

AGENDA



Thursday, May 3, 2007

**Public Works
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 13**

Subject: Authorize the advertisement for sealed bid offers and authorize the negotiation of final offers for the sale or exchange of an approximately 7.07 acre tract of land out of an 820 acre tract known as Reicher Ranch, Balcones Canyonland Preserve (BCP), located at 3635 RR 620 South, for not less than the fair market value.

For More Information: Junie Plummer 974-7085, Willy Conrad 263-6430, Laura Bohl 974-7064.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by BCCP Citizens Advisory Committee, BCCP Scientific Advisory Committee, BCCP Coordinating Committee, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Board and by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

The City's purpose in soliciting offers for the purchase of the City's 7.07 acre tract through cash, an exchange of other land, or a combination of the two, along with any additional consideration acceptable to the City, is to obtain an alternate route for ingress/egress to the existing facilities located on Reicher Ranch, and to additional land to the BCP that is more suitable habitat for the Golden Cheeked Warbler than the 7.07 acre tract. The City maintains Field Offices for its Wildland Conservation Division, including BCP program staff, at Reicher Ranch. The entrance to Reicher Ranch is on Ranch Road 620 South, less than a mile from the intersection with State Highway 71. Recent increases in traffic volume and speeds have made this current entrance unsafe and untenable.

The sealed bid offers will provide Reicher Ranch with the ability to secure access to a controlled intersection and with additional land to the BCP that is suitable habitat for the Golden Cheeked Warbler. The bid packages will contain requests for offers, guidelines for offers, important dates, terms of the sale and/or exchange, purchase and sale agreement, and special warranty deed.

The 7.07 acre tract is not considered quality habitat and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed and approved the sale and/or exchange.

Time Frame: May 4th, 2007 - Bid packages are available to the public.

Advertisement Dates: May 13th, May 20th, and May 27th 2007.

June 4, 2007: Bid package deadline.

June 21, 2007: Mayor and Council accept a bid or reject all bids.