Thursday, November 29, 2007

Public Works RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 14

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing the fee simple acquisiton of Lot 7, Block G, Onion Creek Forest, Section 2, a subdivision in Austin, Travis County, Texas, located at 5404 Thornwood Drive from Santiago Lopez for the Onion Creek Voluntary Flood Buyout-FEMA-1606-DR Project in the amount of \$59,000 for the land and improvements and \$39,400 in owner assisted relocation benefits, plus moving related expenses not to exceed \$10,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$108,400.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Lauraine Rizer 974-7078, Robin Field 974-7064.

On July 27, 2006, Council approved and accepted \$6,255,823 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for the Onion Creek Voluntary Flood Buyout-FEMA-1606-DR Project. The purpose of the project is to purchase and demolish up to 118 single-family structures in the floodplain of Onion Creek, an area significantly impacted during the floods of October 17, 1998 and November 15, 2001, and to maintain the land as open space. The property and residence located at 5404 Thornwood Drive are part of the approved grant program.

The lot to be acquired is approximately 0.25 acres with improvements that include a 1,010 square-foot single-family dwelling (single-wide mobile home). The market value of the property including improvements is \$59,000, as determined by independent appraisal. The owner has agreed to accept the City's offer and is eligible for relocation expenses estimated to be \$39,400, plus moving related expenses not to exceed \$10,000. The City will relocate those displaced by the project according to the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended.