or agency with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she will may need to ensure that a record of the verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon the appeal is to be based.

"Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Public Services Office 850/837-4242 at least 48 hours in advance".

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM
SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 MEETING - 4:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Trammell called the Parks & Recreation meeting to order as a workshop at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, in the Destin City Hall Annex Chambers with the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Sandy Trammell

Nikki Johnson

Brian Otto (in @ 4:22)

Autumn Weidenhamer

Members Absent

L'Rena Anderson

Leslie Schmidt

Isacc Birch

Staff Present

Kim Montgomery Deputy City Clerk

Lisa Firth Recreation Director

Bryan Keller Parks & Rec.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

➤ *August 27, 2024*

Motion to approve the August 27, 2024, minutes as corrected was made by Vice Chair Johnson, with Chairwoman Trammell providing the second. The motion passed 4-0.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Christmas Parade Float Design**

The members discussed the details of the float theme, creative ideas for a banner and placement in the parade and other needs to make it a successful event.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Destin Dog Park Maintenance Schedule

This item was briefly discussed regarding members Johnson and Schmidt switching months for their maintenance duties.

B. Destin Pup Palooza

The members discussed ideas for the event and a fee for vendors who want to participate in the event, noting that any of the entities that are not for profits 501C would not be charged a vendor fee.

Motion by Chairwoman Trammell, seconded by Committee member Weidenhamer to recommend charging vendors a \$50.00 fee plus a donation for either the raffle or the auction or a donation. The motion passed 4-0.

DRAFT

They also discussed the blessing of the Dogs and who they should ask to do it. Mrs. Firth stated she would reach out to Pastor Steve Farris.

7. STAFF & MEMBER COMMENTS:

Chairwoman Sandy Trammell – Spoke of working on the Annual Report to present to Council in November.

Committee member Otto – Asked about the Work plan/Annual report and Chairwoman Trammell provided the information.

Mrs. Firth provided the following updates:

- Ordering the new equipment for the Children's Park at Morgan's and there will be an area for the parents to sit with shade
- Meeting tomorrow (9/25) with the contractor for the Buck Destin Park restrooms
- Norriego Point project is starting soon and the access way will be closed to the public for a while, for safety purposes
- DWU granted an additional 15 years for Morgan's Sports Center in order to be able to qualify for the necessary grant
- The replacing of the field lights at the Morgan Sports Center have been delayed, Council decided that they want to take it out for bid instead of using the State contractor.

- **Public Comment: None**

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Adopted and approved this ____ day of _____ 2024.

Sandy Trammell, Chairwoman

Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM
NOVEMBER 26, 2024 MEETING - 4:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairwoman Johnson called the Parks & Recreation meeting to order as a workshop at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 2024, in the Destin City Hall Annex Chambers with the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Nikki Johnson

Leslie Schmidt

Isacc Birch

Autumn Weidenhamer

Members Absent

L'Rena Anderson

Brian Otto

Staff Present

Rey Bailey City Clerk

Ryan Reed Deputy P & R Director

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

➤ *September 24, 2024 Meeting minutes*

Postponed to the next meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

Parks & Rec staff handed out flyers to the members for the upcoming events:

- **Christmas Parade Float Design**

The members decided to not have a committee parade float for this year due to time constraints and how they will strive to work on having a plan for the 2025 parade.

- **Christmas Lights Judging**

Mr. Reed noted that they need judges to volunteer, briefly explained their new and improved process for the judges to find the properties and how the judging will occur over just two evenings and how the volunteers will be assigned routes instead of having to drive through every street to locate the homes. He then asked the members if anyone would be willing to volunteer. Vice Chairwoman Johnson volunteered to be a judge.

- **Christmas Tree Lighting**

Mr. Reed explained how they need volunteers for this event as well and to let him know if any of them would be willing to help out.

- **Annual Report / Work Plans – Sandy Trammell**

Council-elect Trammell explained the process for obtaining the necessary information in order to create and present their Annual Report to City Council. She then presented the members with a detailed report summarizing the committee's annual work plan and goals.

- **Park Inspections**

Two inspections are scheduled each year in March and November. Members were reminded to submit their reports if they hadn't already.

- **Children's Park**

The Children's Park, previously noted as deplorable, has since been torn down, reflecting progress.

- **Tree City USA**

The Arbor Day Ceremony has been conducted annually. The committee discussed continuing to review Tree City USA requirements.

- **Parks Foundation**

The Parks Foundation has been established but is awaiting its EIN from the IRS. Once the foundation is fully operational, it will manage fundraising efforts for events like Pooch Palooza.

7. STAFF & MEMBER COMMENTS:

- **Destin Pooch Palooza Date**

Members Johnson and Weidenhamer led a discussion on Pooch Palooza, a community dog event. The committee agreed to aim for the first weekend in April to avoid conflicts with spring break and unpredictable March weather. They will confirm the date and begin securing sponsors and raffle items. The committee will also coordinate with the Parks Foundation to ensure funds raised go directly to parks improvements.

- **Parks Foundation Status**

This item was briefly discussed, Mrs. Trammell explained that currently the EIN number has still not been assigned by the IRS but once it is fully operational, it will manage fundraising efforts for events such as the Pooch Palooza.

DRAFT

Committee member Schmidt spoke of and raised concerns about restrictions on placing political signs on city property, making it hard for local candidates to find places to put signs near city buildings.

Council-elect Trammell spoke of how State of Florida Law prohibits campaign signs to be placed on government property.

Committee member Schmidt proposed adding crepe myrtle trees along the cemetery fence near the sheriff's station, noting how that area looks unfinished, and how trees would improve the appearance and honor the cemetery.

Mr. Reed stated that there may be a reason why trees were not planted on that side, adding he will investigate and follow up.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

A member of the audience brought up the state of the post office landscaping on Main Street, stating that the post office looks neglected, especially now that it's next to Publix. She stated that she has spoken to the postmaster, but progress has been slow.

Committee member Johnson stated that since the post office is a federal property, they cannot directly intervene, but community groups such as The Destin Garden Club or Rotary Club might be willing to help.

• Next Meeting

The committee discussed the need for additional meetings in January to accommodate the new work plan and elections of Chair and Vice Chair.

Motion by Committee Johnson, seconded by Committee member Birch, to hold a special meeting on January 9, 2025, to elect new leadership and begin work on the annual plan, passed 4-0.

The regular January meeting was confirmed for January 28, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Adopted and approved this _____ day of _____ 2024.

