

AGENDA



Thursday, August 19, 2010

**Parks and Recreation
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 13**

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of a one year Interlocal Agreement with The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, an organized research unit of the University of Texas at Austin, for the development of a citywide Invasive Plant Species Management Plan with one 12-month extension in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Alice Nance 327-8181; Margaret Russell, 327-8181; April Thedford, 974-6716

Prior Council Action: April 8, 2010 - Council approved a resolution directing staff to develop an Invasive Species Management Plan for the control and/or eradication of undesirable aquatic and terrestrial plant species on City-owned property.

The University of Texas at Austin Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center (LBJWC) is uniquely qualified to develop an Invasive Plant Species Management Plan that includes management strategies that address invasive plants on City of Austin public lands. LBJWC is an Organized Research Unit within the University of Texas at Austin. The LBJWC has extensive experience in consultation on large scale restoration projects, remediation of invasive terrestrial and aquatic plant species, cataloging exotic invasive and native Texas plant species and is a nationally recognized center for research and education.

The LBJWC will provide research and reporting services to establish the city's plan and approach to managing invasive plant species, which shall include, but is not limited to: review of existing plant control and management projects, creation of a three (3) year work plan with 10 year goals, identification of target species and control measures, a financial budget with phased implementation schedule, the development of response protocols and restoration standards, meeting coordination and stakeholder input management, and presentation to necessary Boards and Commissions, and City Council.

This project is anticipated to take approximately twelve (12) months and the LBJWC will work with City staff and the community to provide an Invasive Plant Species Management Plan to the City Council for review and approval in the fall of 2011.