



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries *BB*

DATE: August 12, 2014

SUBJECT: Council Resolution No. 20140417-058 (CIUR 1285)

On April 17, 2014, the Austin City Council passed Resolution No. 20140417-058 directing the City Manager to conduct a parking occupancy study of the parking lot serving the Terrazas Branch Library, and should any excess capacity be found, explore how those extra parking spaces might be made available to the public at large or nearby businesses through either parking meters or individual leases with these businesses. The City Manager was further directed to create and distribute a request for information (RFI) regarding possibilities for redevelopment of the Terrazas Branch Library parking lot.

The Austin Public Library performed a parking occupancy study at the Terrazas Branch Library from April 15, 2014 through June 4, 2014. With the exception of the occasional evening meeting filling the fifty (50) space parking lot with vehicles of library customers, it was determined that the Terrazas Branch Library utilizes less than half of its parking spaces on an average, hourly basis. While the parking lot occupancy study was being conducted, Capital Metro held two (2) Open Houses in the Terrazas Branch Library meeting room to discuss development plans for Saltillo Plaza, and the vehicles of the attendees filled the parking lot and took up much of the neighborhood's street parking capacity. Heavily-attended events such as these tend to occur at the Terrazas Branch Library twice per month on a regular basis. During the annual Cesar Chavez March held each March 31st, the Terrazas Branch Library parking lot is filled to capacity all day with the vehicles of those citizens marching to commemorate the birthday, life and accomplishments of Cesar Chavez.

The Austin Public Library is now in discussion with the Austin Transportation Department regarding the feasibility of having parking meters provided for half of the parking spaces in the Terrazas Branch Library parking lot. Within the next thirty days, the Austin Public Library will issue a request for information (RFI) to garner ideas for the redevelopment of the Terrazas Branch Library parking lot from the community, including the East Cesar Chavez neighborhood, the affordable housing development community, the development community at large, as well as other interested stakeholders. The RFI will include provision for the Terrazas Branch Library's future expansion needs, parking for the public at large and affordable housing. The results of this RFI

process and an outline of recommended next steps will be reported to Council no later than October 15, 2014.

If you should have any questions in these regards, please do not hesitate to contact me at 512-974-7444.

XC: Marc Ott, City Manager

Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager

· Rob Spillar, Director, Austin Transportation

Betsy Spencer, Director, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development