Nikki Johnson, Vice Chairwoman

Rey Bailey, City Clerk

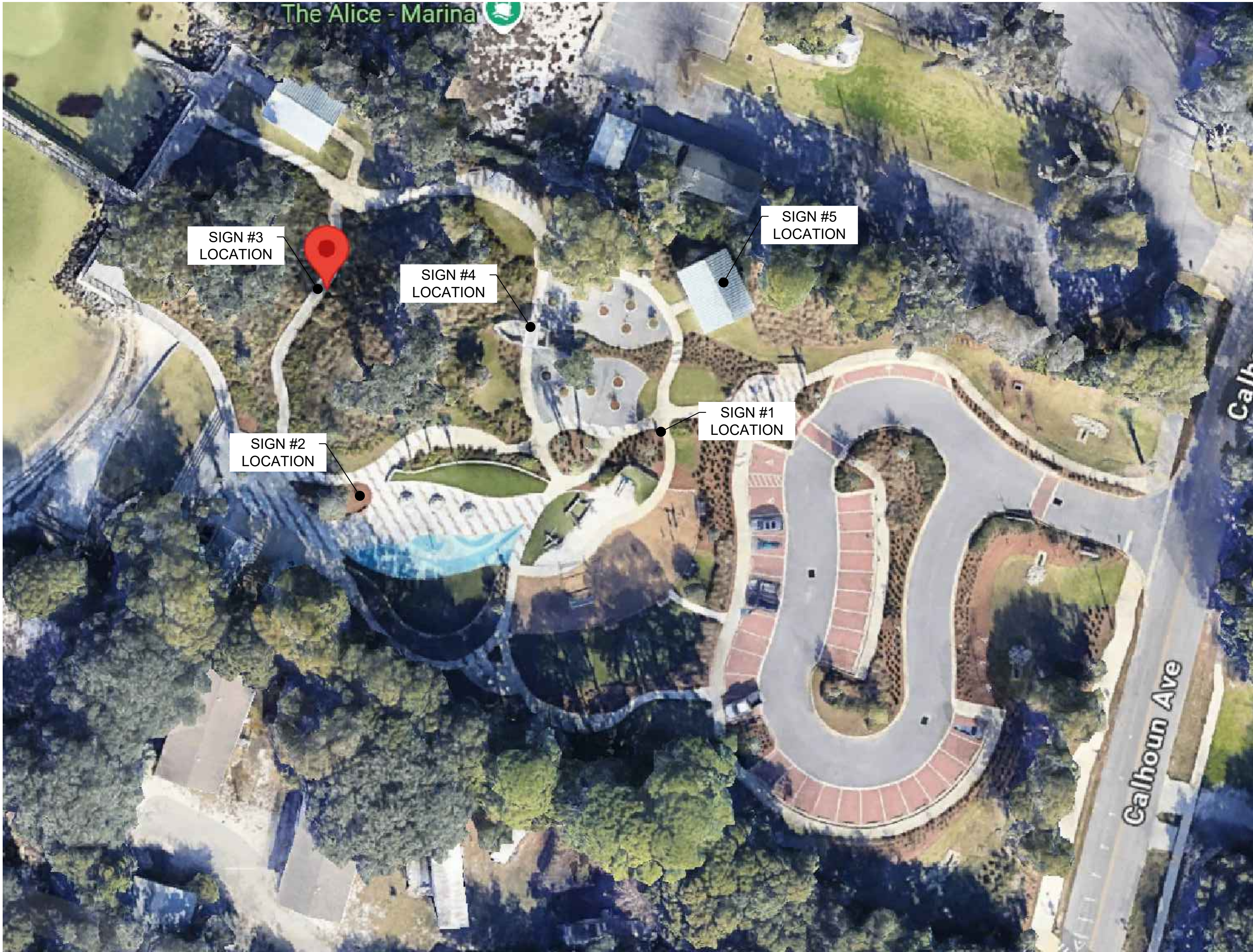
LEONARD DESTIN PARK: HISTORY OF DESTIN PROJECT

DESTIN FORWARD CLASS OF 2025 PROJECT
PARCEL ID: 00-2S-22-0630-0000-11A3
101 CALHOUN AVE
DESTIN, FL 32541

DESTIN
FORWARD
CLASS OF
2025
PROJECT

LEONARD DESTIN
PARK HISTORY
PROJECT

PARCEL ID # 00-2S-22-0630-0000-11A3
101 CALHOUN AVE
DESTIN, FLORIDA 32541



SITE LAYOUT NOTES

1. THE SITE LAYOUT DEPICTS THE LOCATIONS FOR THE SIGNS TO BE INSTALLED FOR THE DESTIN FORWARD CLASS OF 2025 PROJECT.
2. ALL SIGNS INSTALLED WILL MATCH THE BRANDING, COLORS, AND FONTS OF THE EXISTING SIGNS ONSITE.
3. THERE WILL BE 5 SIGNS AND 1 DEDICATION SIGN INSTALLED THROUGH THE PARK SEE SITE LAYOUT FOR LOCATIONS.
4. SIGNS WILL BE INSTALLED ON EXISTING STRUCTURE ONSITE.
5. WHERE EXISTING STRUCTURES DO NOT EXIST, A 4"X4" WOODEN POST WILL BE INSTALLED TO MOUNT THE SIGN.
6. SIGNS WILL CONTAIN A QR CODE THAT LEADS TO THE DESTIN CHAMBER WEBSITE FOR THE PUBLIC TO HEAR REAL ACCOUNTS OF DESTIN HISTORY FROM DESTIN NATIVES.
7. ALL SIGNS WILL BE SMALLER THAN 1 SQUARE FOOT WHICH IS EXEMPT FROM SIGNAGE PERMITS PER DESTIN LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE SECTION 16.02.00.

