



## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MOTION 20170816 007a

**Date:** August 16, 2017

**Subject:** Development Services Department FY 2017-2018 Budget

**Motion by:** Peggy Maceo

**Seconded by:** Mary Ann Neely

### **RATIONALE:**

**WHEREAS**, the population of the City of Austin has increased at a phenomenal rate in the last years; and

**WHEREAS**, the population growth has increased the demand for new housing and commercial projects to meet the needs of the new citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Community Forest in Austin is sacred to its residents and we should continue to protect the Urban Forest; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to protect Austin's valuable and cherished trees, the City of Austin staff is required by law to support the code mandated requirements associated with Austin's Community Forest; and

**WHEREAS**, the increase in development has resulted in the need for the City of Austin to maintain adequate staff to support the code mandated requirements associated with Austin's Urban Forest.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Environmental Commission supports the City Manager's FY 2017-2018 proposed budget request for the appropriate staff and resources, including the request for Four Full Time Employees within the Development Services Department, to support the code mandated requirements associated with Austin's Community Forest, including:

1. One Environmental Reviewer — reviewing development requests to ensure compliance with the City's tree regulations (e.g. tree preservation, mitigation requirements, protection standards during construction); and
2. Three Environmental Inspectors — inspecting development sites to ensure compliance during construction (e.g. appropriate permitting, tree protection fencing, mulching, pruning standards, root care, response to citizen concerns).

**VOTE 9-0**

For: Creel, Perales, Thompson, Istvan, Neely, Maceo, H. Smith, Guerrero, B. Smith  
Against: None  
Abstain: None  
Recuse: None  
Absent: Kitchin, Gordon

Approved By:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marisa Perales". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

Marisa Perales, Environmental Commission Chair