

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	43614	Agenda Number	17.
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Meeting Date:	4/23/2015	Department:	Parks and Recreation
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Subject

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20140908-001) to accept and appropriate \$15,000 in grant funds from the National Recreation and Park Association for turf and irrigation improvements for the baseball fields at Givens District Park.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$15,000 is available from the National Recreation and Park Association. The Parks and Recreation Department will provide \$5,000 in matching funds from their FY 2014-2015 Operating Budget.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Marty Stump (512) 974-9460; Angela Means (512) 974-6712; April Shaw (512) 974-6716.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The National Recreation and Park Association has granted the Austin Parks and Recreation Department a total of \$65,000 in funding for the purpose of increasing healthy lifestyle through programs and built environment. Fifteen Thousand dollars (\$15,000) has been allocated specifically for ball field improvements.

Givens Recreation Center has two fields that were originally built for softball and baseball. Sports leagues utilized the fields until 2005. Since then, the field maintenance and conditions have deteriorated and the fields have been used only for organized practices. Givens Recreation Center currently offers several sports focused programs; however, these programs and other activities are limited due to the current state of the fields.

During the past two years, the Parks and Recreation Department has begun using one-time funding to repair various aspects of the fields in hopes of returning youth and adult programming to the site. In addition to the working lighting and foul ball netting that was already in place at the site, new fencing has been erected, dugout renovations have been completed, new bleachers installed, and new foul poles purchased. In addition to those improvements, the

Parks and Recreation Department is moving forward with the purchase and installation of a wind screen, dugout benches, and a fence topper. The infield is being converted from grass to a dirt infield. These improvements are designed to convert the field into a playable field for girls fast pitch softball, 12 and under baseball, and when not used by youth, adult kickball leagues.

The Department lacks funding for the irrigation and turfgrass restoration of the field. This grant will fulfill this funding need. Without irrigation, the fields at Givens have been reduced to a practice level condition. This grant funding will be used to purchase irrigation supplies for the field at Givens. This purchase will allow the Department to add one field to our recreation center inventory that can be used to program youth sports and even some adult sports, when youth are not utilizing the space, specifically for the surrounding community.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Park and Recreation Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.