



## Recommendation for Action

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**File #:** 21-1915, **Agenda Item #:** 22.

6/3/2021

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### **Posting Language**

Authorize the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the University of Texas at Austin for prescribed fire management, training, and planning and assistance for certain hazardous events.

### **Lead Department**

Parks and Recreation Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

This item has no fiscal impact.

### **For More Information:**

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### **Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:**

To be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board on May 25, 2021.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The Parks and Recreation Department and University of Texas at Austin manage multiple open-space properties near each other and provide similar services within their jurisdictions that often requires greater resources and expertise than a single party has readily available.

The purpose of this agreement is to establish a framework of cooperation for each of the parties to provide mutual support, cooperation and assistance for prescribed fire management, fire preparedness and for assistance on certain hazardous events or land management activities where specific skills and/or equipment are required. It will also provide for technical support and training and will allow each party to request equipment, personnel and appropriate personal safety items as necessary to ensure the safety of employees participating in interagency projects. Likewise, the parties understand that the resources available from the City under this Agreement are limited to the resources of the Parks and Recreation Department. The lands to benefit most directly from this agreement are anticipated to be any natural areas managed by the Parks and Recreation Department.

The City Council's approval for the negotiation and execution of this interlocal agreement will allow the Parks and Recreation Department to coordinate efforts with University of Texas at Austin for mutual support and cooperation for prescribed fire management and training, land management planning, as well as planning and assistance for certain hazardous events. While this agreement is with the University of Texas at Austin, it will serve as one in a suite of similar agreements the Department is developing with other local partners - such as Travis County, the US Fish and Wildlife Service - that will allow the Department to benefit from the broader support of a regional land management collective.

### **Strategic Outcome(s):**

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Safety; Health and Environment; Government that Works for All.