

RESOLUTION NO. 20130627-076

WHEREAS, when Grant Park Subdivision was formed African Americans were not allowed to live in most areas of the city and were limited to certain portions of east Austin; and

WHEREAS, in 1832, Jesse Cornelius Tannehill secured a headright of 4,428 acres of land, which covers much of the East Martin Luther King, Jr. planning area; and

WHEREAS, the Tannehill Branch Creek joins with Boggy Creek and flows through the historic Morris Williams Golf Course, and eventually to the Colorado River; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Watershed Protection and Development Review (WPD): Stream Stabilization and Stream Bank Reconstruction Projects prevented further erosion along Tannehill Branch Creek; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 20110113-038 initiated the process to update the Land Development Code and that process is currently underway to improve stream buffers requirements, protect headwaters and streambanks, preserve floodplains, and improve stormwater controls to accomplish multiple goals; and

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2002, the City of Austin Neighborhood Planning Program adopted the East Martin Luther King, Jr. (EMLK) Combined Neighborhood Plan as a part of the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan and is currently recognized in the City's adopted Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the EMLK Combined Neighborhood Plan includes goals and objectives for improving the quality, safety, and cleanliness of area creeks, and reducing the impact of flooding in the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan outlines the City's need to use our creeks, their tributaries and floodplains, Lady Bird Lake, and the Colorado River to create a network of connected greenways and waterways to help address the need for distributed parks and open spaces; and

WHEREAS, the EMLK Combined Neighborhood Plan calls for the creation of more public open space such as parks and green spaces; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, and in 2012 proposals were made to build houses on Astor Place in the Tannehill Branch Creek Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Neighborhood Association engaged in a meeting with professional staff and Council Members in 2003 and discussed concerns about the appropriateness of new housing; and


WHEREAS, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Neighborhood Association supports the dedication of land along Astor Place as a greenbelt would be the most appropriate use of the property and recognizes its historical significance and environmental concerns; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a park or greenbelt along Astor Place in light of the historical significance of the area.

ADOPTED: June 27, 2013

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk