# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Sara L. Hensley, CPRP, Director
Austin Parks and Recreation Department

**DATE:** February 28, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Response to Resolution #20121011-117: 64 Rainey Street Parcel

In November of 2012, staff hosted seven opportunities to develop a range of options for use of 64 Rainey Street by the Parks and Recreation Department for specific development that would address the needs of the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center (ESBMACC) and incorporate this parcel of land into the ESBMACC master plan. Staff was charged with returning to council with options for consideration and action no later than December 1, 2012.

After receiving 150 suggestions, the MACC Advisory Board reviewed the suggestions and passed the following resolution that included these tenets:

- Formally transfer the Rainey Street Parcel to Parks for ESBMACC use
- Rescind the earlier recommendation that it be used for parking
- Recommend that the Architect of Record incorporate the lot into the Master Plan
- Establish a flexible, multi-use, landscaped public art space for mission related activities and events to include but not limited to open air classes, community engagement, gardens, outdoor gallery space and many other ideas put forward
- Construct a historical outdoor exhibit and marker dedicated to the history of the Rainey Street neighborhood.

The fiscal impact and source of funding the Board's recommendation has yet to be determined. In order to move forward with the outlined suggestions, several issues must be completed or resolved:

- The Waller Creek tunnel project will need to be completed and the work trailer removed from its current location
- The Rainey Street Parcel of land will need to be formally transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department and dedicated as parkland
- Funding for development will need to be identified
- A stakeholder process will need to be conducted to ensure the input of past stakeholders is relevant at the time of future development

Should you have any questions, please contact my office at 974-6717.

Cc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager
Howard Lazarus, P.E., Director, Public Works Department
Victoria Li, P.E., Watershed Protection Department
Kimberly McNeeley, Assistant Director, Austin Parks and Recreation Department