



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-1372, **Agenda Item #:** 64.

3/24/2022

Posting Language

Conduct a public hearing in accordance with Texas Parks and Wildlife Code Chapter 26 to consider a resolution authorizing a change in use of dedicated parkland, known as Holly Shores/Edward Rendon Sr. Metro Park at Festival Beach and Peace Point at Lady Bird Lake Metro Park, to allow Austin Energy to construct, install, use, maintain, and repair approximately 10,791 square feet of permanent subterranean electric duct bank and an additional approximately 59,885 square feet of temporary use area, in order to replace an aging electric cable across Lady Bird Lake (Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX).

Lead Department

Parks and Recreation Department, Office of Real Estate Services.

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

Council to set the Public Hearing on February 17, 2022.

For More Information:

Lead Department - Parks and Recreation Department, Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager, (512) 974-9452; Gregory Montes, Program Manager, (512) 974-9458; Tim Dombeck, Business Process Specialist, (512) 974-6716

Lead Department - Office of Real Estate Services, Michael Gates, Interim Officer, (512) 974-5639

Sponsoring Department - Austin Energy, Andrew Halm, Planning Officer, (512) 505-7733.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

Recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board on January 25, 2022.

Additional Backup Information:

Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code provides that the use of parkland for non-park purposes may be approved upon findings that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the parkland and that all reasonable planning has been undertaken to minimize harm to such land.

AE proposes to install, via boring, a new electric duct bank under Lady Bird Lake that will increase the reliability and capacity of the overall electric system. Approximately 1,225 linear feet of new duct bank is proposed to run under parkland on the north side of Lady Bird Lake and under the right of way of Lakeshore Boulevard on the south side of the lake. The existing electric duct bank crossing the lake is more than thirty years old and nearing the end of its useful lifespan. This major distribution project is a critical improvement to add capacity for future commercial and residential development, as well as to continue providing reliable service to approximately 5,500 existing Austin Energy customers.

There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the parkland and all reasonable steps will be taken to minimize harm to such land. The dates of public notification in the Austin American-Statesman were

February 27, March 6, and March 13, 2022.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment, Government that Works for All.