

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	32643	Agenda Number	117.
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Meeting Date:	6/12/2014	Department:	Parks and Recreation
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Subject

Conduct a public hearing and consider the Republic Square Master Plan which covers an area bounded by San Antonio, 5th, Guadalupe and 4th streets. Related to Item # 30.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:	February 21, 2012 - Council approved a Professional Service Agreement for Design Workshop LLC; December 17, 2009 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20091217-041, City of Austin & General Services Administration Federal Courthouse Master Agreement & Easement.
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Marty Stump (512) 974-9460; April Shaw (512) 974-6716.
Boards and Commission Action:	February 26, 2013 - Recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board; January 16, 2013 - Briefing to Downtown Commission; December 19, 2012 - Briefing to Urban Forestry Board; December 17, 2012 - Briefing to Design Commission; December 5, 2012 - Briefing to Heritage Society of Austin; December 3, 2012 - Approved by Art in Public Places (AIPP); December 3, 2012 - Briefing to Certificate of Appropriateness.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

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 and the Downtown Austin Alliance 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 dates of public notification in the Austin American-Statesman will be for 3 consecutive weeks from May 23, 2014 until June 11, 2014. The public hearing shall be conducted on June 12, 2014 at 4:00 pm, Austin City Council Chambers, 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas.