

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Kimberly A. McNeeley, M.Ed, CPRP, Director

Austin Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: October 6, 2021

SUBJECT: Initiation of Parks Burning Restriction for City Parkland

In accordance with established criteria, the Parks and Recreation Department (Department) has issued a Parks Burning Restriction effective October 11, 2021. Due to the recent lower rainfall levels and temperatures in the upper 80s, the following indicators meet the criteria for termination: KBDI (Keetch-Byram Drought Index) consistently above 400, Travis County daily forecast fire danger is in the moderate category and a weather forecast consistent with current conditions. The initiation of the Parks Burning Restriction is effective for all City of Austin parkland pursuant to Ordinance No. 20111020-025.

The Department is committed to protecting the city's parks and surrounding communities and will be reevaluating the wildfire risk on an ongoing basis. If conditions lessen and the threat of wildfire decreases, the Department will terminate the Parks Burning Restriction to be effective immediately at that time.

Should you have any questions, please contact my office at (512) 974-6717.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager

Anne Morgan, Interim Deputy City Manager

Stephanie Hayden-Howard, Assistant City Manager

Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager

Joel Baker, Chief, Austin Fire Department

Rob Vires, Assistant Chief, Austin Fire Department

Joseph Chacon, Chief, Austin Police Department

Greg Meszaros, Director, Austin Water Utility Department