

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	70159	Agenda Number	18.
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Meeting Date:	6/8/2017	Department:	Parks and Recreation
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Subject

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20160914-001) to accept grant funds in the amount of \$20,000; and amending the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Parks and Recreation Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20160914-002) to transfer in and appropriate \$20,000 from the Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund for improvements to the City park located at Kealing Middle School.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$20,000 is available from National Recreation and Park Association. A City funding match is not required.

Fiscal Note

Fiscal notes are attached detailing the acceptance of grant funds and the transfer of those funds to the Capital Budget.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Patrick Beyer, Landscape Architect Associate, (512) 974-9476; Vera Labriola, Business Process Specialist, (512) 974-7616
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) sponsored the Meet Me at the Park grant in partnership with Disney, ABC, and ESPN. Grants made available through this program are intended to improve local parks through projects that connect kids and nature, help kids and families live healthier, and increase access to sports.

The Parks and Recreation Department submitted five projects for consideration. These projects were voted on by the local community, with the winning project being the park located at the Kealing Middle School (Kealing).

This project will expand a newly-developed play area to include a new play environment at an underutilized portion of the park. The Kealing tennis courts send storm water downhill toward a newly-developed playground. This project will collect the storm water into a pollinator meadow to encourage infiltration and provide a nearby nature play opportunity.

The hillside will be shaped to capture, hold, and slowly release stormwater, and will be planted with native trees and shrubs to prevent erosion. Play value will be added to the area by introducing limestone boulders, balancing logs, and pathways that encourage exploration and learning.

The site will also have the opportunity to be used as an outdoor classroom or amphitheater. Stone blocks that retain portions of the hillside will be used as seats, and the infiltration basin can create an interactive learning opportunity for hydrology, geology, biology, and other earth sciences.

The award of this grant from NRPA will provide the necessary funding to the park located at Kealing. The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Parks and Recreation Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.