



October 28, 2015

Ricardo Solis
Division Manager, Planning & Development
Austin Parks and Recreation Department
PO Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767-8865

RE: Support for Shoal Creek Walk Temporary Tiebacks Request

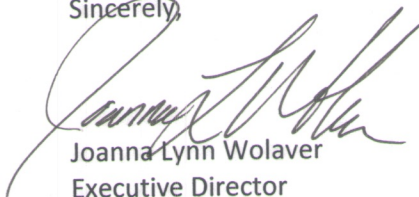
Dear Mr. Solis:

On behalf of Shoal Creek Conservancy, we are writing to express support for the Shoal Creek Walk (SCW) tiebacks request submitted to the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department. As described in the application for temporary use of parkland, the Department would allow SCW to install temporary tiebacks across the project property line under parkland. These tiebacks would temporarily support the vertical wall below the ground garage for a period of 4 to 6 months. In exchange for permission to install these tiebacks, SCW would provide community benefits that include replacing a four-foot high section of the existing vertical log wall (approx. 360 lf) with a limestone wall and replacing invasive chinaberries with native trees.

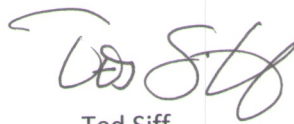
We strongly support this request for a number of reasons. The tiebacks are a temporary rather than permanent encroachment that will have no long-term impacts to dedicated parkland. In addition, this project will result in a much-needed and long overdue improvement to the Shoal Creek Greenway – the replacement of the vertical log wall between 5th Street and 6th Street bridges – at no cost to the public. This wall has been in a state of disrepair for decades. It is not only an eyesore, but rocks and dirt often fall from areas with missing log poles causing difficult passage along the trail. The Shoal Creek Walk is proposing a valuable improvement that would require extensive private fundraising or waiting years for public bond funding to pursue otherwise. The proposed project is a win-win for our community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Please feel free contact me with any questions at Joanna@shoalcreekconservancy.org or 512-474-2412.

Sincerely,



Joanna Lynn Wolaver
Executive Director



Ted Siff
Board President

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