

2018-2019 BUDGET QUESTION

Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT: Fire, Parks and Recreation, and Austin Transportation

REQUEST NO.: 144

REQUESTED BY: Adler

DATE REQUESTED: 8/30/18

DATE POSTED: 9/6/18

REQUEST: Does the FY 2019 proposed budget include adding staff needed to address permit backlog in departments other than Development Services?

RESPONSE: The following details departments adding staff in the FY 2019 proposed budget to address permitting backlogs and to keep pace with the Development Service Department's goals for reducing permit review time.

Austin Transportation Department: Five additional positions and \$450,000 are being added in the Austin Transportation Department to address increased permitting activity in the Right of Way Management program. One of the positions, a permit and license review analyst, will encourage and support community-driven uses of public space in the public right of way by providing management services that are aligned with national best practices and the outcomes desired by our community. The other three will address increases in the volume of permit requests.

- 3 Permit & License Review Analysts \$256,400
- 1 Permit & License Review Analyst (public space in the ROW) \$85,500

Parks and Recreation Department: The Parkland Dedication (PLD) Ordinance was revised in 2016. Changes to the ordinance increased the requirements for accepting parkland, which resulted in an increase in revenue from fee collections. This revenue increase will offset an additional \$293,000 in the Parks and Recreation Department budget for three positions to address the demand for PLD services and keep pace with the City's goals for reducing permit review time.

- Planner II \$85,500
- Planner III \$92,600
- Landscape Architect II \$107,300

Austin Fire Department: The Fire Department is adding four civilian positions to perform administrative support tasks for the Fire Prevention Division to improve efficiency and keep pace with growing demand for inspection services. These additional civilian positions will allow for three sworn personnel (Lieutenant Inspectors) to return to performing inspections in the field. These costs are offset by revenue generated from inspection services.

- Customer Service Supervisor \$97,200
- Program Coordinator \$139,500
- Scheduling Coordinator \$82,200
- Engineer \$79,000