



BOARD RECOMMENDATION

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Recommendation Number: (20180227-006): Major League Soccer Stadium Not Recommended for Roy G. Guerrero Park

Whereas, the purpose of the Parks Board is to advise the City Council and City Manager regarding improvement in maintenance, operations and general wellbeing of the city's parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities and their use by the public; and

Whereas, a metropolitan park is a place that is dedicated, reserved, designed, conserved, and maintained for the purpose of permitting the public, at large, to experience outdoor recreation, relaxation, exercise, air, and sunlight; and

Whereas, parkland increases opportunities for the community to gather on a regular basis for health and recreational benefits; and

Whereas, much parkland is developed to provide residents with access to sports such as tennis, croquet, baseball, disk golf, basketball, golf, walking, horseback riding, hiking, swimming, picnicking; and

Whereas, some parkland is used to protect the natural environment and enhance and maintain the natural features, flora and fauna of that park and allow residents to have managed access to that natural area; and

Whereas, the Roy G. Guerrero Park includes a former wild bird reserve, which is still home to more species of bird than any other central city parkland; and

Whereas, the Roy G. Guerrero Park is also home to a great variety of plant and animal life indigenous to the area, including a small herd of deer that were enclosed in the park when the ACC Riverside Campus was built to the south; and

Whereas, the construction and management of any major league sports venue with the related destruction of the natural habitat, vehicular traffic and large number of people involved is not compatible with the nature of the Roy G. Guerrero Park's unique natural resources; and

Whereas, the population of the Austin area continues to grow, creating increased demands on parkland that stress the physical resources, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Austin Parks and Recreation Board recommends the Austin City Council direct the City Manager to remove Roy G. Guerrero Park as a possible location for a Major League Soccer stadium; and

The Austin Parks and Recreation board further recommends that future projects that propose use of parkland for non public parks purposes be reviewed by the Austin Parks and Recreation Board and, if appropriate, the Austin Environmental Board, prior to formal review and discussion at the City Council to ensure that the Council has all pertinent information at hand to make their decision.

Date of Approval: _____

Record of the vote:

Attest: _____