

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting: May 24, 2018

Item Number: **015**

Financial Services

Approve a resolution declaring the City of Austin's official intent to reimburse itself from proceeds of certificates of obligations to be issued for the Chain of Parks and related infrastructure in the Waller Creek District in the total amount of \$25,000,000. (Related to Items 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 67, and TIF #1).

Lead Department	Parks and Recreation Department.
Fiscal Note	A fiscal note is attached.
For More Information	Greg Canally, 512-974-2609.

Additional Backup Information:

For the City to spend money today, but reimburse itself from the issuance of debt obligations in the future, a reimbursement resolution is required by state and federal law. The resolution must contain certain information and is generally reviewed by bond counsel to protect the tax-exempt status of the future issuance. The resolution must be passed not more than 60 days after the date that the cost to be reimbursed is paid. Failure to adopt a qualified declaration of official intent will prohibit the City from reimbursing the cost with the proceeds of tax exempt obligations. Tax-exempt debt to reimburse these expenditures generally must be issued 18 months after the later of, the date the expenditure was made, or the date that the project, with respect to which the expenditure was made, is placed in service. This action expressed the City Council's intent to authorize the reimbursement for costs associated with the Waterloo Park link.

This reimbursement resolution, in companion with the associated budget amendment, is part of the overall updated Project and Financing Plan for the Tax Increment Financing Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) No. 17, which allows for the issuance of a maximum of \$110 million to finance additional projects in the TIRZ. This public funding will be matched by \$203 million in private contributions. This is the first appropriation of the \$110 million.

Waterloo Park Link

The largest of the Chain of the Parks, Waterloo Park will be a gathering space for the City of Austin, including: a civic lawn, a performing arts venue, food service in the park, unique hill country gardens, wetlands, and extensive nature-based play areas. Within this link, a connection to Symphony Square and restoration of the creek and adjacent open space will be completed. Collectively, the space will be programmed with complementary activities furthering the mission to promote engaging art and educational activities consistent with the operation of a City park. \$25,000,000 will pay for design and construction phase services in Waterloo Park.