Thursday, April 5, 2007

Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 52

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and approve a resolution authorizing the use of approximately 0.085 acres for a wastewater line, 0.180 acres for temporary work space and 0.359 acres temporary ingress/egress to construct, use, maintain, repair, and replace a wastewater line for construction of a portion of the Austin Clean Water Program: Govalle 1 – West of Lamar Project through dedicated parkland known as Barton Creek Greenbelt, in accordance with Section 26.001 et seq. of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code.

Amount and Source of Funding: All costs associated with construction, as well as any parkland restoration, will be paid by requester.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Junie Plummer 974-7085, Gopal Guthikonda 707-6649, Laura Bohl 974-7064.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Parks Board, the Water and Wastewater Commission, and the Environmental Board.

Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code provides that the use of parkland for non-park purposes may be approved upon a finding that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of this land.

The Austin Water Utility and the Public Works Department, under the Austin Clean Water Program, is proposing to install 219-linear feet (LF) of new 8-inch wastewater line on parkland adjacent to Barton Creek. The line will tie into an existing 24-inch wastewater line at a manhole on the hike and bike trail along the north side of Barton Creek approximately 550 feet upstream (southwest) from a northern entrance to the trail at the intersection of Barton Skyway and Spyglass Drive. The new line will replace an existing 8-inch line.

It is the City's finding that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the dedicated parkland which includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to such lands. The dates of public notification in the Austin American-Statesman are March 11, 18, and 25, 2007.

Approval of the use of parkland is made on the condition that all restoration is completed in accordance with the Standard Specifications and Construction Standards of the City of Austin and the Parks and Recreation Department's "Construction in Parks Specifications". Austin Water Utility is required to pay all costs associated with the restoration and tree mitigation will be included as part of the site restoration process.