

**DESTINATION PARKS AND GREENWAYS
ACQUISITION STATUS REPORT
MAY, 2000**

Appropriations:

FY 1999 - \$ 1,000,000

FY 2000 - \$ 8,060,000

Total:

\$ 9,060,000

Acquisitions to Date:

S.E. Sowash 74 ac. \$ 522,319

S.E. Ross 227 ac. \$ 2,000,000

E. Youngquist 85 ac. \$ 470,000

N.E. Moehnke/Davidson 68 ac. \$ 700,000

Grn. Bailey/Wilson 42 ac. \$ 225,000

Total: 496 acres (ave. \$ 7,898/ac.)

\$ 3,917,319

Balance Available:

\$ 5,142,681

Acquisitions Currently Under Negotiation:

Southeast Destination Park 365 acres \$ 5,000,000

East Destination Park 315 acres \$ 2,000,000

Northeast Destination Park 265 acres \$ 3,000,000

Greenbelts 475 acres \$ 3,000,000

Total 1,420 acres (ave, \$9,155/ac.)



MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Board

From: Jesus M. Olivares, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

Date: May 23, 2000

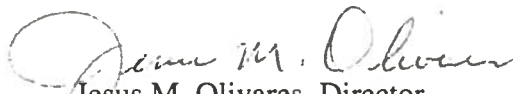
Subject: Construction of Levin Boat dock at 4512 Island Cove.
File No. SP-00-2134DS.

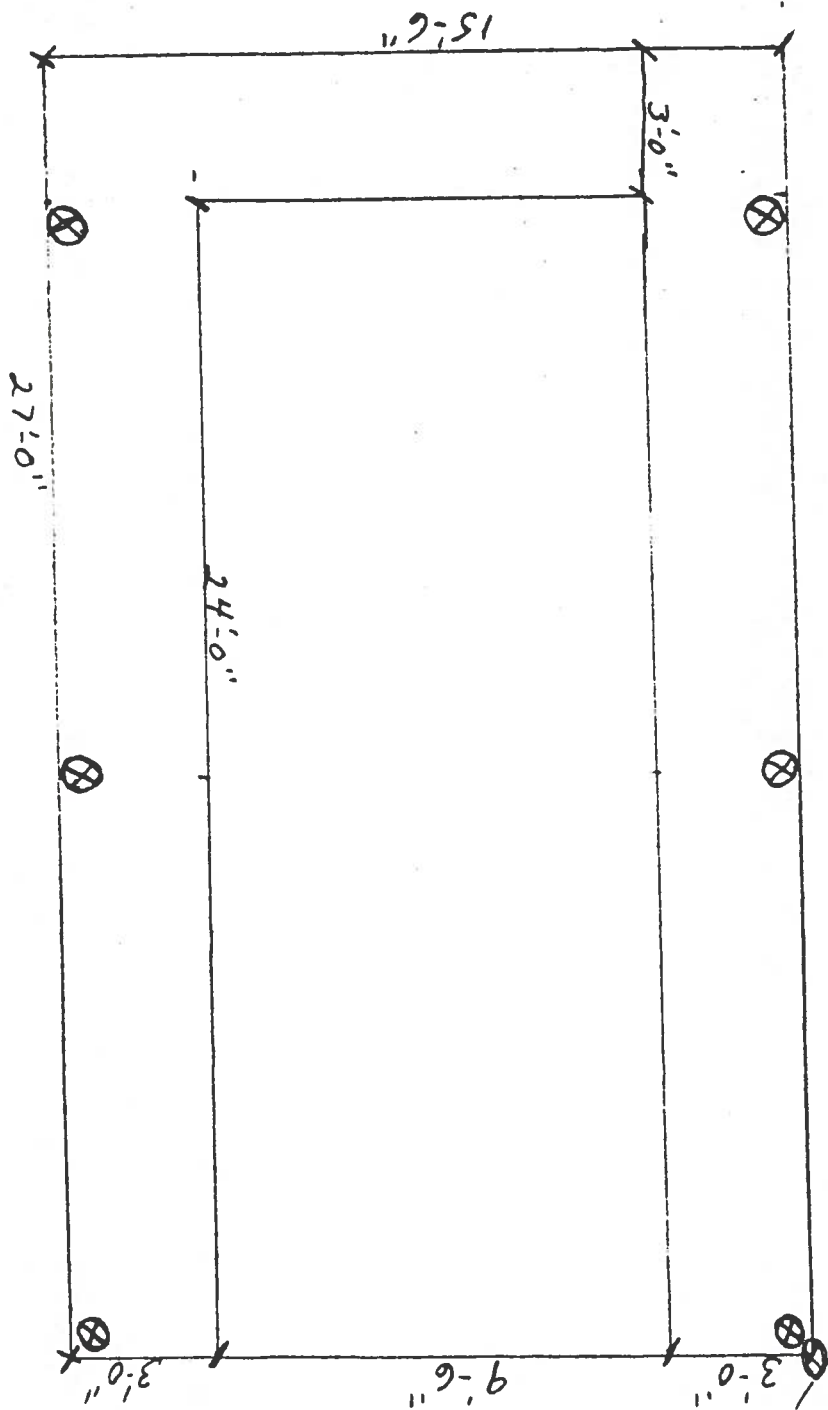
A request has been received from Signor Enterprises on behalf of Rob Levin to construct a boat dock at 4512 Island Cove.

The Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) staff has reviewed plans for the proposed project and finds they meet the requirements of Article XIII, Section 25-2-1176, (Regulations for the Construction of Boat Docks) of the Land Development Code.

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend approval of the above request as detailed in the attached site plan.


Jesus M. Olivares, Director
Parks and Recreation Department





MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Board

From: Jesus M. Olivares, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

Date: May 23, 2000

Subject: Construction of Schimsk Boat dock at 2611 Westlake Dr.
File No. SP-00-2137DS.

A request has been received from Signor Enterprises on behalf of David Schimsk to construct a boat dock at 2611 Westlake Dr.

The Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) staff has reviewed plans for the proposed project and finds they meet the requirements of Article XIII, Section 25-2-1176, (Regulations for the Construction of Boat Docks) of the Land Development Code.

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend approval of the above request as detailed in the attached site plan.

Jesus M. Olivares, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

NOTE: EACH TWO-BULB NAVIGATION LIGHT STATION WILL NOT EXCEED A MAXIMUM OF 25 WATTS FOR BOTH BULBS

PROPERTY LINE

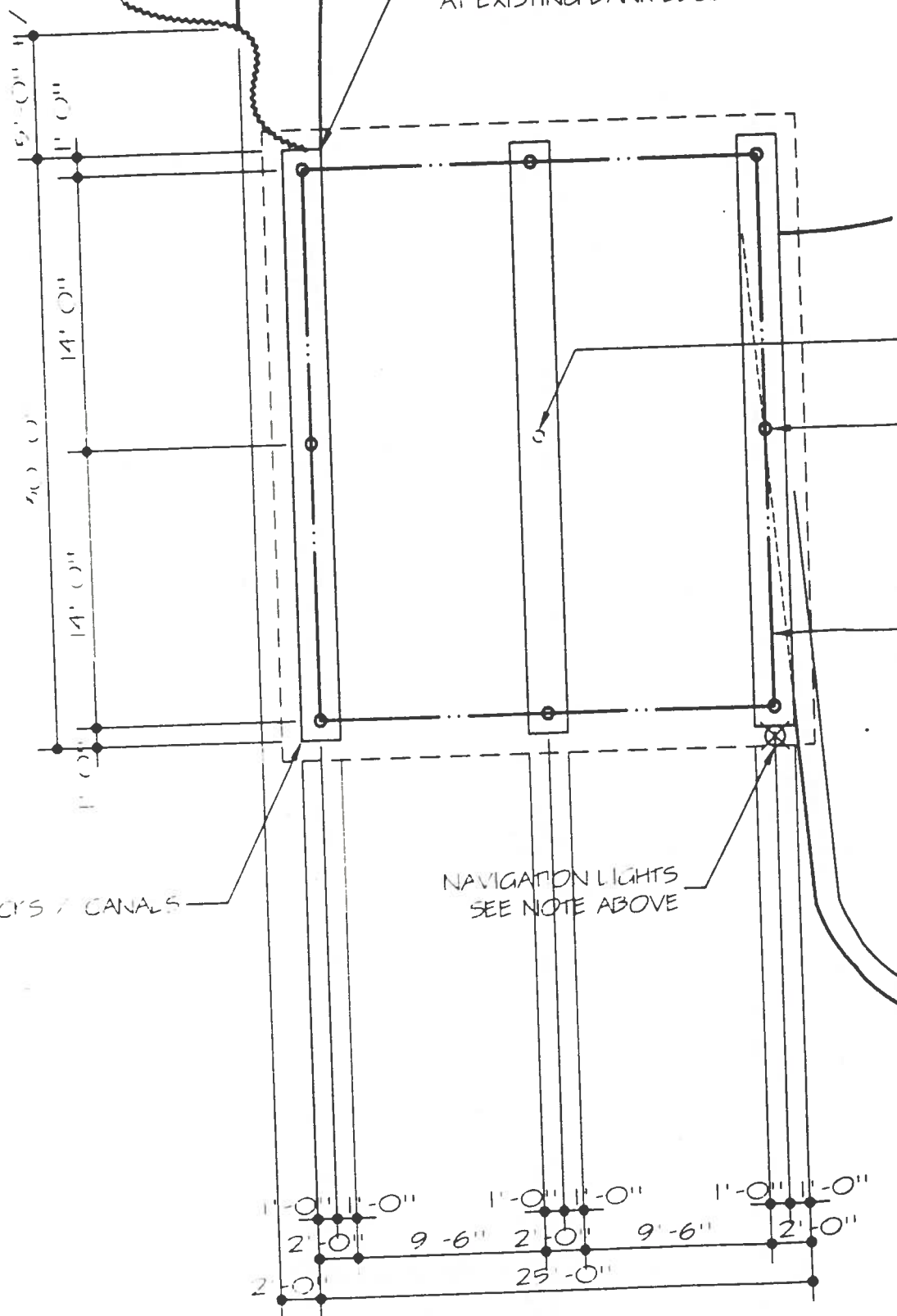
EXISTING ROCK BANK

EXISTING BANK AT LAGOON

SET THIS CORNER OF NEW DOCK AT EXISTING BANK EDGE

NEW DOCKS / CANALS

NAVIGATION LIGHTS
SEE NOTE ABOVE





MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Board

From: Jesus M. Olivares, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

Date: May 23, 2000

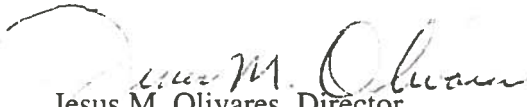
Subject: Construction of Dailey Boat dock at 3311 Westlake Dr.
File No. SP-00-2129DS.

A request has been received from Outland Construction on behalf of Dailey to construct a boat dock at 3311 Westlake Dr.

The Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) staff has reviewed plans for the proposed project and finds they meet the requirements of Article XIII, Section 25-2-1176, (Regulations for the Construction of Boat Docks) of the Land Development Code.

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend approval of the above request as detailed in the attached site plan.


Jesus M. Olivares, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

32' 8"

