



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MOTION FORM 20160615 007c

Date: June 15, 2016

Subject: Watershed Protection Department's FY17 Budget

Motion by: Commissioner Erin Gooch

Seconded by: Commissioner Mary Ann Neely

RATIONALE:

Whereas, the Watershed Protection Department provides valuable services to the City of Austin; and

Whereas, the Watershed Protection Department has not added a maintenance crew in over ten years with the exception of the Waller Creek project; and

Whereas, the increase in significant flood events in recent years has affected the ability of Watershed Protection Department staff to remain proactive in addressing issues; and

Whereas, the new Drainage Utility Fee program requires an increase in staff time and resources to appropriately manage; and

Whereas, the Flood Mitigation Task Force's final report recommends funding drainage CIP projects through a 2016 bond; and

Whereas, the Watershed Protection Department FY17 budget addresses a demonstrated need for additional resources by including 35 new full time staff to continue to provide valuable services related to flooding, erosion and water quality.

Therefore, the Environmental Commission recommends approval of the Watershed Protection Department's FY17 budget and consideration of a bond specifically to address funding for drainage infrastructure per the Flood Mitigation Task Force's final report recommendations.

VOTE 8-2-1

Recuse: None

For: Gooch, Maceo, Perales, Neely, Guerrero, Thompson, B. Smith, Creel

Against: None

Abstain: Moya, Grayum

Absent: H. Smith

Approved By:

Marisa Perales, Environmental Commission Chair