

## AGENDA



Thursday, July 26, 2007

**Watershed Protection and Development Review  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 75**

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**Subject:** Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) regarding regulation of the portion of the Lake Travis watershed within the City of Austin extraterritorial jurisdiction.

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

**For More Information:** Patrick Murphy, 974-2821; Julia Lee, 974-3357

**Boards and Commission Action:** Recommended by the Environmental Board.

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**Executive Summary**

This interlocal agreement between the City of Austin (City) and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) eliminates regulatory overlap between the City and LCRA by limiting application of the LCRA Highland Lakes Ordinance in the City's jurisdiction in the Lake Travis watershed.

The Fourth Edition of the Highland Lakes Ordinance adopted by LCRA on February 1, 2006, overlaps with the City of Austin water quality regulations within the City's planning jurisdiction. The ordinance provides an exemption for a political subdivision that has adopted regulations that are determined to be equal to or greater than the LCRA regulations.

Under the agreement, the City and LCRA have certain responsibilities.

The City agrees to:

- continue enforcing its water quality regulations, programs, and processes for development;
- consider adoption of the low impact development approaches and other techniques included in the LCRA regulations;
- add LCRA to its existing notification process for development permit applications, watershed variances, watershed code or criteria changes, and annexation and ETJ changes in the Lake Travis watershed; and
- continue to provide water quality and water conservation education materials to the public.

LCRA may review and provide input to the City on watershed variances in the Lake Travis watershed. LCRA agrees to provide assistance, if requested, to the City in the design of water quality management controls and best management practices for Capital Improvement Projects and for parkland that the City may lease from LCRA.

This agreement may be terminated with at least 30 days written notice by either party.