

# CITY HALL EXERCISE FITNESS TRAIL

## \$120,000 (\$96,000 Grant/\$24,000 Match)

---

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of construction of a One-half ( ½) Mile Exercise Fitness Trail running in front and alongside of City Hall that will include ten (10) stationary workout stations. The trail will be concrete/asphalt and will include lighting, benches, trash receptacles and landscaping.

### **FACTS**

**FACT #1** – The City did not have an Exercise Fitness Trail on the west side of town for the residents;

**FACT #2** – The City is trying to become designated as a “Healthy Hometown City” and a “Bicycle Friendly City” within the next year;

**FACT #3** – The City will encourage its residents and employees to use the Exercise and Fitness Trail. It is a proven fact that healthier individuals are happier and more productive;

**FACT #4** – Exercise Areas are Environmentally Friendly

- Manufacturer operates a zero-emissions factory and adheres to Environmentally sensitive manufacturing processes;
- Steel and other metal components are manufactured using 80-100% Post-consumer and post-industrial recycled materials;
- Rather than wood, equipment is made constructed of 100% post-Consumer recycled HDPE plastic stats.
- Rubber mulch is composed of 100% recycled tires

**FACT #5** – Residents stopping by to inquire about the project with the Contractor and Inspector are providing positive feedback.

**FACT #6** – More than 25 people have expressed gratitude for providing this type of exercise facility not Only on the west side of town but in the City of Diamondhead

**FACT #7** - No negative impacts were made to wetlands, endangered species or habitat on this project; in fact, drainage improvements were made to enhance this property;

**FACT #8** –The layout of the facility does not prohibit uses of the property for other City events;

**FACT #9** – It maintains the green area in front of City Hall;

**FACT# 10** -Project is 80% Grant funded and 20% City funded;

**FACT # 11** -Project will be complete by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

# Roundabout at Diamondhead Drive East and Golf Club Drive \$250,000 (\$200,000 Grant/\$50,000 Match)

---

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of construction of a Roundabout at the intersection of Diamondhead Drive East and Golf Club Drive. It will take out the "Y" intersection and create a roundabout where traffic can flow continuously and alleviate the "stop and go" traffic which leads to traffic accidents.

## **FACTS**

**FACT #1** –The current two way stop "Y" configuration leads to traffic accidents and is hard to maneuver;

**FACT #2** –The current configuration does not lend itself to being "pedestrian or bicycle friendly";

**FACT #3** – The new roundabout will have bicycle lanes and crosswalks making it safe for bicyclists and pedestrians to cross with oncoming traffic;

**FACT #4** –The roundabout will be constructed within the current right-of-way;

**FACT #5** – No negative impacts will be made to wetlands, endangered species or habitat and no negative impact to the environment will be made;

**FACT #6** – Project construction will take less than 3 months;

**FACT #7** – Roundabout will alleviate traffic congestion and give easy access for a turnaround if necessary;

**FACT#8** - It is 80% Grant funded and 20% City funded;

**FACT#9** - Easy adjustment for local residents because roundabouts exist throughout the City;

**FACT # 10**-By design, fewer accidents occur in roundabouts than any other style of intersections.

# Safe Routes to School Grant

## \$360,000 (\$300,000 Grant/\$60,000 Match)

---

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of construction of a 5 foot sidewalk along the east side of Golf Club Drive from Diamondhead Drive East to the south entrance of the Diamondhead Country Club. It will include 4 covered school bus shelters at the following locations along with bike racks.

1. Intersection of Ahui Drive and Golf Club Drive
2. Intersection of Golf Club Drive and Country Club Circle
3. Intersection of Diamondhead Drive North and Bayou Drive
4. Intersection of Noma Drive and Oaks Boulevard

Bike racks will also be placed at the recreational centers throughout the City.

### **FACTS**

**FACT #1** – After Hurricane Katrina, the City went from having one school bus of children daily to nine (9) school busses daily;

**FACT #2** – The City does not have a school within its City limits but has over 520 school children that ride school busses that are K-8<sup>th</sup> grade;

**FACT #3** – It cuts down on time students have to ride the bus which cuts down on discipline problems;

**FACT #4** – It eliminates 50-70 bus stops and cuts down on the wear and tear of the busses;

**FACT #5** – It will improve safety, get children, pedestrians and bicyclists off the busy Golf Club Drive. Over the past two years, nine (9) vehicular accidents have occurred in the area between Diamondhead Drive East and the Country Club on Golf Club Drive. Having sidewalks in place will ensure that our children, bicyclists and pedestrians are kept out of harm's way;

**FACT #6** – It promotes a healthier lifestyle for children;

**FACT #7** - Bus drivers have easier access to main roads instead of trying to traverse narrow roadways;

**FACT#8** - The majority of the residents in this Ward are in favor of sidewalks on Golf Club Drive. They want children to be safe while walking to school bus stops and to the recreation areas;

**FACT #9** –Project is 80% Grant funded and 20% City funded;

**FACT # 10**–Allows a safe route for neighborhood children to get to recreational swimming pools and other amenities at the Country Club.

# Interstate Exit 16 – High Mast Lighting \$500,000 (\$400,000 Grant/\$100,000 Match)

---

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of construction of high mast lighting of the interchange, including acceleration lanes, deceleration lanes and ramp terminals.

## **FACTS**

**FACT #1** –Currently Exit 16 is not lighted which makes it a safety hazard for anyone that travels the area;

**FACT #2** –The City made application to MDOT on April 19, 2016 and was awarded the grant of \$400,000 on September 8, 2016;

**FACT #3** –The City received the final review of the Engineer’s Contract from MDOT on March 16, 2017 and is currently having their legal counsel review before signing a contract with the Engineers to start design on the project;

**FACT #4** –The project will be constructed within the current right-of-way;

**FACT #5** –No negative impacts will be made to wetlands, endangered species or habitat and no negative impact to the environment will be made;

**FACT #6** –Project construction will take less than 3 months;

**FACT #7** –Project will be completed in 2017;

**FACT#8** - It is 80% Grant funded and 20% City funded;

**FACT#9** - Once the Interstate Exit 16 is properly lighted, it will attract more visitors to “stop and shop” and also provide a safer environment for the residents of the City.

# TIDELANDS ROTTEN BAYOU ENHANCEMENTS

## KAYAK/BIKING TRAIL

### \$369,750

---

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of construction of a small gravel parking area for 10 vehicles with an 8 foot walking path down to Rotten Bayou and the Kayak Launch area. The project will be built following DMR and Federal guidelines so minimal impacts will be made to wetlands, endangered species and habitat and the environment. Safety is a number one priority for the City and this area will be patrolled by the City police force and any violators will be dealt with immediately. The project area will have gravel parking and walking trails, boardwalks and kayak launch but the overall impact to the area will be very minimal. It is the City's intent to keep the environment in its natural state and let our residents enjoy the natural beauty and wetland areas while traversing the kayak trail. Kayakers will be able to launch at the Bayou Drive site and kayak 9.5 miles down Rotten Bayou/Jourdan River area to the Diamondhead Marina at Vaught Circle where another Kayak Launch is being constructed as part of this project. The Vaught Circle Kayak Launch will be constructed with Boater Access Funding with matching funds coming from this Tidelands Project.

#### **FACTS**

**FACT #1** – Mayor Schafer made application for this grant in June of 2014;

**FACT #2** – The grant was awarded and funding was reduced by 25% from \$493,000 to \$369,750;

**FACT #3**– The City Manager and Grant Administrator re-worked the budget to maintain program integrity while eliminating unnecessary line items such as previously budgeted“ salaries, travel expenses, land acquisition, consulting costs” bringing the soft costs down from \$190,500 to \$64,000 and moving the excess money into the actual project costs. The City Council approved the revised grant application in January, 2015.

**FACT #4** – The City has received all necessary permits through Department of Marine Resources (DMR), the MS Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks and MS Archives and History.

**FACT #5** –Project is 100% Grant funded.

**FACT# 6** - Project will be completed in 2017.

**FACT #7** – Extremely minimal impacts to wetlands will be made for this project. Only 1/10 of one (1) acre out of a five (5) acre site will be impacted.

