

Director's Report

May 24, 2016

General Updates

Palm Park

The Waller Creek Conservancy conducted three public meetings last week on May 19th and 21st to solicit input on the redevelopment plans for Palm Park. This park is contiguous with the Waller Creek Greenbelt and will be undergoing a renovation phase sponsored jointly by the Waller Creek Conservancy and the City of Austin under the Joint Development Agreement. These meetings were intended to generate ideas and feedback regarding the programming elements to be considered by the team through the design phase. Waller Creek Conservancy, the design team, and the City of Austin will be presenting the results of the Schematic Design back to the community at the end of the summer to show how this feedback was incorporated into the proposed design.

Swim Season

On May 19th, the City Council passed a request for additional funding to provide a competitive/equitable wage for lifeguards. The Department received a slight uptick in applicants since the May 19th decision and is hopeful this pay increase will be incentive for potential lifeguards to work for the Department. Despite what the recent news reports inaccurately reported, the Department intends to open all pools as scheduled- provided adequate staffing is available.

Municipal pools (Garrison, Mabel Davis and Walnut Creek Pool) are scheduled to open Memorial Day Weekend. The advertised opening of neighborhood pools includes a staggered opening/closing schedule and begins the weekend of June 3rd. The Department intends to open these pools as scheduled, assuming we have enough lifeguards to open safely.

Northwest pool had a delayed opening but has been open as scheduled this week. Springwoods Pool was temporarily closed, because there weren't not adequate lifeguards to safely open the pool. Barton Springs has been closed due to flooding and will open as soon as water clarity/quality is safe for swimmers.

Upcoming Events

May 25 – 6:30 pm - Gia Biaggi Lecture

Carver – refer to the flyer

June 2 - 6:30 pm - George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center Community Engagement

<http://www.austintexas.gov/event/community-forum-george-washington-carver-museum-and-cultural-center>

June 4 - Beverly S Sheffield Northwest Municipal Pool Ribbon Cutting

In partnership with District 7 City Council Member Leslie Pool, PARD celebrates the re-opening of the Northwest District Park swimming pool at a ribbon cutting event scheduled for 12:00 noon on Saturday June 4th. This project, which included the replacement of the concrete deck, pool coping and plumbing lines, was accomplished through the efforts of PARD's in-house construction, operations and maintenance staff with \$350k funding provided through the FY2016 budget. The project team was successful in completing the improvements according to an ambitious schedule that required the work to be completed between swim seasons.

June 7 - 6:30 pm - Shipe Pool Renovations Open House- The Griffin School Auditorium, 5001 Evans Ave

June 13 – August 15 - Summer Playground Program

Locations include: Oak View Park, Walnut Creek Park, Quail Creek Park, Davis White Park, Ramsey Park, Bartholomew Park, Chestnut Park and Zilker Elementary Park

<http://austintexas.gov/department/summer-playground-program>

June 13 – August 19 - Summer Camp Programs

1229 youth participants representing 570 households have applied for and received financial aid; 46 youth participants representing 29 households have received the Scott Johnson Scholarship

<http://austintexas.gov/department/summer-camps-0>