

City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-1624, Agenda Item #: 6.

5/9/2019

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20180911-001) to accept grant funds in the amount of \$200,000 from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Recreational Trails Grant; and amending the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Parks and Recreation Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20180911-001) to transfer in and appropriate \$200,000 from the Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund for the Slaughter Creek Greenbelt Equestrian Trail project.

Lead Department

Park and Recreation Department

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. A minimum 20% match is required by the grant, and funding for the grant match in the amount of \$50,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Parks and Recreation Department's Capital Budget. Fiscal notes are attached.

Prior Council Action:

On January 29, 2015, Council adopted Resolution No. 20150129-008 authorizing the City to submit the grant application to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Recreational Trails Grant in the amount of \$200,000 on consent on Council Member Kitchen's motion, Council Member Renteria's second on a 10-0 vote. Council Member Zimmerman abstained.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) awarded the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) the Recreational Trails Grant for Slaughter Creek Greenbelt Equestrian Trail in the amount of \$200,000 on January 16, 2018. The grant term ends on June 30, 2022.

The TPWD Recreational Trails Grant is administered under the approval of the Federal Highway Administration through the National Recreational Trails Fund. Funding for this program comes from a portion of federal gas taxes paid on fuel used in non-highway recreational vehicles. Funding can be used for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects, including the construction of new recreational trails, improvement of existing trails, development of trailheads or trailside facilities, and the acquisition of trail corridors.

The City will use its Recreational Trails Grant award for the Slaughter Creek Greenbelt Equestrian Trail for the following scope of work:

Construction of a 2.1-mile equestrian/multi-purpose trail connecting an existing equestrian/multi-purpose trail at Mary Moore Searight Metropolitan Park to newly acquired parkland along the Slaughter Creek Greenbelt. The trail will have a minimum 10-foot-wide tread, as recommended by the USDA Equestrian Design

Guidebook, and will have a vertical clearance of at least 10 feet and a horizontal clearance of 2-3 feet with a sight distance goal of 100 feet.

Trail alignment and design will preserve and protect, to the greatest extent possible, the surrounding ecosystem and will feature parking and staging areas; mounting blocks and mounting ramps; directional signage; kiosks; interpretive signage; corrals; bike racks; picnic facilities; water for horses; and hitching posts.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Parks and Recreation Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.