

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Department receives numerous requests for approval of boat docks, shoreline modifications and the placement of navigational buoys in the Colorado River,

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Department has no development permitting, inspection, code compliance or law enforcement authority, no longer employs its own police force and has no resources available to conduct those operations,

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Department has no resources for the procurement, deployment, maintenance or replacement of navigational buoys or maintenance of the river in general,

Whereas all the Land Development Code sections providing authority to the Parks and Recreation Department and Parks and Recreation Board deal with land use, drainage and environmental regulations that pertain to development of private property and whose impacts also affect the health, safety and welfare of the public,

Whereas PARD has limited or no resources available to conduct those operations,

Whereas Planning and Development Review Department already is responsible for all other development permitting, inspection and liaises with boards and commissions whose focus is on land use, drainage and environmental oversight,

Whereas the Planning and Development Review Department has the ability to charge fees in order to recoup the cost of administration, review and public hearings and notification,

Be it resolved that the Parks and Recreation Department/Board that some or all of these responsibilities be shifted to other departments, boards and commissions. The Parks and Recreation Department would like to discuss possible code amendments for an updated process and to outline new responsibilities.

Be it further resolved that City code is amended to shift overall regulatory authority over waterway access and use should be conducted with the Austin Police Department and the other departments or staff referenced above. The aim should be to shift responsibility to the department(s) that have the above referenced authority.