BOAT DOCK
30' FROM U

184

185

CON

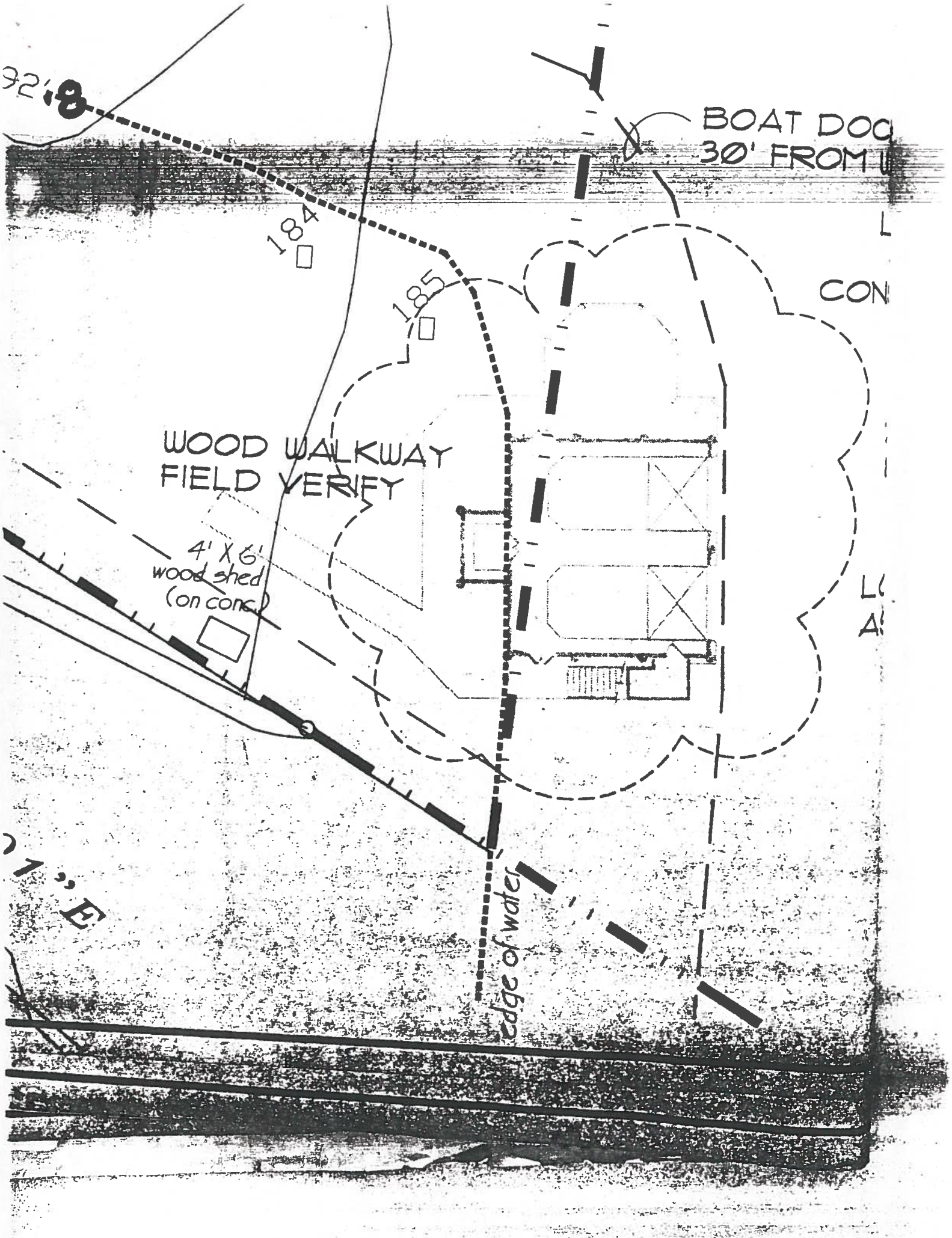
WOOD WALKWAY
FIELD VERIFY

4' X 6'
wood shed
(on conc)

LC
AS

edge of water

1' E



May 9, 2000

TO BOARD MEMBERS, FRIENDS OF THE O. HENRY MUSEUM
FROM VI MARIE TAYLOR

Attached is a copy of a letter I sent to Jesus Olivares, Director of the Austin Parks and Recreation Department summarizing the points which we discussed and upon which we found mutual agreement in a meeting on April 21, 2000, with Valerie Bennett and the following representatives of the Board in attendance: Ed Eakin, Clay Leben, and Vi Marie Taylor.

As noted in my letter, one of the recommendations made at the meeting was that we attempt to keep several different entities informed of the action we take to raise funds to improve the museum and its site on Brush Square. Before writing to these entities, I would like to have formal action from the whole board on the question of moving an old house to Brush square. In asking you to take this action, I want to expand on some of the points made in our meeting of April 21 and in my letter to Mr. Olivares.

Points discussed:

USE TO WHICH THE BUILDING WOULD BE PUT: It was pointed out that additional space is certainly needed at the museum site, a need which is being addressed by the capital funds campaign now being launched by the Friends and is a major concern of the architect's plan adopted by the City about eight years ago and recently reaffirmed in principal by the Friends. Under the plan, this small addition will fit into the Brush Square space without intruding visually into the greenspace which is so much a part of the city's and the area representatives' desire for the square. Because of consideration given this point in the already-developed plans, the open area would adjoin the house in such a way as to blend into the green area, be easily accessible from the present structure, and provide for outdoor activities and presentations. This addition would also provide meeting space, restrooms, and an office area. This usage would obviate the need for a separate structure and make any additional building on the half of the Square presently occupied by the O. Henry House unnecessary.

BUDGETARY MATTERS. The Parks and Recreation Department has a number of sites which it must maintain and staff. Any additional buildings would be a further strain on a budget already stretched to cover the city's growing needs. Maintenance of an old building, even after its initial

move and necessary restoration, would be a continuing matter for inclusion in future budgets. As the museum now exists, and as the plan for its additional space proposes, one paid staff person can have visual control of the premises. A separate building, however it were to be used, would require additional personnel to oversee the total space, especially if the staff is to continue to provide explanations and guide service.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE. Austin still retains a number of authentic examples of nineteenth century architecture, all of which it would be desirable to preserve, although many have been lost because of the growth of the urban area. In considering what to preserve, many persons have favored specific buildings and sites that would, if preserved, be helpful in conveying to future generations the social and literary history of Austin. The O. Henry cottage itself is valuable not merely as one of few extant humble dwellings representative of the neighborhood area east of Congress avenue more than a century ago, but its real significance is in the fact that one of the country's best known literary figures lived in the house during a formative period of his life as a writer. Addition of a structure unrelated to the life of the writer or exemplifying other historic concern would not improve the Brush Square site or add street appeal in the area being developed as a center of visitor and tourist interest.

