

AGENDA

**Recommendation for Council Action****AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL****Regular Meeting: October 18, 2018**Item Number: **021****Planning and Zoning**

Authorize the execution of an agreement with Austin Parks Foundation for reimbursement of costs associated with constructing Great Streets streetscape improvements at 422 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas 78701 (The Republic Square Park Project) in an amount not to exceed \$214,000.

District(s) Affected: District 9

Lead Department	Planning and Zoning Department.
Fiscal Note	Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Capital Budget of the Planning and Zoning Department from Great Streets parking meter revenue.
For More Information	Humberto Rey 512-974-7288

Additional Backup Information:

The Great Streets MBE/WBE requirements have been met.

Background

The Great Streets Award Program ("Program") aids projects to address the high cost of streetscape improvements that go above and beyond the City's minimum standards to achieve high-quality environments. The Program establishes priorities and sets a maximum award based on criteria such as: location of development; proximity to transit; extends/leverages underground utility improvements or adjacent streetscape improvements associated with a

planned corridor, district or master plan; improves accessibility; and other policy priorities. If a development project, as measured by the Program, advances the City's policy priorities, financial investments may be available to offset the high cost of development in urban rights-of-way.

Project Description

The new Republic Square Park was a joint effort between the COA Parks Department and Austin Parks Foundation. By creating a successful urban park, and designing the streetscape along its three frontages to reinforce pedestrian connectivity, this project meets the Great Streets Master Plan goal of creating pedestrian-oriented active uses throughout downtown.