

AGENDA



Thursday, April 2, 2009

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s)
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 39

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider a resolution authorizing the use of approximately 43,849 SF (1.01 acres) wastewater shaft uses, 428,630 SF (9.84 acres) wastewater line subterranean tunnel uses, 16,134 SF (0.37 acre) access uses, 332,634 SF (7.64 acres) temporary workspace uses and 14,983 SF (0.3440 acre) temporary ingress and egress use to allow for the construction of the Downtown Wastewater Tunnel Project through dedicated parkland known as the Town Lake – Lamar Beach, Auditorium Shores, Festival Beach, Holly Beach, Longhorn Shores, Lakeshore, Waller Beach, Butler Shores, Martin Park and Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park, all located along Lady Bird Lake in accordance with Sec. 26.001 et seq. of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. (Suggested date and time: April 30, 2009, 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 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; April Thedford 974-7141

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board. To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission April 8, 2009.

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 construct approximately 18,600 feet (3.5 miles) of a wastewater tunnel beginning at the Lamar Shaft crossing Lady Bird Lake to the Toomey Shaft running East and ending at the Krieg Shaft. The tunnel will traverse parkland for some of its alignment; the tunnel will be located at a depth of 50 to 80 feet and will have minimal disturbance to the Parkland during construction except for the 5 areas in where Austin Water Utility will need access for the construction, (1) Lamar Shaft, (2) Toomey Shaft, (3) Riverside Shaft, (4) Comal Shaft and (5) Krieg Shaft. The duration of the project will be from fall 2009 to early 2012.

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 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 April 5, 12 & 19, 2009.