



## **Annual Internal Review**

**This report covers the time period of 1/1/2013 to 12/31/2013**

### **Parks & Recreation Board**

#### **The Board/Commission mission statement is:**

The purpose of the board is to advise the city council and the city manager regarding:

1. the acquisition, development, improvement, equipment and maintenance of city parks and public playgrounds;
2. the future development of city parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities, and the purchase of additional land for those purposes; and
3. improvement in the maintenance, operation, and general welfare of the city's parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities and their use by the public.

The board shall outline a general plan of development for new parks and playgrounds, including landscaping, roads, trails, buildings and equipment. The board shall submit the plan to the Planning Commission and the city manager for detail development, and the city manager shall then submit the plan to the city council for approval.

The board shall promote close cooperation between the City and all private citizens, institutions. And agencies interested in or conducting recreational activities, so that all recreational resources within the City may be coordinated to secure the greatest public welfare.

#### **1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

- A. Took action to recommend to City Council and/or Director enhancements, additions, and deletions to **Parks and Recreation Department programs and planning**, including:
- Barton Hills School Park Conceptual Master Plan.
  - Republic Square Master Plan with the suggestion that the historical significance be recognized in the master plan.
  - Planting plans at Butler Shores Park for the Zilker Lofts Project.
  - Approval of the community-initiated conceptual master plan for Ramsey Neighborhood Park.
  - Authorize a code amendment to modify the boundaries of the off-leash area of Auditorium Shores within Town Lake Metropolitan Park.
  - Approval of the "Local Standards of Care Ordinance" with the changes proposed for 2013 as they apply to parks.

- Approval of the Cascades at Onion Creek MUD following recommendation from the Community Development Commission.
- Approval of a request for a temporary art installation (donation) entitled THIRST to be installed at Lady Bird Lake and Trail with a 6-week review period.
- Recommended to the City Council to not consider any additional development at the Hancock golf course.
- Butler Fields Parking Study moved forward with no recommendation to the City Council.
- Approval of an ordinance amending City Code title 4 to add Chapter 4-15 relating to special events and high-capacity venues, amends Chapter 1-2, and creating a penalty.
- Approval of the draft Holly Shores/Edward Rendon Sr. Park at Festival Beach Master Plan.
- Approval of the last version of Austin's Urban Forest Plan to include the Environmental Board's recommendations and to ensure data collection strategies within the report are clear.
- Create 27 planning areas as a foundation to organize the parkland dedication fees before applying criteria for expenditure.
- Approval of the West Austin Neighborhood Park Conceptual Master Plan.
- Approval of the final design of the Auditorium Shores Improvement Project including a modification to the off-leash area design based on feedback received during the most recent series of public engagement meetings, and in addition, recommend that the City Council consider directing staff working on revisions to the Austin Land Development Code include a requirement that all new or substantially renovated multi-family housing project in Downtown Austin include a dog run or dog park for exclusive use of its residents.
- Approve the recommendation of the Director regarding suggested parks where alcohol consumption, sale, or possession without a temporary authorization permit is prohibited with the exception the Auditorium Shores will be removed from the prohibited list. Board Member Glover seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-1 with Board Member Almanza against and Board Member Roth absent.
- Recommended accepting the West Point Society's proposal for landscape improvements and forward this item to the Historical Landmark Commission to determine whether or not the existing monument can be repaired or replaced.

B. Recommended to City Council and/or Director approval of **contracts and/or concessions on City parkland** designed to serve citizens using the parks:

- Approval of an amendment to an inter-local agreement between the City of Austin and the Lower Colorado River Authority regarding buoys in Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake and Lake Walter E. Long.
- Approval of a new Parkland Improvement and Management Agreement with Capitol City Trap and Skeet for the operation and management of a trap and skeet shooting facility, a small bore rifle range, and archery range in Walter E. Long Metropolitan Park.
- Approval of the execution of a two-year concession agreement with Austin Parks Foundation for a food and beverage concession at 1006 Congress Avenue, adjacent to the Old Bakery and Emporium in exchange for use of concession revenue to fund additional improvements at the site.
- Authorize negotiation and execution of a Parkland Improvement Agreement with the Austin Parks Foundation and C3 Presents L.L.C. to expedite planned improvements to Auditorium Shores located within Town Lake Metropolitan Park, including but not

limited to an improved irrigation system, turfgrass replacement and installation of an enhanced off-leash area; and to authorize acceptance of approximately a \$3,500,000 donation from C3 Presents (C3) to fund these improvements

- Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to the professional services agreement with The Broussard Group, Inc., for architectural and engineering services for the Town Lake Metropolitan Park- Auditorium Shores event lawn, off-leash area and central lawn area of Town Lake Park North of Riverside Drive in the amount of \$400,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,942,163.35.
- Authorize the Parks and Recreation Department to negotiate and execute a new concession agreement with the Austin Parks Foundation for two (2) years in exchange for the Austin Parks Foundation's obligation to use concession revenue to fund additional improvements at Wooldridge Square.
- Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a 60-month services requirement contract with Interment Services, Inc. with the addition of an 18-month review period.
- Approval of ratification of contracts with C & M Air Cooled Engine Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$188,939, Tom Loftus Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$45,818 and Professional Turf Products LP, in an amount not to exceed \$32,994, for emergency repairs and equipment replacements required due to a fire at Morris Williams Golf Course.
- Negotiate a revenue contract with the Radisson Hotel for the development and operation of a restaurant deck and public terrace on parkland adjacent to the hotel.
- Negotiation and execution of a new Management & Operation Agreement with Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum, Inc. with an initial term of 50 years with two 25 year renewal options in exchange for USGM's commitment to develop the home and studio property, and manage and operate the museum and sculpture garden.

C. Recommended granting **temporary and/or permanent easements** making repairs or enhancements to City utilities or improving City property adjacent to city parkland through Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) funding:

- Authorize the Permanent Use (13,474 sq. ft.), not to exceed 1,095 calendar days on parkland located at Shoal Creek Greenbelt at West Avenue, with a mitigation value of \$70,738.50 and improvement to parkland is \$2,700,000.
- Authorize the Permanent Use (10,320 sq. ft.), not to exceed 1,095 calendar days on parkland located at Shoal Creek Greenbelt at West Avenue, with a mitigation value of \$54,180.00 and improvement to parkland is \$57,600 per year for maintenance of the greenbelt.
- Approval of Temporary Use Work Area (18,767 sq. ft.), Temporary Use Staging Area (2,406 sq. ft.), and Temporary Use Access Area (3,393 sq. ft.) not to exceed 365 Calendar Days on parkland located at Boggy Creek Greenbelt, 1114 Nile St, with a mitigation value of \$23,965.01.
- Approve the Permanent Use (7,508 sq.ft.), Temporary Use Work, Staging, and Access Area (5,108 sq.ft.) not to exceed 120 Calendar Days on parkland located at Hartford Strip, 2516 Hartford Rd., with mitigation value of \$120,395.64.
- Recommend the Parks and Recreation Department and the Transportation Department to work together to review and more clearly quantify the community benefit and the private development benefit.
- Approve the Temporary Use at Shoal Creek not to exceed 548 days with the proposed mitigation value.

- Approve a Temporary Use Area (9,375 sq. ft.) not to exceed 354 Calendar Days on parkland, with a mitigation value of \$40,694.20.
- Approval of a Temporary Use Work Area (51,368 sq. ft.); Temporary Use Staging Area (6,457 sq. ft.); Temporary Use Access Area (5,110 sq. ft.) not to exceed 182 Calendar Days on parkland, with a mitigation value of \$127,126.29.
- Make a recommendation to the Planning Commission regarding approval of a revision to the Planning Commission Site Plan, SPC-2012-0104D, improvements at Zilker Metropolitan Park to redevelop the site and building used for the Sunshine Camp.
- Make a recommendation to the Director regarding approval of a Temporary Use Work Area (51,368 sq. ft.) not to exceed 270 Calendar Days on parkland, with a mitigation value of \$108,638.58.

D. The following tasks will be transferred to the Board of Adjustments beginning in 2014.

Recommended the **approval of variances for the repair or construction of docks or bulkheads** in Lake Austin in order to maintain the recreational value as well as water quality of the Lake:

- Approval of a structure extending 35 feet on the western side, from shore [Section 25-2-1176(B)(2)] and; review and comment on a shoreline modification [Section 25-7-63].
- Recommend to the Director to construct a dock at 0 feet from a side lot line [Section 25-2-1176(D)(1)]. Board Member Roth seconded the motion.
- Review and comment on an application that exhibits dredging of 21 cubic yards in or along the lake [Section 25-7-63].
- Review and comment on a shoreline modification [Section 25-7-63] and; approval for placing 18.77 cubic yards of fill in Lake Austin [Section 25-8-652].
- Approval of a dock extending fifty (50) feet from shoreline at the eastern side of the structure [Section 25-2-1176(B)(2)] and review and comment on a shoreline modification [Section 25-7-63].
- Reviewed and did not recommend the project at 13330 Shore Vista Drive. Board Member Roth seconded the motion.
- Approval of a variance for dredging up to 39 cubic yards of material from Lake Austin for 14124 Flat Top Ranch Road.
- Approval of a request to construct a dock at 13 feet in width, exceeding 20% of the shoreline width. Board Member Roth seconded the motion.
- Recommend to the City Council an ordinance amending City Code Chapters 25-2, 25-7, and 25-8 relating to the review of requests for approval by the Parks and Recreation Board for projects within 1000 feet of the Lake Austin shoreline.
- Recommend to the Director approval of a temporary dock extending one-hundred and eighty three (183) feet from Lady Bird Lake shoreline for the Women and Their Work THIRST project to include staff's recommended condition of a navigational safety evaluation six weeks after installation.
- Recommendation to approve construction of a dock at 26 feet in width (37%) and extending 39 feet from shoreline at 3415 Westlake Drive.
- Make a recommendation to the Director regarding approval of a dock extending thirty-five (35) feet from Shoreline [Section 25-2-1176(B)(2)].
- Did not recommend to the Director approval of a dock extending thirty-four (34) feet from shoreline [Section 25-2-1176(B)(2)] and; review and comment on an application that exhibits dredging of 53 cubic yards in or along the lake [Section 25-7-63].
- Make a recommendation to the Director regarding an application that exhibits dredging of 63 cubic yards in or along the lake and a shoreline modification [Section 25-7-63].

- Make a recommendation to the Director regarding approval of a dock extending forty-five (45) feet from shoreline [Section 25-2-1176(B)(2)]; and review and comment on an application that exhibits dredging of 23 cubic yards in or along the lake [Section 25-7-63].
- Make a recommendation to the Director regarding approval of a dock extending forty-five (45) feet from shoreline [Section 25-2-1176(B)(2)]; and review and comment on an application that exhibits dredging of 50 cubic yards in or along the lake [Section 25-7-63].
- Make a recommendation to the Director regarding construction of a dock at 28 feet in width (28%), exceeding 20% of the shoreline width [Section 25-2-1176(D)(2)] and; review and comment on an application that exhibits dredging of 40 cubic yards in or along the lake [Section 25-7-63].
- Make a recommendation to the Director regarding construction of a structure within 5 feet of a side lot line [Section 25-2-1176(D)(1)]; and construction of a dock at 33 feet in width (47%), exceeding 20% of the shoreline width [Section 25-2-1176(D)(2)].
- Recommend not approving dredging up to 60 cubic yards at 13330 Shore Vista Drive.

## **2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

The Parks and Recreation Board's actions have supported the Board's purpose and duties by reviewing items brought before it and advising the City Council and/or Director regarding its findings.

## **3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.**

- Continue to take actions to recommend on programs and activities, contracts and concessions on parkland, and temporary and permanent easements on parkland.
- Continue to review and take actions on variances of boat docks and bulkheads on Lake Austin until those duties have completed transition to the Board of Adjustments.
- Continue work of the Concessions work group and begin transformation to a permanent committee of the Parks and Recreation Board, the Contracts and Concessions Committee.

## **4. Special Accomplishments**

- In 2012, the Navigation Committee made a recommendation to the PARB which made the recommendation to the City Council to form a special task force on Lake Austin consisting of all City departments that have jurisdiction over some part of the lake, with the goals of clarifying roles, enhancing service to the public, protect the recreational value of the lake, and ensuring high water quality for all of Austin. The PARB Chair served on the Lake Austin Task Force throughout 2013. This work was completed, and one recommendation adopted by the City Council was to transfer responsibilities regarding approval of variances on boat docks and boat slips on Lake Austin to the Board of Adjustments.
- Continued to review work of the Concessions Work Group on current planning and CIP efforts, identify concession needs and existing locations, and make recommendations on how PARD moved forward with future planning and CIP efforts to ensure concession success and buy-in.
- Board Chair appointed a Working Group to review and implement the Fiesta Gardens/Edward Rendon Sr. Park Master Plan consisting of: Board Chair Jane Rivera,

Board Member Susana Almanza, and Board Member Susan Roth. This group has reviewed actions taken to date, and will continue into 2014.

- Recommended approval of an Ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Parks and Recreation Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20120910-002) to appropriate the \$3,500,000 transfer for the Auditorium Shores – Improvements project located within Town Lake Metropolitan Park.
- Accept a letter from the Board to Mayor and Council related to Parkland Dedication Audit Findings.