



## **PRESS RELEASE**

September 27, 2022

### **Commissioners take action to enhance landfill access for county residents**

Pending a decision by the TCEQ, residents will get more use and enhanced access to the landfill located north of Lockhart following action taken Tuesday, September 27 in Commissioners Court.

Commissioners approved a resolution that represents an agreement between the county and the 130 Environmental Park. In exchange for supporting the park's application with the TCEQ for an amended permit that extends the park's operating hours, the park agreed to the following concessions that will remain in effect for the next 10 years:

- Funding for the cost of five County-sponsored Clean Up Events per year at a maximum cost of \$2,475 per event or \$12,375 total per year
- Disposal at no charge for up to six cubic yards per week of standard municipal solid waste authorized for disposal at the landfill for any Caldwell County resident during the proposed new Saturday waste acceptance hours at the landfill
- The current level of transportation and disposal service at no charge for the 30 cubic yard roll-off container being utilized at the County's 1700 FM 2720 Lockhart location.
- At least 50 vouchers per year for no-charge disposal (six cubic yard maximum) of standard municipal solid waste authorized for disposal at the landfill, to be used by the County's Environmental Enforcement Unit or provided by the Enforcement Unit to Caldwell County residents, at the Enforcement Unit's discretion
- Annual grants of \$1,500 to the Alma B. Strawn Elementary School for funding an environmental or sustainability program

In return for the approved agreement, commissioners voted to support the environmental park's revised application with the TCEQ for an amendment to their permit which, if approved, would extend waste acceptance hours from 5 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 6 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday. Other site operations would take place between 5 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 6 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday.

"The new application and this agreement between the 130 Environmental Park and the county represent a compromise that, if the application is approved by the TCEQ, would provide substantial benefits for both parties," County Judge Hoppy Haden said. "Additionally, residents who use the landfill

would have more opportunities help keep their property and the county clean with the ability to drop off trash on Saturdays and before and after work during the week.

“This agreement gives greater access to the landfill to residents from all demographics, and we expect it will give them a viable alternative to disposing of old mattresses in our creekbeds and leaving unwanted furniture on the roadside.”

The 130 Environmental Park applied earlier this year for a permit with the TCEQ that would allow the site to operate 24/7. Commissioners in April approved a resolution opposing that application.

The new hours and the park’s new concessions would take effect the Saturday after the TCEQ approves the revised application.