




## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**THRU:** Christopher Shorter, Assistant City Manager

**FROM:** Kimberly McNeeley, CPRP, Director  
Austin Parks and Recreation Department 

**DATE:** September 29, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Resolution No. 20200220-046 – Zilker Park Family Amusement Train Vendor

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With the adoption of Resolution No. 20200220-046 on February 20, 2020 the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) and the Austin Parks Foundation (APF) have diligently worked to re-establish operation of a family train to Zilker Park. While the impact of COVID-19 has presented some challenges, APF has identified a vendor to provide an ADA accessible and all electric engine train; engaged an engineering firm to assess the train bridge under the Barton Springs Road bridge; evaluated the depot for improvements and continued fundraising efforts. Recently, APF opened a community contest to name the new train. The contest closed on September 21<sup>st</sup> and the next round of voting for the new name will open to the public on September 30<sup>th</sup>. APF has raised no less than \$55,000 to repair the tracks and has a fundraising goal of \$525,000.

A draft agreement between the City and APF is currently under review by the Law Department. A new deadline of December 31, 2020 should provide time for the Law Department to complete its review and for City Council authorization to negotiate and execute the agreement with APF.

Should you have any questions, please contact my office at (512) 974-6717.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager  
Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Deputy City Manager