



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Victoria J. Li, P.E., Director *Victoria J. Li*
Watershed Protection Department

DATE: April 8, 2014

SUBJECT: Announcement of the 2014 Kent Butler Memorial Summit

On behalf of the various sponsoring organizations, I would like to share information with you and your staff of the opportunity to register for the second biennial Kent Butler Summit on the future of the Barton Springs Zone of the Edwards Aquifer. The registration fee for the summit is \$25 and is scheduled for Friday, April 25, 2014, at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. The theme for the summit is "Faucets, Toilets, and Automobiles: Balancing Growth and Sustainability in the Barton Springs Aquifer Region." I hope that you and your staff are able to attend this event.

The program has three segments, each of them with a different focus: sustainable management of wastewater in the Barton Springs Zone; the proposed State Highway 45 Southwest roadway project; and innovative water supply augmentation strategies to reduce pressure on the aquifer as a drinking water source. Confirmed keynote speakers include Carlos Rubenstein, Chairman of the Texas Water Development Board, and Dr. Bob Patterson, coordinator for community and regional planning at the University of Texas.

Notices are also being extended to representatives of the municipal and county governments and groundwater conservation districts that participated in the development of the 2005 Barton Springs Regional Water Quality Protection Plan (www.waterqualityplan.org). These biennial gatherings of policy makers are intended to further regional collaboration in the sustainable management of the Barton Springs Zone, and to remember the important contributions toward this goal that were made by Dr. Kent Butler before his untimely passing in 2011.

The Watershed Protection Department and Austin Water Utility are participants in the planning of the summit along with the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District, the Hill County Alliance and the Hill Country Conservancy. More information is available on the summit web page, and registration is now open: www.kentbutlersummit.com.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mike Personett, Assistant Director, Watershed Protection Department at 512-974-2652.

Attachment

cc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
Sue Edwards, Assistant City Manager
Robert Goode, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Greg Meszaros, Director, Austin Water Utility
Daryl Slusher, Assistant Director, Austin Water Utility