

Resolution Concerning Lakes Study

WHEREAS, Lake Austin, Town Lake and Lake Walter E. Long ("the Lakes") are within the jurisdiction of the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Parks and Recreation Board have certain responsibilities concerning the approval, construction and inspection of boat docks and concerning navigational safety on the Lakes; and

WHEREAS, uses of the Lakes, including the use of boats and other recreational watercraft for various activities, as well as the construction of numerous residential and commercial boat docks and marinas from the shoreline, has increased due to growth in the city and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, increased usage of the Lakes has resulted in overcrowding of the Lakes at peak usage times, has resulted in additional navigational safety problems and may contribute to water and noise pollution; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Parks & Recreation Board recommends that the Austin City Council commission a usage and safety study of Lake Austin, Town Lake and Lake Walter E. Long for the purpose of determining what actions may be appropriate to ensure the navigational safety and orderly development of the Lakes. It is further recommended that the City seek to obtain the partnership of entities such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and others as may be appropriate to conduct the study. It is further recommended that the study include:

- information concerning the numbers of users of the Lakes both during the daytime and nighttime and during both peak usage periods and non-peak periods;
- information on the use of the Lakes by Lake residents and non-residents;
- seasonal traffic patterns;
- citizens and lake users surveys concerning usage and development of the Lakes and concerning safety issues;
- information about the size and type of boats and other types of watercraft using the Lakes;
- the number and location of residential and commercial boat docks and marinas extending from the shorelines of the Lakes;
- the extent to which the shorelines are developed and the extent to which future development will have and impact on navigational safety and pollution; and
- information concerning water, air and noise pollution that may result from the present and future usage of the Lakes.