



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MOTION 20170920 008a

Date: September 20, 2017

Subject: Upper Boggy Creek Trail Phase 1, SPC-2016-0567C

Motion by: Andrew Creel

Seconded by: Mary Ann Neely

RATIONALE:

WHEREAS, specific trail widths are not specified for any trails identified in the Urban Trails Master Plan (UTMP); and

WHEREAS, while user data is not yet available, this trail will be the major commuter route through East Austin connecting multiple neighborhoods, job centers, and transit centers and is highly likely to be heavily used, therefore justifying a trail wider than twelve feet; and

WHEREAS, the existing trail will be replaced and the new trail will be moved farther from the creek than the current location; and

WHEREAS, the request meets the original intent of the ordinance, which is to balance impacts to the creek buffer with the environmental benefits provided by significant alternative transportation transit corridors; and

WHEREAS, the wider trail provides tangible benefits to residents of the area that may not have an alternative means of transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Officer of the City of Austin recommends approval; and

WHEREAS, a fourteen foot wide trail provides a safer means of transportation than a twelve foot wide trail considering the anticipated traffic;

THEREFORE, the Environmental Commission recommends variance from 25-8-261(B)(3)(c) with the following:

Staff Conditions:

Applicant will remove approximately 19,520 square feet of asphalt at 2801 E. 12th St. The site, which is in the Critical Water Quality Zone and 25-year floodplain, is currently used by the Public Works Department for construction staging and spoils. Applicant will restore with native grassland seeding and planting per City of Austin Standard Specification 609S.6, including topsoil and seed bed preparation, temporary irrigation, and weed maintenance.

Environmental Commission Conditions:
The tree care plan be increased to five years.

VOTE 7-1

For: Creel, Perales, Thompson, Neely, Kitchin, Guerrero, B. Smith

Against: Maceo

Abstain: None

Recuse: None

Absent: Gordon, H. Smith

Off the dais: Istvan

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