REVISIONS

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

DRAWING INFORMATION

PROJECT : DESTIN HISTORY
DRAWN BY: BKR
PURPOSE: PERMIT
ISSUED DATE: 12/31/2024

SHEET TITLE

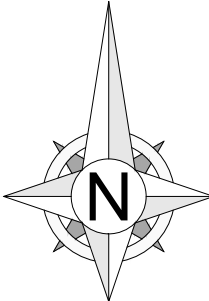
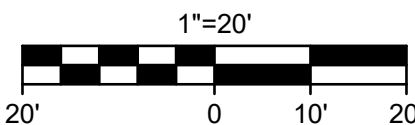
SITE PLAN

SHEET NUMBER

C1.0

1 LEONARD DESTIN PARK: DESTIN HISTORY SITE LAYOUT

C1.0 SCALE: 1" = 20'



Leonard Park Walking Tour – A Glimpse into Destin’s History

Executive Summary:

This project aims to enhance the visitor experience at Leonard Park by installing plaques with QR codes that share engaging stories from Destin's history. Through audio recordings accessible via QR codes, tourists and locals alike can listen to tales about Leonard’s life, his daily routines, and the transformative history of East Pass. By merging physical elements with digital storytelling, the project honors Destin’s heritage and provides an interactive, educational experience.

Project Background and Rationale:

Leonard Park serves as a historical focal point for Destin. Our Destin Forward class uncovered rich narratives about Leonard’s life, such as his iconic trips in his boat for essentials, which reflect the town's cultural roots. By bringing these stories to life in the park, we aim to foster a deeper connection to the city’s history among visitors. This project also supports heritage tourism by adding a layer of historical education to the park experience.

Goals and Objectives:

1. **Install Plaques with QR Codes:** Place weather-resistant plaques at significant spots in Leonard Park.
2. **Share Leonard’s Stories:** Record audio narrations of Leonard’s daily life and the East Pass history.
3. **Engage Visitors Digitally:** Host audio stories on the chamber or city website, providing an accessible online presence.
4. **Track Visitor Engagement:** Use QR code tracking to monitor the number of scans, offering insights into the project’s impact.

Project Description:

1. **Plaque Installation:** Install plaques where Leonard’s house once stood and near the waterfront. Each plaque will have a QR code linked to an audio story.

2. **Audio Story Development:** Record engaging audio narrations based on Destin's historical anecdotes, ensuring high-quality, clear storytelling.
3. **Digital Integration:** Host the audio files on the Destin chamber or city website, allowing for both in-person and remote access.
4. **Launch and Promotion:** Promote the tour as part of Destin's heritage trail, encouraging both tourists and locals to participate.

Resources and Budget:

- **Plaques:** Get quotes for durable, weather-resistant plaques.
- **Audio Recording:** Secure equipment or find volunteers for recording.
- **Website Integration:** Coordinate with the chamber or city for hosting files.
- **Marketing:** Develop signage and a small promotional budget to inform the public about the tour.

Community Impact and Benefits:

This walking tour will enrich the community by preserving and sharing the stories of Destin's past. It will also enhance tourist engagement, contributing to Destin's reputation as a culturally rich destination. The project's sustainable design will ensure that these stories remain accessible for future generations.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- **Audio Production Team:** Record and edit audio stories.
- **Installation Team:** Assist with plaque installation.
- **Marketing & Digital Team:** Handle website coordination and promotional materials.
- **Project Manager:** Oversee progress, budgeting, and communication with stakeholders.

Evaluation and Success Metrics:

- Track QR code scans to measure visitor interaction.
- Collect feedback from park visitors via a short survey linked to the audio stories.
- Conduct a review post-launch to assess overall project impact and identify areas for future improvement.

