

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	45428	Agenda Number	22.
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Meeting Date:	6/4/2015	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 \$37,031 in grant funds from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for the Growing Outdoor Leaders program.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$37,031 is available from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. A City match is not required.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	January 29, 2015 - Council passed Resolution No. 20150129-007 authorizing this grant application.
For More Information:	Pat Fuller 512-978-2601; Angela Means 512-974-6712; April Shaw 512-974-6716.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The main goal of Growing Outdoor Leaders is to support the development of natural leaders who provide diversity to the field, in order to increase the diversity of folks coming forward for these experiences. We hope to do this by creating a community nucleus in the diverse neighborhoods after overcoming cultural barriers to unplug teens and "Get them off line and on belay."

To this end we plan to:

- Stitch together teen experiences in Austin Parks and Recreation programs to make a vertical progression while adding leadership skill building.
- Focus on low income and culturally diverse centers for providing the Growing Outdoor Leaders program enrichment.

- Engage the teen population in stacking experiences to complete strands for a deeper involvement and attachment to specific outdoor interests.
- Bring teens from diverse backgrounds together with service projects and team building challenges to enrich the experiences and promote a cohesive cadre of future leaders.
- Increase career opportunities in the Green field for our older teens through certifications, leadership training, and recruiting for conservation corp.

At the end of the grant program in 2016, we will:

- Increase capacity of staff to provide certifications by completing the national climbing certification, archery certification, and kayaking certification.
- Certify additional staff to provide the water safety training, CPR and first aid.
- Increase capacity of the Austin Parks and Recreation to offer adaptive high adventure experiences through certification training and with the addition of adaptive equipment, while modeling to future outdoor leaders in this skill set.
- Take outdoor program activities weekly to Austin Parks and Recreation teen clubs in the summer of 2015, focusing on those areas with high diversity and low income.
- Certify 30 teens in first aid, CPR, and Basic Water Safety by May 2016.
- Train 40 teens in adapting adventure programs for participants with different abilities by March 2016.
- Connect Park Ranger Cadets with McBeth participants, Camacho instructors, Inclusion trainers, TPWD leaders, and Austin Nature & Science Center biologists and programmers for future career focus during the 2015/2016 school year.

Expenses covered by the grant include camp outs, camping equipment, cycling and climbing equipment, flotation devices, backpacks and first aid kits, high level certifications of staff so they can certify the young leaders, and a part time temporary employee to provide training in Youth in Leadership and Learning, set the schedules, and track accomplishments.

Choices of activities for each of the teen programs we will be working with are divided into two sets; basic content for all participants, and targeted content in five strands. Each of the teens will be offered two or more of these: Positive Peer Influence, Leadership through YELL, Team building Challenge, Guided Hikes, or Leave No Trace certification. And each teen can work towards strand completions in these content areas: Conservation (Wildlife Habitat, Project WILD, service project), Adaptation/Inclusion (archery, kayaking, biking), Outdoor Adventure (kayaking, climbing, fishing), Creative Outdoors (nature photography, outdoor cooking, gardening), and Bridging Up (certifications in first aid/CPR and Water Safety, job skills, career choices). This programming is expected to reach a minimum of 260 teens engaged in activities, with 100 teens completing strands of study, and the emergence of 12 to 24 teens with this field as a career choice.

The program funded by the grant will go to all centers that sponsor teen programs. These include Camacho Activity Center, Ditmar Recreation Center, Dove Springs Recreation Center, South Austin Recreation Center, Pan Am Recreation Center, Zaragoza Recreation Center, Givens Recreation Center, Dolores/Rosewood Recreation Center, Turner Roberts Recreation Center, Dottie Jordan Recreation Center, Gus Garcia Recreation Center, Northwest Recreation Center, Hancock Recreation Center, Dougherty Arts Center, Mexican American Cultural Center and Carver Cultural Center and Austin Nature & Science Center.

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.