



**Parks and Recreation Board
Director's Report Updates July 23, 2013**

MOC Kayaks/East Side Tubes located at 4701 Red Bluff Rd Austin, TX 78702 – Unregulated Use of Colorado River:

- Parks and Recreation Department Assistant Director Cora Wright, Contract Compliance Manager Beverly Mendez and Austin Police Department Officer Brian Robinson conducted a site visit Thursday July 27, 2013. The site visit consisted of an interview with the owner, visual inspection of the facility, and the trail and put-in point. The team also visited the take out point located at US 183/Montopolis Bridge.
- Parks and Recreation Department Assistant Director Jesse Vargas, Acting Assistant Director Jason Maurer and Contract Administrator Kirk Scanlon met with Daniel Llanes, Chris Brown of the PODER neighborhood association and Parks and Recreation Board member Susana Almanza on July 11, 2013. The meeting was held to discuss the recreational use of the Colorado River between Longhorn Dam and US 183/Montopolis Bridge by citizens floating in inner tubes rented at East Side Tubes located at 4701 Red Bluff Rd Austin, TX 78702.
- The citizens presented to staff photographic and anecdotal evidence of activities resulting from or compounded by East Side Tubes' commercial activity. These activities are contrary to the citizens' desired vision for the adjacent neighborhood, parkland, and stretch of the river. Specific activities include public consumption of alcohol, loud music, litter, fires, traffic congestion and overflow parking. They contend that these activities pose a risk to public safety, adversely affect the flora and fauna, disrupt neighborhood peace and order, and -- when occurring on the south shore of the river on Roy G. Guerrero Park – violate park rules.
- Staff is consulting with the City of Austin's legal department to determine what regulatory authority the City may have regarding current business use and related activities on the Colorado River.
- Next Steps are dependent upon the finding of the City of Austin Legal Department.

Colorado River erosion along Roy G. Guerrero Park from Pleasant Valley/Longhorn Bridge to Montopolis Bridge.

- Erosion along the Colorado River is a natural occurrence that is due primarily to the volume of water during heavy rains that causes stress to the banks of the river. This is a very costly

endeavor. However, some public works improvements, like better channelization of Country Club Creek, which drains a large portion of southeast Austin, will help reduce the acceleration of this erosion but will not stop it. PARD Staff can come back to the board with more detail presentation, with assistance from the Watershed Protection Department, on what options exist to help reduce this natural occurrence and help protect the bank.

Current Requirements for Parkland Dedication Fee verses superior standards for Municipal Utility District (MUD) and Planned Unit Developments (PUD):

- At the June 25, 2013 Parks Board Meeting PARD Planning Staff presented an Action Item associated with the Cascades MUD as well as an update on the Parkland Dedication Audit. Several Board Members asked questions about the disparity between the standards and wanted some additional background information. Included is a chart outlining the current Parkland Dedication requirements verses the superior standards used for MUDs and PUDs. PARD Staff would like to revisit the current Parkland Dedication fee and the superior standards for MUDs and PUDs. PARD Planning Staff will present these recommendations at the next Land & Facilities Committee Meeting in August 2013.

Contact Information: For more information contact Assistant Director Jesse Vargas at (512) 974-9457