

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MOTION 20170405 007d**

**Date:** April 5, 2017

**Subject:** Red Bluff / Harold Court Tract

Motion by: Pam Thompson Seconded by: Wendy Gordon

## **RATIONALE:**

**Whereas,** the City has initiated and almost completed the clean-up of illegal dumping on property owned by Austin Water Utility known as Red Bluff; and

Whereas, East Austin has historically experienced a lack of park space and natural areas; and

Whereas, the Red Bluff area is an archeologically and biologically unique environment and rich in cultural heritage; and

**Whereas,** the Red Bluff area is owned by three different City departments: Austin Water Utility, Watershed Protection Department and Public Works; and

Whereas, the surrounding neighborhoods have expressed desire and need for open, wildland preserve space in the area and connectivity to other neighborhoods via trails; and

**Whereas** the area has historical significance for the East Austin Community and use of the Red Bluff / Harold Court tract as a wildland preserve space will promote equitable, environmental natural areas throughout the City and a benefit to future generations.

**Therefore,** the Environmental Commission recommends that the City of Austin take steps to consolidate the three different tracts that form Red Bluff, and work in coordination with the surrounding community, specifically Springdale Airport Neighborhood Association, Hog Pen Neighborhood Association, and East MLK Neighborhood Association, to turn this property into a nature wildland preserve, to facilitate neighborhood connectivity, and to turn over the property to the Parks and Recreation Department.

## **VOTE 9-0**

For: B. Smith, Thompson, Neely, H. Smith, Perales, Maceo, Kitchin, Guerrero, Gordon

Against: None Abstain: None Recuse: None Absent: Creel

## Approved By:

Maris Bul

Marisa Perales, Environmental Commission Chair