

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council		Item ID	58533	Agenda Number	28.
Meeting Date:	6/9/2016			Department:	Parks and Recreation
Subject					
Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20150908-001) to accept grant funds in the amount of \$20,000; and amending the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Parks and Recreation Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No.20150908-002) to transfer in and appropriate \$20,000 from the Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund to install a new climbing wall at the Austin Nature and Science Center.					
Amount and Source of Funding					
Funding in the amount of \$20,000 is available from the National Recreation and Park Association. A City funding match is not required.					
Fiscal Note					
Fiscal notes are attached detailing the acceptance of \$20,000 in grant funding and the transfer of those funds to the Parks and Recreation Department's Capital Budget.					
Purchasing Language:					
Prior Council Action:					
For More Information:	Marty Stump, (512) 974-9460; Angela Means, (512) 974-6712; April Thedford, (512) 974-9408				
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:					
MBE / WBE:					
Related Items:					

Additional Backup Information

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has sponsored the Parks Build Community Program grant in partnership with Disney, ABC, and ESPN. Grants made available through this program are intended to improve local parks through projects that connect kids and nature, help kids and families live healthier, and increase access to sports. PARD submitted three projects for consideration and voted on by the local community, with the winning project being "Climbing to New Heights" at the Austin Nature and Science Center (ANSC).

The ANSC currently leads rock climbing excursions for approximately 200 9-18 year olds a year. There is a strong desire to expand this program to reach both family groups and younger participants. Climbing to New Heights will construct a climbing structure at ANSC to be used as an introductory climb for younger participants and provide accessing to climbing for family groups. As there is no reservation system for natural climb routes, ANSC must currently hike into the natural climbing areas and set up climbs before 7am in order to save that climb route for

participants, which can be a challenge to do on weekends when private individuals and other groups are wishing to climb.

The award of this grant from NRPA will provide the necessary funding to install the new climbing wall, expanding program opportunities for ANSC. The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Parks and Recreation Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.