



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-3305, **Agenda Item #:** 40.

10/17/2019

Posting Language

Conduct a public hearing in accordance with Section 26.001 et seq. of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code to consider a resolution authorizing a change in use of dedicated parkland, known as Onion Creek greenbelt, for the extension of Meadow Lake Blvd through dedicated parkland, west of S. Pleasant Valley Rd. as requested by the Public Works Department.

Lead Department

Parks and Recreation Department

Fiscal Note

There is no fiscal impact to this item.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

August 27, 2019 - Approved unanimously by the Parks and Recreation Board

Additional Backup Information:

Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code provides that the use of parkland for non-park purposes may be approved upon findings that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of this land and that all reasonable planning has been done to minimize harm to such land.

In August 2016, the Austin City Council passed Resolution No. 20160421-036 to dedicate up to \$5M to extend Meadow Lake Boulevard and connect two current dead-end sections of the roadway. The roadway extension will provide transportation connectivity and facilitate an affordable Safe, Mixed-Income, Accessible, Reasonably-priced, Transit-Oriented (S.M.A.R.T.) housing development proposed by Austin Habitat for Humanity (AHFH). Parkland surrounding the proposed site does not include existing recreational improvements.

Approval of the use of parkland is made on the condition that all restoration is completed in accordance with the Standard Specifications and Construction Standards of the City of Austin and the Parks and Recreation Department's "Construction in Parks Specifications". The Public Works Department will pay all costs associated with the restoration and pay the Parks and Recreation Department the mitigation amount of \$118,869 for the permanent taking of parkland.

There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the dedicated parkland, which includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to such land. The dates of public notification in the *Austin American-Statesman* were August 25, September 1, and September 8, 2019.