

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action (Real Estate)**

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|---------------------|----------|-------|---------------|-----|
| Austin City Council | Item ID: | 38191 | Agenda Number | 56. |
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| Meeting Date: | December 11, 2014 |
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| Department: | Office of Real Estate Services |
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**Subject**

Authorize the negotiation and execution of all documents or instruments necessary or desirable to purchase in fee simple Lot 8, Denson Elmer Subdivision, Section 2, Travis County, Texas, locally known as 403 West St. Johns Street, from Ben S. and Calixto J. Cobos in an amount not to exceed \$289,000.

**Amount and Source of Funding**

Funding is available in the 2014-2015 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

**Fiscal Note**

A fiscal note is attached.

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| Purchasing Language: |  |
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| Prior Council Action: | September 26, 2013 - Council approved Resolution No. 20130926-077, directing the City Manager to hold a community meeting to solicit suggestions and ideas with options for the future use of the tract located at 401 West St. Johns Avenue, including reconfiguring the site to allow public park use, a storm water pond and continued youth sports activities.<br>November 19, 2009 - Council approved Resolution No. 20091119-068, directing the City Manager to adopt policy goals for urban parks, with one goal being that all residents living in the urban core will live within 1/4-mile walking distance of a publicly-accessible and child-friendly park or green space. |
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| For More Information: | Ricardo Soliz, Parks and Recreation Department, (512) 974-9452; Randy Scott, Parks and Recreation Department, (512) 974-9484; Junie Plummer, Office of Real Estate Services, (512) 974-7085; Lauraine Rizer, Office of Real Estate Services, (512) 974-7078; Amanda Glasscock, Office of Real Estate Services, (512) 974-7173. |
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| Boards and Commission Action: |  |
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| <b>MBE / WBE:</b> |  |
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| <b>Related Items:</b> |  |
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**Additional Backup Information**

In 2009, Council passed Resolution No. 20091119-068 with a goal that all residents living in the urban core will live within ¼-mile walking distance of a publicly-accessible park. This goal was later adopted in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan. Furthermore, Council directed the City Manager, per Resolution No. 20130926-077, to hold a community meeting to solicit suggestions and ideas on future use of the 401 West St. Johns to property owned by the City, with questions including reconfiguration of the site to allow public park use, a storm water pond, and continued youth sports activities. One of the challenges of the 401 West St. John's site is visibility and access to West St. Johns Avenue. The existing City of Austin property has a narrow entry point and poor visibility to West St. Johns Avenue. This proposed acquisition would widen the access point to the property, alleviating these challenges.

The Parks and Recreation Department will fund this proposed acquisition through parkland dedication funds.