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## Gas well money will go toward a park

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ARLINGTON -- The Arlington Tomorrow Foundation, which manages a significant portion of the city's gas well windfall, announced its first round of matching grants, including \$150,000 for a new downtown park.

The city formed the nonprofit foundation last year to invest and manage millions of dollars in bonus money and royalties for gas well leases on public property and to distribute those funds for the public benefit. Last week, the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation awarded more than \$526,000 for art, recreation and community projects proposed by city departments and Arlington nonprofit organizations.

Several of the projects will help create a public park across from City Hall. The planned Founders Plaza park, with the Levitt Pavilion band shell, scheduled to be completed this summer, is expected to be the site of at least 53 free concerts a year and other city gatherings.

The Junior League of Arlington received \$50,000 to go toward a fountain for the plaza. The Friends of the Levitt, a nonprofit group raising funds for the park, received \$100,000 for projects like landscaping and to help pay for the pavilion.

Other recipients include:

The city's Parks and Recreation Department, which was granted \$30,000 for new fitness equipment and \$21,000 to help low-income families afford to participate in recreational programs.

The public library system, which received \$50,000 to split between an online tutoring program and the northeast branch library teen zone.

The River Legacy Foundation, which was granted \$23,000 to help build a canoe launch on the Trinity River and \$37,500 to build an outdoor classroom and boardwalk in a wetland area of the park.

### ARLINGTON TOMORROW FOUNDATION

For more information about the nonprofit Arlington Tomorrow Foundation, which manages much of the city's gas well windfall, go to [www.arlingtontx.gov/atf](http://www.arlingtontx.gov/atf).

The foundation's next round of matching grants, aimed at improving the safety and appearance of neighborhoods, is scheduled to be awarded in March.