

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	53172	Agenda Number	31.
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Meeting Date:	12/17/2015	Department:	Parks and Recreation
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## Subject

Authorize execution of an interlocal agreement with Purdue University for the rental of the traveling exhibit, Bee-lieve it or Not! The Secret Lives of Honey Bees, to be placed at the Austin Nature & Science Center's Visitor Pavilion from January 16, 2016 until May 8, 2016.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

## Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Kimberly McNeeley (512) 974-6722, Cheryl Bolin (512) 974-9459, Margaret Russell (512) 974-3867.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	December 8, 2015 – To be considered by the Parks and Recreation Board.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

## Additional Backup Information

The Austin Nature & Science Center has provided educational opportunities to visitors for over 50 years to learn about the natural world in their backyards. Permanent exhibits include live animal displays, DinoPit, Nature of Austin, and the Naturalist Workshop. Traveling exhibits recently hosted, which were well received, include *Robot Zoo*, *Conservation Quest*, and *View from Space*.

*Bee-lieve it or Not! The Secret Lives of Honey Bees* is a traveling exhibit sponsored by Purdue University. This exhibit teaches the importance of our pollinators, specifically the honey bees. The exhibit includes opportunities to:

- Learn what makes a honey bee a honey bee.
- Discover why pollination is important.
- Read about the threats to honey bees.
- Play a video game and learn who is a pollinator.
- Uncover the differences between bees and wasps.

The Austin Nature & Science Center approached Purdue University regarding their traveling exhibits and obtained specifications associated with the *Bee-lieve it or Not! The Secret Lives of Honey* exhibit size, text and layout. Purdue University offered the City a reduction of \$1,000 in transportation costs since Purdue staff will be traveling to Texas at that time and can provide transportation of the exhibit components at no cost.

This exhibit is consistent with current Austin Nature and Science Center environmental education content and will be placed near the much loved observation bee hive in the Austin Nature & Science Center. The *Bee-lieve it or Not! The Secret Lives of Honey Bees* will complement the existing

- Observation bee hive (a 15 year permanent educational element)
- Pollinator gardens
- Monarch Way Stations inform

The *Bee-lieve it or Not! The Secret Lives of Honey Bees* exhibit will be incorporated into programming with school science field trips and family events.

Because this contract is an interlocal agreement, the Austin City Council, as the governing body, must approve the execution of the agreement.