Thursday, April 10, 2008

Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 83

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and approve a resolution authorizing the use of approximately 0.151 acre to construct, use, maintain, repair, and replace an existing water line for the construction of William Cannon Drive over Onion Creek for a water Line improvement project through dedicated parkland known as the Onion Creek Greenbelt, in accordance with Sec. 26.001 et seq. of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code.

Amount and Source of Funding: All costs associated with construction, as well as any parkland restoration will be paid by requester.

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

For More Information: Junie Plummer 974-7085, Lora Teed 974-7025, Robin Field 974-7064

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board.

Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code provides that the use of parkland for non-park purposes may be approved upon a finding that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of this land.

The Department of Public Works, on behalf of the Austin Water Utility is proposing to relocate a portion of the existing water line located in the right-of-way along William Cannon Drive. This relocation is necessary for the expansion of the East William Cannon Drive Bridge over Onion Creek.

Approval of the use of parkland is made on the condition that all restoration is completed in accordance with the Standard Specifications and Construction Standards of the City of Austin and the Parks and Recreation Department's "Construction in Parks Specifications". The Austin Water Utility is required to pay all costs associated with the restoration and tree mitigation.

There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the dedicated parkland which includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to such lands. The dates of public notification in the Austin American-Statesman are March 16, 23 and 30, 2008.