



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MOTION 0716084a-001

Date: July 16, 2008

Subject: Barton Springs Pool Master Plan

Motioned By: Jon Beall

Seconded By: Mary Ann Neely

Recommendation

The Environmental Board offers the attached resolution in response to the collaborative efforts from the Joint-Subcommittee for the Barton Springs Pool Master Plan, consisting of members of the Environmental Board and the Parks Board.

In addition, the Environmental Board recommends that staff clarify refinements of spring flow measurements that are currently being undertaken separately from the Master Plan projects, and offer to incorporate the Scientific Advisory Committee's Recommendations into Short Term and Conceptual long Term Objectives of the Barton Springs Pool Master Plan.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

For: Ahart, Anderson, Beall, Dupnik, Maxwell, Moncada and Neely

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Approved By:

Dave Anderson P.E., CFM, Chair

RESOLUTION NO. EB 0716084a-001

WHEREAS, Barton Springs Pool, is a historical landmark considered by many to be the crown jewel of Austin;

WHEREAS, over 409,000 people annually enjoy this spring-fed swimming pool,

WHEREAS, Barton Springs Pool is in immediate need of improvements to facilities, water quality and salamander habitat conditions, and

WHEREAS, City Council has unanimously supported the improvement of Barton Springs Pool by allocating \$6.2 million in capital improvement funds for short term projects that have received wide support

WHEREAS, City Council authorized securing the services of a professional consultant to work with stakeholders on a plan for Barton Springs Pool (Resolution No. 20061019-035) to address improvements to facilities, the grounds, infrastructure, water quality and salamander habitat conditions,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF AUSTIN ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD, that the Environmental Board recommends to City Council the following:


- City Council accepts the Plan as a resource for short-term projects and concepts for possible future long-term projects, which would require extensive public input from stakeholders, Boards and Commissions and City Council.
- The City Manager should instruct the parks and Recreation Department and the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department to work cooperatively to complete the short-term projects with stakeholder participation. The resulting data, analysis and public input will provide information to evaluate the long-term projects.
- The plan, from this time forward, should be referred to as Barton Springs Pool Master Plan: Concepts for Preservation and Improvement to acknowledge that additional data and analysis is needed.
- The Joint-Subcommittee of the Environmental Board and parks and Recreation Board should continue to in an oversight capacity, hosting representatives of all stakeholder

groups as short term projects are implemented and long-term projects are considered in the future.

- The separate studies clarifying the accuracy of daily spring flow measurements be included
- The Scientific Advisory Committee's Recommendations be considered and included in the short-term and conceptual long-Term Objects

ADOPTED: July 16, 2008

ATTEST: _____

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David J. Anderson, PE, CFM
Environmental Board Chair



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MOTION EB071608-4b

Date: July 16, 2008

Subject: WPDR FY 2009 Proposed Budget

Motioned By: Phil Moncada

Seconded By: Rodney Ahart

Recommendation

The Environmental Board recommends **approval** of the WPDR FY09 Proposed Budget as presented to the Environmental Board FY08 Subcommittee. This budget enhances the staff and performance metrics necessary to promote the three core missions of the WPDR department – water quality protection and enhancement, flood mitigation, and erosion protection.

1. The Board recommends staffing be commensurate with the increased activity within the Department due to implementation of Bond projects. This includes funding for the following positions:
 - a. Project coordinator in Flood Hazard Mitigation to implement the bond program for effective project sponsorship.
 - b. Supervisor in Storm Drain Rehabilitation to coordinate concrete crews and lower the number of direct reports for the pipeline construction crew supervisor.
 - c. Commercial pond inspector to further increase the number of pond inspections and follow-up visits to check for compliance
2. The Board recommends that the Council and City Manager should begin to think seriously about a raise in the Drainage Utility Fee.
3. The Board recommends percent failure/success metrics be included in all inspection categories in the future.
4. The Board recommends that the Department develop additional metrics to quantify the value of open space in protection of creek/stream water quality.
5. The Board recommends that a metric be instituted that measures elevated review of stormwater controls in the recharge zone during rain events.
6. The Board recommends that additional Erosion Control crews be added, or that consultant/contractor help be solicited for erosion repairs.

7. The Board recommends that the Department leverage, to the greatest extent possible, relationships with local community organizations to maximize both the environmental learning potential for those who need those type of services, and the tangible environmental benefits organization like these bring to the Austin environment.
8. The Board recommends percent failure/success metrics is included in all inspection categories in the future. It is not only important for Watershed Protection and Development Review to track how many inspections are completed, and whether those inspections are completed in a timely fashion, but also how successful the development community is being completing projects according to Code and in an environmentally responsible manner. This recommendation was made last year and must be reiterated this year.
9. The Board recommends that Watershed Protection & Development Review Department develop additional metrics to quantify the value of open space in protection of creek/stream water quality, and with these revised metrics investigate the opportunity to use CIP funds for fee-simple land, or conservation easement, purchase as a percentage of the total "water quality" projects annually.
10. The Board recommends that a metric be instituted that measures elevated review of stormwater controls in the recharge zone during rain events.
11. The Board recommends that the Department leverage, to the greatest extent possible relationships with local community organizations (i.e., American Youth Works) to maximize both the environmental learning potential for those who need those type of services, and the tangible environmental benefits organization like these bring to the Austin environment (i.e., re-vegetation of stream banks, invasive species removal, tree planting, etc.).

Rationale

The Environmental Board formed an ad hoc subcommittee whose members asked detailed questions of staff concerning the proposed budget and received a comprehensive presentation from staff to address those questions. The budget accurately identified funds needed to protect water quality, stabilize eroding creek banks, and mitigate channel and localized flooding, along with implementing improvements in development review, enhancing inspections, performing infrastructure and waterway maintenance, rehabilitating dry wet ponds, continuing to restore and enhance habitat, and restoring populations of local endangered species.

The Board also wishes to draw attention to several items of note in the FY09 budget, namely:

1. The Board notes that the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department continues to work effectively with other City Departments in accomplishing related watershed-oriented goals. As an example of this type of interdepartmental cooperation is the Austin Clean Water Program, where over \$6 million of cost-savings has been realized to date on creek rehabilitation projects undertaken under the Austin Clean Water Program. (ACWP).

Vote: 6-0-0-1

For: Ahart, Anderson, Dupnik, Maxwell, Moncada and Neely

Against:

Abstain:

Absent: Beall was off the dais

Approved By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Anderson", with the letters "P.E." written in smaller script below the signature.

David J. Anderson, P.E., CFM, Chair

