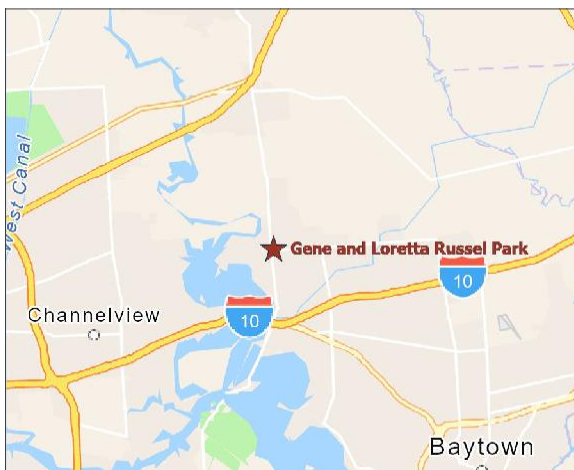




Gene and Loretta Russell Park



Location:

Wallisville Road and North Main Street.

Description:

The project will include drainage improvements and a championship level ballpark along with 4 new fields and the associated parking and entrances.

Benefits:

Provide a new park amenity for residents with associated infrastructure.

Project Timeline

Grant Application	Grant Award	Design Start	Construction Start
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Project Budget

\$5,000,000

Bond Funding	\$5,000,000
Grant Funding	\$0



Gene and Loretta Russell Park (Page 2)



Additional Information

The proposed Gene and Loretta Russell Park project is intended to develop a regional park serving Baytown residents and visitors to include various recreational amenities, sports facilities, and natural open space. The project began with a generous land donation from the Russell family near Wallisville Road and North Main Street for the purpose of creating a family-oriented park with an elevated baseball experience. From the beginning, the Russell family's vision emphasized both local value and regional impact, with a particular focus on hosting youth baseball tournaments that would attract visitors and support economic development in the area.

In the years since the original donation, a master plan was developed for the project. The plan identified a phased development approach with opportunities to include family recreation areas, a recreation center, a community center, and space for both active and passive uses across approximately 53 acres. However, progress on the project was delayed due to funding limitations. In 2024, the project gained renewed momentum when the Gene and Loretta Russell Foundation re-engaged with both the City of Baytown and Harris County Precinct 3 to explore the feasibility of advancing the park's development.

Harris County Precinct 3 owns and operates the Baytown Soccer Complex, located approximately one mile from the Russell Park site. After being contacted by the Foundation, Precinct 3 hosted a planning meeting that brought all stakeholders together to consider ways to share ideas and potential options for developing the park.

In addition, the Gene and Loretta Russell Foundation had successfully acquired additional land, expanding the total project area to approximately 75 acres. This increase in acreage allows for a more complete approach that is in line with the original vision while allowing for other features and site improvements necessary for a regional recreational destination.

The preliminary site plan for the Gene and Loretta Russell Park includes features that reflect the community's needs, the Russell family's vision, and the Foundation's long-term goals. The plan includes an outdoor pavilion with a barbecue and sink area, along with seating for up to 100 guests. A large parking lot with approximately 225 spaces, including van-accessible ADA stalls, will accommodate day-to-day use and larger tournament events.

At the heart of the park will be a baseball quad complex consisting of four lighted fields, a ten-stall (minimum) restroom facility, and a concession area. These fields will be capable of hosting both local league play and regional tournaments. Adjacent to this core complex will be a premier championship field intended to support high-level tournament play, further advancing the City's sports tourism objectives.

The park will also feature an inclusive, industrial-themed playground with climbing elements designed to serve children of all abilities, reinforcing the park's role as a family-friendly destination. Monuments and interpretive areas will be constructed to honor both the legacy of the Russell family and the contributions of the energy industry to Baytown's history. A nature area will include a mix of native trees, wildflowers, and drought-tolerant plantings, offering opportunities for passive recreation and environmental education.

To support site access and safety, the project will include an expanded detention pond integrated with the 911 Center's stormwater infrastructure, as well as a secondary access point to North Main Street. An additional restroom facility is planned to support visitors to the passive recreation areas.

The preliminary cost estimate for full development of the park is approximately \$10 million. The proposed funding structure envisions a 50/50 cost split between the City of Baytown and Harris County Precinct 3. The City's \$5 million contribution would be used primarily for drainage, detention, and supporting infrastructure necessary for the park's long-term viability. In turn, Precinct 3 would assume responsibility for the design and construction of the park's remaining components, including pavilions, sports fields, restrooms, playgrounds, and landscaping.