# TIDELANDS MONTJOY CREEK IMPROVEMENTS

## \$204,666

---

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of construction of a kayak launch at the Mouth of Montjoy Creek, a small gravel parking area, an educational boardwalk over wetlands to an observation birding deck that will overlook Devil's Elbow. This is another phase of the City's overall plan to allow residents and visitors the opportunity to water access for kayaking as well as access to nature through the educational boardwalk and birding deck along with signage of the natural habitat.

### **FACTS**

**FACT #1** – This grant is 100% funded;

**FACT #2** – Education of the general public for conservation and preservation of wetlands through signage and public access of an elevated boardwalk and observation deck over Montjoy Creek.

**FACT #3** – Allow public water access to Devil's Elbow Oxbow and Montjoy Creek through a Kayak Launch, Boardwalk and small gravel parking area.

**FACT #4** – Educational and Information signage will be put up along the parking area, boardwalk and observation deck explaining the need for preservation of wetlands and aquatic habitat for plant and marine life. Trash and monofilament recycling stations will be placed throughout the area to protect and enhance the coastal waterways.

**FACT #5** – Project will be complete in 2018

**PROJECTS JUST AWARDED**

**NOT UNDER DESIGN YET**

## E. Aloha Drive Widening \$170,500 (\$136,400 Grant/\$34,100 Match)

---

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of widening of the roadway will include access for a 6 ft shoulder for a bicyclists and pedestrian pathway, adding lighting and drainage while straightening the roadway all within the City's right-of-way. This will alleviate safety concerns by increasing visibility and providing a safe access for pedestrians and bicyclist travelling the area.

### **FACTS**

**FACT #1** - The Purcell Corporation deeded this portion of E. Aloha Drive from behind Rouses to Sheppard's Square to the City at the same time they deeded the easement for the E. Aloha Extension Road – both at "no cost" to the City.

**FACT #2** – A condition of the deed from Purcell requires that the City upgrade the road to City standards within three years of acceptance of the easement. The City is required to widen the road.

**FACT #3** - Funding has been awarded to the City through GRPC Metropolitan Planning Organization in the amount of \$136,400 in grant funds with the City match only \$34,100 in order to make this road safe for bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicular traffic travelling this portion of the roadway.

**FACT #4** – If the City declines the grant funds, the City will spend more money just to improve the 4' foot of roadway than if they accept the grant and make all of the improvements. The City will still have to match the additional funds for the road widening portion that the grant does not cover;

**FACT #5** – The project will open up safer and easier access for vehicular, pedestrian and bicyclist traffic to the medical center and library.

**FACT #6** – On comments received during the Public Comment Period by Gulf Regional Planning Commission from the residents of Diamondhead, an overwhelming majority, 73% were in favor of this project.

**FACT #7** – This project will only benefit the commercial area.



# Golf Club Sidewalks Grant

## \$500,000 (\$400,000 Grant/\$100,000 Match)

---

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of construction of a 5 foot sidewalk along the east side of Golf Club Drive from the north entrance of the Diamondhead Country Club around the water tower to Kapalama Drive. It will include a bicycle lane and crosswalk around the water tower for safe access for bicyclists and pedestrians.

### **FACTS**

**FACT #1** –An overwhelming majority of the comments received by Gulf Regional Planning Commission, approximately 75% were in favor of construction of the sidewalks.

**FACT #2** –This project will improve safety for children, pedestrians and bicyclists to travel safely on Golf Club Drive;

**FACT #3** –Project will be constructed within existing right-of-way;

**FACT #4** –Project will have minimal impact to property owners and the City and engineer are currently working with residents that will have minor impacts due to ADA compliance;

**FACT #5** –The majority of the residents in this Ward are in favor of sidewalks on Golf Club Drive;

**FACT #6** –Project is 80% Grant funded and 20% City funded;

**FACT #7** - Promotes a healthier lifestyle for the residents;

**FACT #8**- Allows children safe access to the swimming pool and other amenities at the Country Club without having to walk or ride their bicycles in the street.