

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	36760	Agenda Number	23.
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Meeting Date:	10/16/2014	Department:	Austin Fire Department
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Subject

Approve adoption of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan created by the Austin/Travis County Joint Wildfire Task Force.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	March 7, 2013- Council approved an interlocal agreement with Travis County to provide joint funding for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
For More Information:	Rhoda Mae Kerr, Fire Chief; 512-974-0130 and Jim Lindardos, Assistant Director; 512-974-4104
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The Austin/Travis County Joint Wildfire Task Force has created a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) that will better define the risks and the values at stake throughout the region. The CWPP was designed to become an umbrella document that would be repeatable in smaller scale for communities that desire to implement their own plan. The stakeholder involvement included three categories: Community, Expert, and Wildfire Prevention Stakeholders. We scheduled fifteen meetings in five different areas of the City and County for the community stakeholders with an additional on-line survey. Expert stakeholders included fire suppression, environment/land management, local government, Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, and law enforcement. The Joint Wildfire Taskforce provided the mix of professionals that developed the sets of community values to reduce the wildfire risk to the City and County (see pages 14-17 of the Wildfire Protection Plan). This non-regulatory plan also considers sensitive environments (protected species, water quality and forest health conditions) and recommends a coordinated fuel reduction plan with robust public education.

It is the desire of the Joint Wildfire Task Force that agencies who manage land in the Austin/Travis County area use this plan to assist in development of department wildfire mitigation plans.

This comprehensive plan will assure Austin/Travis County take the needed steps to reduce wildfires in our community.