



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Urcha Dunbar-Crespo, Acting Purchasing Officer *umd*

**DATE:** October 23, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Walter E. Long Golf Course Development, RFQS TVN0102

The purpose of this memo is to forward correspondence from Whisper Valley and Indian Hills received by the Purchasing Office regarding item #23 on the October 23, 2014 Council agenda for the development of a golf course at the Walter E. Long Metropolitan Park. The attached letter was received by Warren Hayes from Decker Lake Golf, LLC and then forwarded to the Authorized Contact for the solicitation.

**Attachment:**

Whisper Valley and Indian Hills Letter

**Cc:** Elaine Hart, Chief Financial Officer  
Greg Canally, Deputy Chief Financial Officer  
Dale Glover, PARB  
Jane Rivera, PARB  
Jeff Francell, PARB

Dear Mayor Leffingwell and Honorable Members of the Austin City Council

Thank you for this opportunity to express my strong support for Mr. Warren Haye's Public Golf project at Walter Long Lake in East Austin. My name is Douglas Gilliland. I am the managing partner for two major projects that basically adjoin Mr. Haye's proposed golf courses. Our projects, Whisper Valley and Indian Hills are located directly to the east and south of the proposed golf courses. Combined they represent over 2,300 acres. Included in our land uses are approximately 9,000 residences and 4 million square feet of commercial/ Industrial and retail uses. The sites are located along FM 973 on both sides of SH 130.

We are excited to be developing quality communities in what Austin has labeled as their "Desired Development Zone". Our developments will offer a mixed use, village cluster theme which emphasizes environmental sensitivity with over 700 acres of open space and trails, yet remains very affordable with homes beginning in the mid 100's. Under our PUD zoning at Whisper Valley 10% of the homes will be classified under the city's affordable housing category.

Uses like the Walter Long Lake Public Golf Courses will do immeasurable good for families living in this important corridor of Austin's future. The variety of recreational activities that this proposed program will offer local families here add so much to their enjoyment and neighborhood pride. The quality of the project will attract additional services to the area, such as restaurants, shopping services and professional companies. This will create outstanding job opportunities for our residents as the economic development accelerates as well as decrease the distance they currently have to drive to reach these services.

Opportunities to create value and quality of life projects like this do not occur very often. The city of Austin has a once in a life time opportunity to create a civic anchor project that will brand this area of the city as outstanding. I hope you do not miss this chance. Please vote in favor of this proposal.

Respectfully



Douglas Gilliland

Managing Partner, Taurus of Texas Holdings for

Whisper Valley and Indian Hills