Thursday, March 10, 2011

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

Item No. 28

Subject: Set a public hearing in accordance with Section 26.001 et seq. of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code to consider using portions of dedicated parkland known as Town Lake - Holly Shores Park for purposes of accessing, constructing, maintaining, repairing and replacing a storm drain line and related appurtenances in connection with the Lady Bird Lake/East 4th Street Drainage Improvements (CIP ID 5789.028). The portions of the parkland to be used are (a) approximately 2,325 square feet for a permanent storm drain line, and (b) approximately 5,125 square feet for a temporary access and workspace area. (Suggested date and time: April 7, 2011, 4:00 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; Glen Taffinder, 974-3381; John Wepryk, 974-7010; Amanda Glasscock, 974-7173.

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 Watershed Protection Department is proposing to repair and construct an improved storm drain outfall on approximately 2,325 sq. ft. of parkland within Town Lake – Holly Shores Park to discharge into Lady Bird Lake. The Lady Bird Lake/East 4th Street Drainage Improvements project will reduce the localized flooding problems in the area bounded by East 4th Street between San Saba Street and Pace Street. This repair project also includes the use of approximately 5,125 square feet for temporary access and working space.

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 Department is required to pay all costs associated with the restoration and tree mitigation as part of the site restoration process.

There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the dedicated parkland and this project includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to such lands. The dates of public notification in the Austin American-Statesman are March 13, 20 & 27, 2011.