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*People Organized in Defense of Earth and her Resources*

December 14, 2006

Mayor Will Wynn  
& City Council Members  
P O Box 1088  
Austin, TX 78762

Dear Mayor Wynn & Council Members:

PODER needs your assistance. PODER has worked hard to protect the Oak Springs property located at 1170 Airport Boulevard in East Austin (along with other concerned groups and individuals). This 5.9 acre tract of land is home to natural springs - that's why the area is called Oak Springs. It is home to wetlands, old oak trees and willow trees. Twenty-eight (28) trees have roots at Oak Springs and know it as their home. Seventeen (17) trees are larger than 20" in diameter. We worked with Councilman Mike Martinez and Sheryl Cole to save the site from becoming a future Dollar Store.

PODER thanks the City Council for recognizing the environmentally sensitive tract, Oak Springs, in East Austin. PODER is interested in having the site become like the Brodie Wild, a 4.4 acre water quality protection property at the corner of Slaughter Lane and Brodie Lane, a cooperative project between the Austin chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, the Native Prairies Association of Texas, and the City of Austin Water and Wastewater Department Wildlands Conservation Division. PODER feels that the Oak Spring tract meets the goals set by the Brodie Wild Project of protecting water quality, restoring native vegetation and habitat, and educating the public about how to garden with native plants to protect water quality and reduce water usage. PODER would appreciate any assistance you may give to have Oak Springs become our "water quality protection project" in East Austin.

Thank you for sharing a vision which honors the sacredness of human life and the environment.

Respectfully,

*Susana Almanza*  
Susana Almanza,  
Co-Director

*Daniel Llanes*  
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