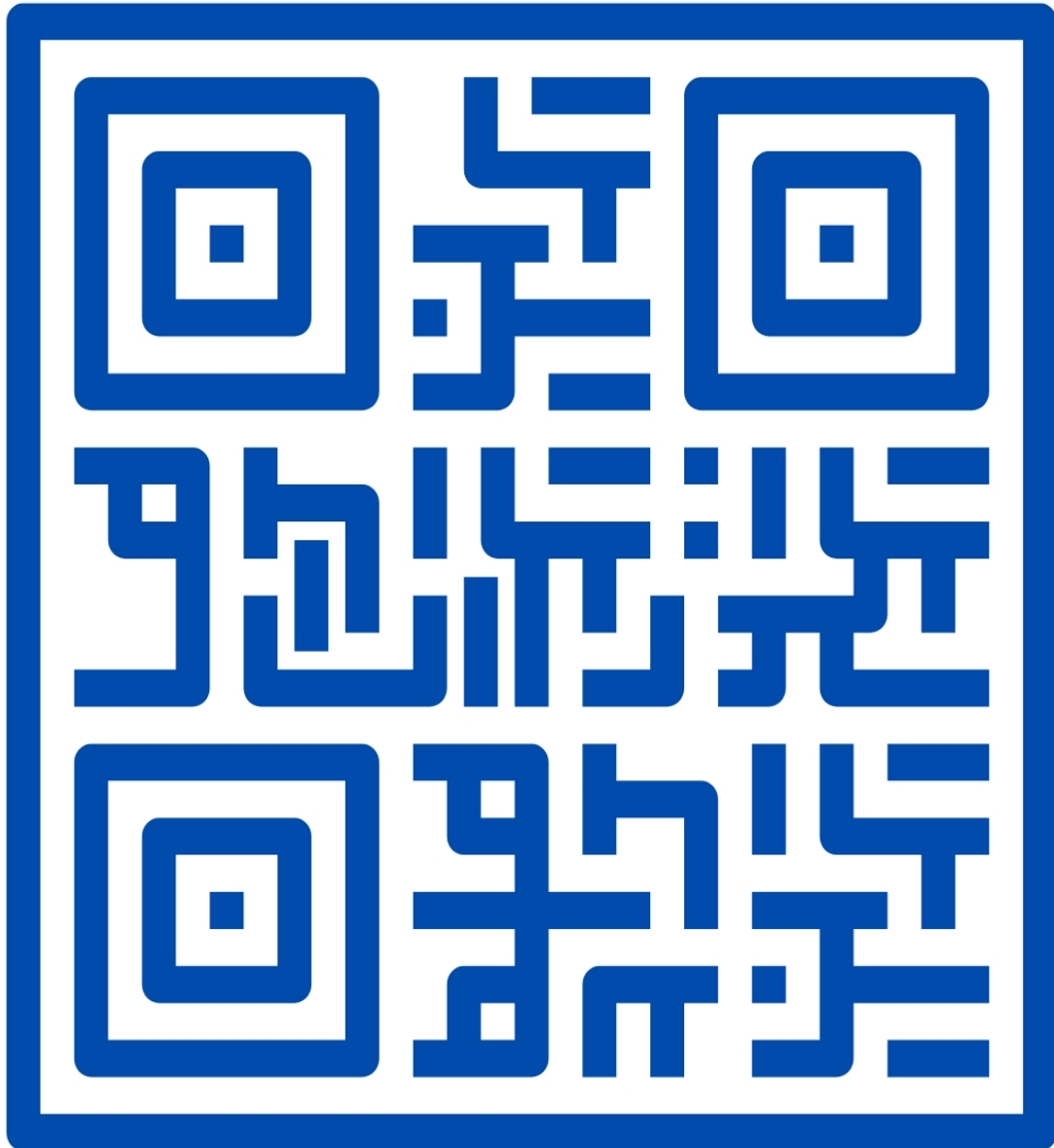
Conclusion:

The Leonard Park Walking Tour project will offer a lasting contribution to Destin by preserving its stories and making them accessible in an innovative, interactive format. Through audio storytelling, the project will provide visitors with a personal connection to the history of Destin, fostering appreciation for the city's heritage.

DESTIN FORWARD 2025 CLASS PROJECT

**ALICIA HURWOOD
ALLYSON ANGER
ANTHONY MCKINNEY
BAILEY RATHMANN
BRAND KROEGER
GRAHAM PIERCE
GRETCHEN EVANS
JENNIFER HOOVEN
KYLE HASTINGS
MADI MALDONADO
PATRICK MCCALISTER
SARAH MILLER
SPRINGER WILLIAMS
TONY KENT**

DESTIN FORWARD AUDIO TOUR



**Short Description of Audio
Story**