

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	71257	Agenda Number	16.
Meeting Date:	6/8/2017		Department:	Parks and Recreation
Subject				
Approve up to 20 days that Republic Square Park may be closed to the general public per fiscal year.				
Amount and Source of Funding				
There is no anticipated fiscal impact.				
Fiscal Note				
A fiscal note is not required.				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:	December 11, 2014--City Council authorized negotiation and execution of the Parkland Improvement Management and Operations Agreement June 12, 2014 – City Council approved the Republic Square Master Plan June 12, 2014 – City Council approved negotiation of a parkland improvement agreement between the City and Austin Parks Foundation			
For More Information:	Ricardo Soliz, Acting Assistant Director, 512-974-6712; Jason Maurer, Sales and Events Manager, 512-974-2427; Vera Labriola, Business Process Specialist, 512-974-6716			
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:				
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				

During adoption of the Parkland Improvement Management plan on December 11, 2014, the City Council required that the maximum number of full park closure days requested under the Management Plan be presented to City Council annually for approval.

On an annual basis, the City Council is required to affirm the maximum potential number of full park closure days at Republic Square Park.

The following guiding principles have been established by the Management Committee:

1. Republic Square – “The People’s Park” is first and foremost a neighborhood park. The improvements and operations are intended to support and encourage regular, daily use and to provide a true outdoor asset for those who live, work or visit downtown Austin.
2. Programs and amenities will support a diversity of users, including nearby residents and employees, families with children, seniors, transit users, tourists and many others.
3. The number of events requiring full closure of the square will be limited in number and carefully planned to minimize impacts to landscape and its users.
4. Republic Square area will continue to be an essential staging area for shuttle transport to and from the Austin City Limits Music Festival.
5. The Sustainable Food Center’s “Farmers’ Market Downtown”, held at Republic Square every Saturday since 2004, will continue as part of the park’s community offerings.

For the full park closure days, the Management Committee has incorporated the Parkland Events Task Force definitions relating to use, open space and closure. Specifically, “Closed: No accessibility to the park. Ticketed participation only.”