

**ORDINANCE NO. 20190919-089**

**AN ORDINANCE RENAMING CENTRAL WILLIAMSON CREEK GREENBELT NATURE TRAIL TO THE TOM DONOVAN CENTRAL WILLIAMSON CREEK GREENBELT NATURE TRAIL AND WAIVING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF CITY CODE CHAPTER 14-1 RELATED TO THE RENAMING OF PARKLAND.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**PART 1. FINDINGS.**

- A. Tom Donovan served our country in the US Air Force from 1965 to 1968 and by building homes as a master carpenter for 30 years with his own hands.
- B. Tom's lifetime commitment of environmental stewardship began as the organizer of the first ever Earth Day at El Camino College in 1970.
- C. He earned his Bachelor's degree from University of California San Diego.
- D. He has been an Austin resident since 1971.
- E. Tom earned his graduate degree from University of Texas.
- F. He has been a resident of the Southwood Neighborhood since 1980.
- G. Tom has been an active member of the Southwood Neighborhood Association and Chair of the Greenbelt Committee since 2005.
- H. Tom served as President, Co-Founder and garden box builder of the Emerald Wood Community Garden 2013-2019.
- I. He served as the Public Green & Wild's founding Board Chairman (2017-2019).
- J. Tom led the city-wide effort to establish Certified Wildflower Meadows on parkland through an Austin Parks Foundation grant he secured in 2017.
- K. He was an active member of Go Austin! Vamos Austin! Creek Adopter of the Central Williamson Creek Greenbelt 2013 - 2019 by personally removing hundreds of ligustrums, as well as other invasives.
- L. Tom served the City as a Parks and Recreation Board Member since 2014, and representing District 5 since 2015.

- M. Tom was instrumental in coordinating numerous conservation events including, National Trails Day Plant Walk and Talk events, Austin Parks Foundation's "It's My Park Day" events, Keep Austin Beautiful Clean Sweep creek clean-ups and other volunteer group's service projects.
- N. He remains an active and valuable teacher with an incredible depth of knowledge of native, edible and wild plants, invasive species, and insects.

**PART 2.** In recognition of Tom's lifetime of service to his community and invaluable leadership in protecting, restoring, and spreading respect and love for our natural environment, the name of the "Central Williamson Creek Greenbelt Nature Trail" is changed to "Tom Donovan Central Williamson Creek Greenbelt Nature Trail" and this site will be recognized in official City of Austin markers and documents as appropriate.

**PART 3.** Council waives the requirements of Code Sections 14-1-37 (*Park Naming Policy*) and 14-1-39 (*Procedure for Naming or Renaming a Facility*) related to approval of a name for a public facility or property.

**PART 4.** This ordinance takes effect on September 30, 2019.

**PASSED AND APPROVED**

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September 19, 2019

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Steve Adler  
Mayor

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Anne L. Morgan  
City Attorney

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk