

AGENDA



Thursday, August 30, 2007

**Parks and Recreation
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 18**

Subject: Authorize the negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Austin Independent School District (A.I.S.D.) for the construction and use of a new tennis center on undeveloped City parkland adjoining the Gus Garcia Middle School on Johnny Morris Road.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required

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

Prior Council Action: August 18, 2005 - City Council directed the City Manager to suspend all plans for the expansion of the South Austin Tennis Center and initiate a process of identifying a new site for tennis center and determine feasibility of developing such facility jointly with Austin Independent School District (AISD) as part of their bond program relating to recreational facilities. December 15, 2005, City Council approved Public (P) zoning for the Tennis Center at Johnny Morris Road park property.

Voters approved funding in the 1998 Bond program to renovate the Caswell Tennis Center and to expand the South Austin Tennis Center. The Caswell project was completed but designs for eight new courts at the South Austin Tennis Center raised neighborhood concerns. At Council direction in August 2005, the expansion of South Austin Tennis Center was suspended and a new park site on Johnny Morris Road next to the new Austin Independent School District (AISD) Gus Garcia Middle School was selected.

The Parks and Recreation Department recommends entering into an Interlocal Agreement with AISD for the joint construction and use of the new tennis center. AISD has agreed to contribute \$930,000 to the project. The payment represents an AISD bond contribution to improve joint-use tennis facilities as well as the budget for tennis courts to serve Gus Garcia Middle School. In return for the funding assistance, the school tennis program will have use of some of the courts during the school day and for school tournaments.

The new tennis center will include 12 new courts in compliance with the standards of the United States Tennis Association (USTA). Two of the 12 courts will be furnished with bleachers for tournament viewing. It also includes a small pro-shop and required parking.

A construction contract will be brought to Council for approval in September. The project construction is anticipated to begin in December 2007 and be completed in December 2008.