

Recommendation 20180821-05a



**ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION**

Date: August 21, 2018

Subject: Construction of Asian American Resource Center Pedestrian Bridge

Motioned By: Kirk Yoshida

Seconded By: Richard Jung

WHEREAS, the Asian American Quality of Life (AAQoL) Advisory Commission was formed to advise the Austin City Council on issues related to the Asian American Resource Center (AARC) and provide ongoing guidance and support for Asian American quality of life initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the AARC facility was funded by voter approved bonds in 2006, was constructed in 2013, and has been operated by Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PAR) since opening; and

WHEREAS, the number of visitors to the AARC facility has more than doubled from 22,700 in fiscal year 2014 to 53,650 in fiscal year 2017, and the facility is booked up to one year in advance; and

WHEREAS, the City parking lot at Rutherford Lane and Cameron Road is the designated overflow parking area for numerous AARC events due to high attendance and limited parking at the facility; and

WHEREAS, pedestrian access from the overflow parking area to the AARC is very difficult, especially for children, seniors, and others with mobility issues, with some facility attendees crossing the drainage ditch between the two lots to avoid walking down the street to the lot entrance; and

WHEREAS, the need for a pedestrian bridge between the two lots has been part of PAR's rolling needs assessment for many years with a rough cost estimate of \$200,000; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of individuals attending AARC events are at risk without safe passage to and from the overflow parking area, making the bridge an immediate need; and

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WHEREAS, construction of the bridge has been discussed between PARD staff and Watershed Protection Department staff as part of a drainage improvement project and the AARC Master Plan with an estimated timeframe for construction in four to five years from now;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission recommends that the Austin City Council direct the City Manager to expedite design and completion of a bridge between the AARC and the overflow parking area.

PASSED AND ADOPTED: 10-0-0

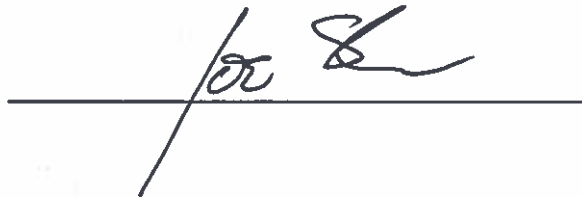
For: Chair Vince Cobalis, Vice-Chair Shubhada Saxena, Sarah Chen, Catherina Conte, Kirk Yoshida, Molly Wang, Richard Jung, Pooja Sethi, Kavita Radhakrishnan, Nguyen Stanton

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Peter Chao, Pramod Patil, Debasree DasGupta, Aporajita Ahmed

Attest: Joe Silva, Staff Liaison

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Silva", is written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.