

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council	Item ID	33167	Agenda Number	30.
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Meeting Date:	6/12/2014	Department:	Parks and Recreation
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**Subject**

Authorize negotiation and execution of a 15 year parkland improvement agreement between the City and Austin Parks Foundation for the development and management of Republic Square Park. Related to Item # 117.

**Amount and Source of Funding**

**Fiscal Note**

Purchasing Language:	
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Prior Council Action:	May 15, 2014 - Briefing to the City Council; February 21, 2012 - Council approved a Professional Service Agreement with Design Workshop LLC; December 17, 2009 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20091217-041, City of Austin & General Services Administration Federal Courthouse Master Agreement & Easement
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For More Information:	Marty Stump (512) 974-9460; April Shaw (512) 974-6716.
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Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board on a vote of 5-0.
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MBE / WBE:	
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Related Items:	
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**Additional Backup Information**

On December 28, 2009 the City of Austin developed and authorized the negotiation and execution of an agreement with United States General Services Administration (GSA) for the use of City property, San Antonio Right of Way (ROW) and in return for use of that property the City would receive \$1.2 million dollars (Ordinance No. 20091217-041). On August 30, 2010 the City successfully entered into a master agreement for use of the western half of the public right-of-way between 4th and 5th streets along San Antonio Street. The funds received from GSA as part of this agreement became the funding source that has provided for the master plan efforts and partial funding for the next phase of park redevelopment at Republic Square.

As a result of this funding opportunity, the square’s location and the surrounding downtown development currently impacting the area, PARD, in partnership with community stakeholders, initiated the master planning effort to develop a long range redevelopment plan for this historic square. As a response to increased user demand, including the popular weekly Sustainable Food Center ‘Farmers’ market and various annual events held on the square grounds, PARD recognizes the need for well-planned and significant infrastructure reinvestment in this parkland in order to maintain a viable, attractive and sustainable park in the downtown core. In consideration of these factors, PARD has engaged in the development of a Master Plan that reflects community values, cultural significance, environmental

leadership and regional pride. The full implementation of the master plan is anticipated to be a phased endeavor that will include partnering with the Austin Parks Foundation (with the Downtown Austin Alliance in a support role) for final design, construction and operations of the completed improvements. Under this proposed partnership agreement, the park will perform at a level consistent with best practices exhibited by great urban parks nationwide.

The PIA would also include the termination of the existing Professional Service Agreement (PSA) contract between the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Design Workshop for the development of the Republic Square Park Phase 2, Master Plan Development by Design Workshop LLC approved by City of Austin Contract Development Department on Feb. 21, 2012. This termination is agreeable to Design Workshop and will remain in good standing with the City of Austin.