



**Recommendation for
Water & Wastewater Commission**

Commission Meeting Date:	December 14, 2016
Council Meeting Date:	January 26, 2017
Department:	Austin Water
SUBJECT	
Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the City of Round Rock for the reimbursement of costs related to repairs, improvements, and modifications to the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System.	
AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING	
Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget of Austin Water.	
Purchasing Language:	N/A
Prior Council Action:	<p>July 23, 2009- Council approved an interlocal agreement to purchase the City's share of the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System from the Lower Colorado River Authority.</p> <p>September 22, 2011- Council approved an agreement with the Brazos River Authority for the operation and maintenance of the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System.</p> <p>March 6, 2014- Council approved an interlocal agreement with the Cities of Round Rock, Leander, and Cedar Park concerning the capacity, operation, maintenance, and improvements to the Southwest Interceptor of the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System.</p>
For More Information:	Bart Jennings, 512-972-0118; Denise Avery, 512-972-0104
Boards and Commission Action:	December 14, 2016- To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.
MBE/WBE:	N/A

The Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System (“Brushy Creek System”) is a wastewater system located in southern Williamson County. The Cities of Austin, Round Rock, and Cedar Park jointly purchased the Brushy Creek System from the Lower Colorado River Authority in 2009, and each City is a partial owner of the Brushy Creek System. Two wastewater treatment plants of the Brushy Creek System, located in the City of Round Rock’s jurisdiction, treat wastewater within the Brushy Creek, Onion Creek, Chandler Creek, and McNutt Creek watersheds. Austin has approximately 3,800 retail wastewater connections, all located within the Desired Development Zone, which discharge into the Brushy Creek System (mostly located within the Avery Ranch subdivision).

The Brazos River Authority operates and maintains the Brushy Creek System for the Cities, and annual funding for Austin’s estimated expenses are included in Austin Water’s operation and maintenance budget. However, because most of the Brushy Creek System’s capacity belongs to Round Rock (approximately 70%) and the all of the Cities desire to reduce administrative costs charged by the Brazos River Authority, Round Rock has proposed to initially fund certain unplanned repair, rehabilitation, and other expenses associated with the Brushy Creek System not currently anticipated in the operations and maintenance agreement with the Brazos River Authority. Major capital expenses and ongoing operation and maintenance expenses will continue to be paid to the Brazos River Authority.

Under the proposed interlocal agreement, Austin would reimburse Round Rock for Austin’s proportionate share of actual costs that are incurred by Round Rock only after Austin Water staff reviews and pre-authorizes the necessary work. Funding for such costs will also be included in Austin Water’s annual operation and maintenance budget along with the funding for the Brazos River Authority.