

AGENDA



Thursday, July 26, 2007

**Parks and Recreation
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 26**

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$24,600 in grant funds from the Junior League of Austin; and amend the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20060911-001 to appropriate \$24,600 for the Legacy Project at the Austin Nature and Science Center.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Junior League of Austin. The grant period is August 1, 2007 through May 31, 2008.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached

For More Information: Stuart Strong, Assistant Director, 974-6766

Since its inception in 1960, the Austin Nature and Science Center (ANSC) has had strong ties and support throughout the community.

The Legacy Project goal is to document these relationships through the creation of oral histories and digitally preserved archival material. Junior League volunteers will provide assistance to ANSC staff in organizing the material and compiling contact information. Junior League volunteers will conduct one-on-one interviews with community members and digitally record these sessions. This work is important in preserving community heritage and is essential to ensure this legacy will be known to future generations. This work will also ensure that proper recognition is given to those who have participated in ANSC activities as its 50th anniversary approaches.

This grant supports the departmental goal of fostering stewardship of the natural world through best management practices, education and interpretation. By collecting and organizing this information, this important tradition can be handed down to future generations.

In addition to the production of this historic project, ANSC will provide placement for select volunteers who will assist with on-going educational programs, interpretive opportunities for visitors, and landscape services.

The total grant awarded for the Legacy Project is \$24,600 and will be allocated in the following manner: \$15,000 will fund the salary of a temporary employee. This employee will implement the Legacy Project and perform archivist type duties. \$9,600 of the grant funds will be used to purchase recording equipment, shelving and archival storage supplies to assist with the project.