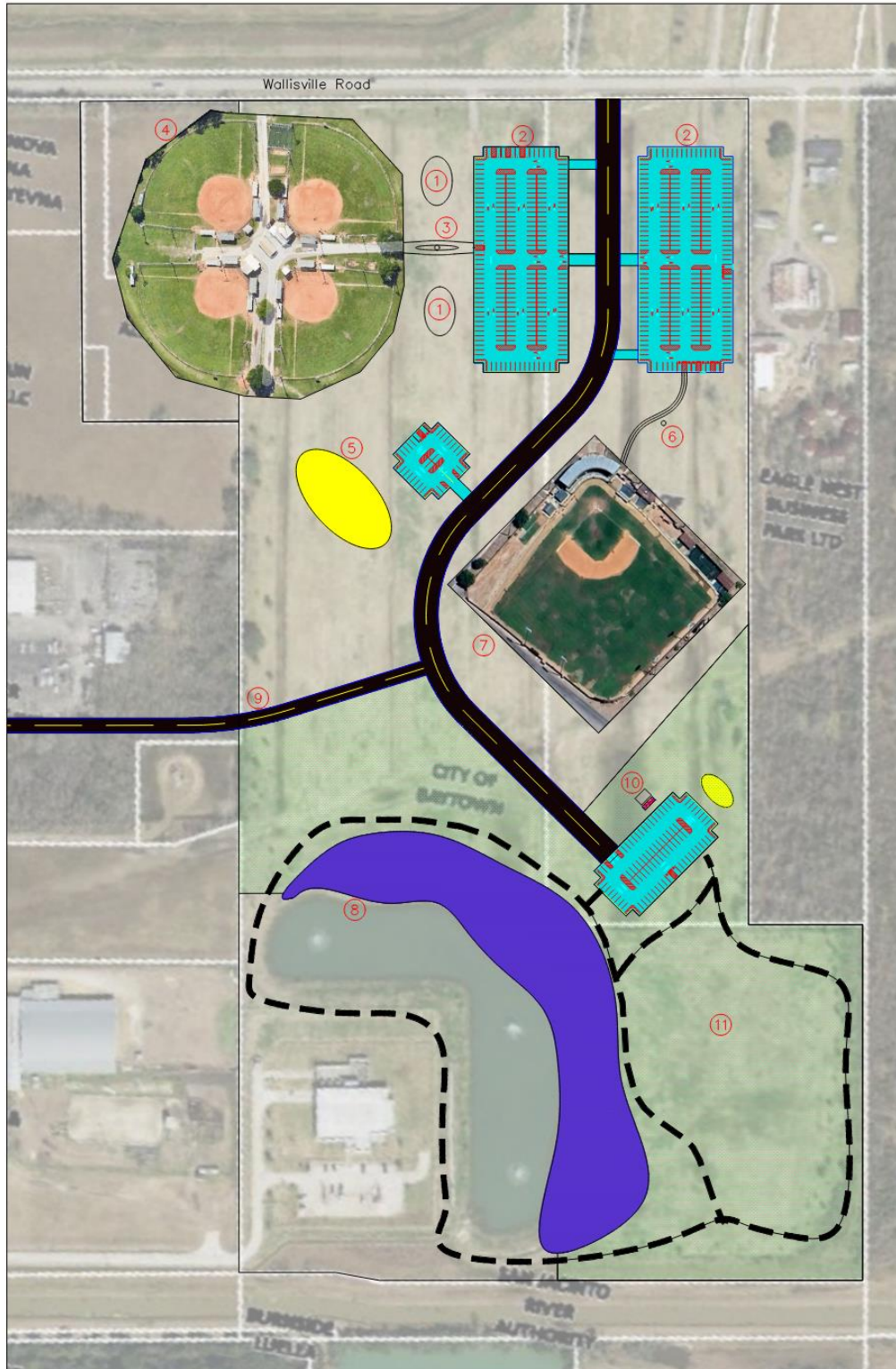
The Gene and Loretta Russell Park project represents a unique opportunity to create a legacy park that aligns with community needs, the donor family's vision, and regional goals. It is designed to serve Baytown residents while drawing visitors to the area through thoughtfully planned amenities and high-quality recreational offerings. This project would provide a quality recreational amenity that would enhance quality of life, promote healthy activities, and contribute to the city's long-term goals for sports tourism and economic vitality.



Gene and Loretta Russell Park (Page 3)



Preliminary Site Plan



Site Plan Features

1. Outdoor Pavilion with BBQ pit and sink area (seats 100)
2. 225 Stall Parking Lot
3. Monument detailing the contributions of the Energy Industry to the area
4. Baseball Quad Area with 4 fields, Restroom (10 stall minimum), concessions area, and lighting
5. Inclusive playground with Climbing feature (Industrial theme)
6. Monument and area of recognition for Members the Russell Family
7. Regional Premier Baseball Field (Championship Field)
8. Expanded Detention Pond (from 911 Center)
9. Secondary Access to North Main
10. Restroom facility (2 stall minimum)
11. Nature Area featuring a mix of trees, native plants, wild flowers, and other drought resistant plantings