



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 21-2595, **Agenda Item #:** 53.

9/2/2021

### **Posting Language**

Conduct a public hearing to consider a resolution authorizing and directing the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department to act on the City's behalf and work with the National Park Service and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in connection with the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) program and to apply for an ORLP grant for up to \$3,125,000, to be matched by the City, to partially fund the cost of the Montopolis Pool Replacement project.

### **Lead Department**

Parks and Recreation Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of up to \$3,125,000 is available from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department to meet the City's matching requirement of \$3,125,000.

### **For More Information:**

Liana Kallivoka, Assistant Director, (512) 974-9455; Steven Linett, Capital Improvement Program Manager, (512) 974-9321; Sammi Curless, Business Process Specialist, (512) 974-6716.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) grant is a nationally competitive grant funded through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Its purpose is to leverage local funds and support to create new outdoor recreational opportunities targeting economically disadvantaged neighborhoods with an emphasis on projects having an economic benefit, particularly for short and long-term job creation. The program provides 50% matching grants (up to \$5,000,000) on a reimbursement basis to eligible applicants. The City is requesting a grant award of \$3,125,000.

The ORLP grant will cover 50% of the expected project costs of the Montopolis Pool Replacement project. The Austin Aquatics Master Plan, approved by City Council in 2018, recommended that the existing pool be upgraded to a community pool through a full renovation. Characteristics of a community pool could include a lap lane pool, zero entry activity pool (tot pool), water slide, diving board, gender-neutral bathhouse, family restrooms, deck space, training/party room and office space. The specific amenities and characteristics of the pool will be developed with community engagement throughout the design process. The City will provide its grant match through 2018 General Obligation Bond Proposition C funding.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) grant application guidelines require the Parks and Recreation Department (Department) to obtain City Council authorization to apply to the ORLP program for up to \$3,125,000 in grant funding for the Montopolis Pool Replacement project.

The guidelines further require the City to hold a public hearing in compliance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, including the opportunity for public comment, prior to submitting the application. At this hearing, the governing body must pass a resolution authorizing and directing the Department Director to act for the City in connection

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with the ORLP program and to submit an application to TPWD.

This Resolution is being posted on the Council's non-consent agenda to ensure the hearing and the opportunity for public comment. As required by TPWD, the Department submitted a pre-application by August 1, 2021. If the project is chosen to be forwarded to the NPS for consideration, the deadline for the Department to submit the full application is September 24, 2021.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Health and Environment.