

## AGENDA



Thursday, April 30, 2009

**Parks and Recreation  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 15**

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**Subject:** Approve an ordinance waiving certain park facilities use and rental fees associated with the use of Downs Field by Austin Metro Baseball League and Huston-Tillotson Field for baseball programs in exchange for in-kind maintenance services provided under a facility use and maintenance agreement.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**For More Information:** Farhad Madani, Assistant Director, 974-6714

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Section 8-1-13 provides that a person shall pay a fee or charge established by ordinance for the use of a park or recreational activity. Because the value of the maintenance will far exceed any potential revenue source staff is asking Council to agree to waive all applicable fees for the terms of the contracts.

Due to mutual benefits, the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) desires to enter into a long term, Facility Use and Maintenance Agreement with the Austin Men's Baseball League (AMBL) and Huston Tillotson University ( HT) to operate their respective baseball programs on parkland known as Downs Field. Both AMBL and HT have a long history of investing important resources and maintenance of the field, which has helped ensure facility upkeep.

Under the agreement, AMBL and HT agree to be solely responsible for the maintenance of the fields, inclusive of any needed improvements at their own expense. These responsibilities extend to the playing fields, the adjoining parking lots and a limited area adjacent to the field.

Both the AMBL and HT shall allow community opportunities for field usage and AMBL has committed to provide baseball clinics to the Greater East Austin Youth Association PARD.

From the date of execution the Facility Use Agreements with the AMBL and HT will allow for the use of Downs Field for a period of 5 years renewable for three (3) additional five (5) year periods upon consent of City staff.