

AGENDA



Thursday, April 10, 2008

**Parks and Recreation
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 30**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of Amendment No. 1 to the professional service agreement contract with LARSON BURNS & SMITH, INC., Austin TX, for providing landscape, architectural design and for design services on the Walnut Creek Trail Project in an estimated amount not to exceed \$184,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$530,363.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached

For More Information: Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager, 974-6765

Purchasing Language: Contract amendment.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) with 10.92% MBE and 23.15% WBE participation to date.

Prior Council Action: 01/31/02 - Authorized the execution of a professional services agreement extension with Larson/Burns, Inc. to provide landscape architectural design and construction phase services for the Walnut Creek Trail project, in an amount not to exceed \$346,363.

In January of 2002, City Council authorized negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement to provide landscape, architectural design and for design services on the Walnut Creek Trail Project. The purpose of this amendment is to increase the originally approved award amount.

The Walnut Creek Trail project is an initiative to develop an extensive trail system along this major Austin creek. The 3.25 mile trail project extends from Balcones District Park and Walnut Creek Metropolitan Park. The project seeks to link neighborhoods, businesses and schools, and to preserve open space and water quality while providing safe access for cyclists and pedestrians. Ultimately the plan is to develop a trail to the Colorado River.

The project is made possible by funding from the Federal Transportation grants administered by the Texas Department of Transportation Department (TXDOT). In order to meet the conditions of the grant, the trail must meet the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) design guidelines for the Development of Bicycle Facilities.

The city has experienced a longer than normal design process to address critical environmental features requiring environmental and historic surveys. In addition neighborhood suggestions have also been taken into consideration during the design process, resulting in trailhead relocations and trail realignment at two (2) locations, which required additional geotechnical testing and survey.