

AGENDA



Thursday, September 25, 2008

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s)
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**Item No. 91**

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider the use of approximately 7,603 square feet (0.1745-acre) for a permanent drainage easement to construct, use, maintain, repair, and replace a stormdrain line and appurtenances for construction of a portion of the Blunn Creek - Storm Drain Improvements Project (CIP ID 5789.019) through dedicated parkland known as the Blunn Creek Preserve Park in accordance with Sec. 26.001 et seq. of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. (Suggested date and time: October 23, 2008, 6:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX).

Amount and Source of Funding: All costs associated with construction, as well as any 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, Glen Taffinder 974-3381, April Thedford, 974-7141

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by 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 Watershed Protection and Development Review Department is proposing to install approximately 350 feet of stormdrain line within the Blunn Creek Preserve to discharge into Blunn Creek. The Blunn Creek - Long Bow Storm Drain Improvements project will reduce the localized flooding problems in the Sherwood Oaks neighborhood by constructing new stormdrain lines. Currently, a significant amount of stormwater flows through citizens back yards and sometimes gets into their houses during large storm events. The construction of the stormdrain line in the Blunn Creek Preserve provides a complete solution for the project.

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 Watershed Protection and Development Review Department is required to pay all costs associated with the restoration and tree mitigation and will be included as part of the site restoration process.

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 September 28, October 5 and 12, 2008.