With the approval of the Board of the Friends of the O. Henry Museum, I will forward copies of this expanded explanation to the following groups: the Austin Parks and Recreation Department Staff; the Austin City Council; the Parks Board; the Parks Foundation; the Arts Commission; the Heritage Society; and the Austin Historical Landmark Commission.

7703 Long Point
Austin, TX 78731
April 28, 2000

Mr. Jesus Olivares, Director
Austin Parks and Recreation Department
Austin, Texas

Dear Jesus Olivares:

Thank you for spending some time with representatives of Friends of the O. Henry Museum last week to discuss plans for the preservation and development of the Brush Square site of the O. Henry home and museum. We felt that the meeting helped to clarify the relationship of the city and our volunteer organization and to point some directions which we hope to pursue in our capital funds campaign soon to be launched.

We appreciated, too, your indication of endorsement in principal of the master plan for the O. Henry Museum which was adopted by the City of Austin in 1992.

We also reaffirmed the Friends' endorsement in principal of the updated plan recently accepted as the basis for our funds campaign. We discussed also the need to communicate development plans and rationale to you and your Parks and Recreation Department Staff and the Austin City Council, as well as other City entities: the Parks Board, the Parks Foundation, and the Arts Commission, as well as the Heritage Society and the Austin Historical Landmark Commission.

Further, we discussed a number of questions arising from the proposal to move an old house onto Brush square, including concerns such as the use to which the building would be put, budgetary matters, including costs of maintenance of the building and its effect on city and PARD budgetary development. Other issues mentioned included the relation (if any) of the house to historic Austin, specifically the O. Henry story, preservation of green space, street appeal and relationship of the square to the developing tourist and visitors' area, and visitor and staff parking.

In conclusion, it was agreed that the report to the City Manager regarding the relocation of the old house, as suggested, would include the recommendation that while the house could be fitted into the open green space on the square, this group would not recommend such a move. By extension, this decision would apply to similar proposals for future use of portions of Brush Square for another similar structure.

Cordially yours,

Vi Marie Taylor, Chair
Friends of the O. Henry Museum

May 10, 2000

TO: AUSTIN MAYOR KIRK WATSON
MAYOR PRO-TEM JACKIE GOODMAN
AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
AUSTIN CITY MANAGER JESUS GARZA

FROM: VI MARIE TAYLOR, CHAIR, FRIENDS OF THE O. HENRY
MUSEUM, INC.

The Friends of the O. Henry Museum recently established a development group to head a capital funds drive for the Museum and its site on Brush Square. Because the museum belongs to the City of Austin and is maintained and staffed through the Parks and Recreation Department, we Board members of the Friends feel that it is important that we keep you informed of our plans to assist in improving the physical condition of the O. Henry Museum and in fulfilling the mission of the museum by enhancing its contributions to culture and education in the City. We realize that this is but one of a very large complex of issues you face in the city's involvement in this vital area of Austin's downtown, but we do feel that Brush Square is in the center of the growth corridor and hence more important than its mere size might indicate.

Development plans for the Museum are based on a long-range plan approved by the Parks and Recreation Department and the City Council in 1992 and partially implemented in the ensuing years. The Board of the Friends recently reaffirmed in principal approval of the detailed plans drawn by the architectural firm of Coffee, Crier and Schenck. As part of the preparation for reactivating the development plans, and in order to be able to receive funds from foundations and other sources, the Friends recently reorganized as a 501C3 non-profit corporation. Plans also include future requests to be considered for a bond issue to match contributions from outside sources.

In order to coordinate our plans with those of the city, as developed by the Parks and Recreation Department, we are working closely with director and staff of PARD. In this regard we recently considered the request of an outside group to move an old house onto the Brush Square site, which has since 1934 been dedicated to the preservation and public exhibition of the

house once the Austin home of William Sidney Porter, known to the world as O. Henry. After full consideration of the concerns expressed in the attached Note to the Board of Friends of the O. Henry Museum, especially those related to long-term budgetary matters and maintenance of the integrity of the historic site as the state's first Literary Landmark, at its regular monthly meeting on May 9, the Board passed the following motion:

That the Board of the Friends of the O. Henry Museum go on record as strongly opposing the relocation of the house in question or any other similar structure to Brush Square, and that we equally support implementation of the master plan for Brush Square and the O. Henry Museum as approved by the Parks and Recreation Department and adopted by the City (in 1992).

We appreciate the support given by the City Council in helping the museum fulfill its mission in Austin and pledge our continuing efforts to keep the museum and the site a special part of the developing tourist and visitors' area of the city.

Cordially yours,

Vi Marie Taylor, Chair, for
Friends of the O. Henry Museum

Enc.