The Austin Parks and Recreation Department and The Trail Foundation Partnership Agreement

Contracts and Concessions Committee
Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin
Christine Chute Canul, PARD Partnership Manager
Heidi Anderson, CEO, The Trail Foundation

August 19, 2021

The Trail Foundation

The Trail Foundation (TTF)

A 501(c)3 dedicated to protecting, enhancing, and connecting the Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail at Lady Bird Lake *for the benefit of all.*

TTF/City of Austin Partnership Timeline

- **1971 –** Public-private civic effort formed led by the Citizen's Committee for a More Beautiful Town Lake
- **2003** – Town Lake Trail Foundation (now The Trail Foundation) was formed to continue the work of the Citizen's Committee and ensure that the Trail remains one of Austin's outstanding places
- **2014** – Boardwalk opens, completes the 10+ mile loop of the Ann and Roy Butler Trail
- **2015** – TTF adopted the Butler Trail at Lady Bird Lake Urban Forestry and Natural Areas Management Guidelines, developed by Siglo Group in consultation with TTF, Austin Parks and Recreation (PARD) and the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department (WPD).
- **2018 –** PARD and TTF begin discussions to formalize partnership
- **2020** – Formal process begins to enter into phased Parkland Operations & Maintenance Agreement (POMA) with PARD

TTF Investment & Public Benefit

Since 2003, TTF has invested more than

$17,550,000

on the Butler Trail and the Town Lake Metro Park, including infrastructure projects, ecological restoration, and maintenance.

Pre-pandemic (2019) Annual TTF Investment: $3,319,731

Volunteer Impact Since January 2017:

- 219 Volunteer Events
- 3,988 Volunteers
- 15,687 Sapling Trees Planted
- 1,588 Yards of Mulch/compost Spread
- 59.4 Acres of Wildflowers Planted

...In addition to an increasingly robust volunteer impact program. Just this year, 400+ bags of trash were collected, and 71 screech owl nest boxes were made and installed.

Council Resolution - 20200312-041

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:
The City Council expresses support for the concept of parkland agreements between nonprofit organizations and PARD if the agreements further the mission And vision of the department with regard to non-enterprise fund public parks and trails in an effective, efficient, and inclusive manner.

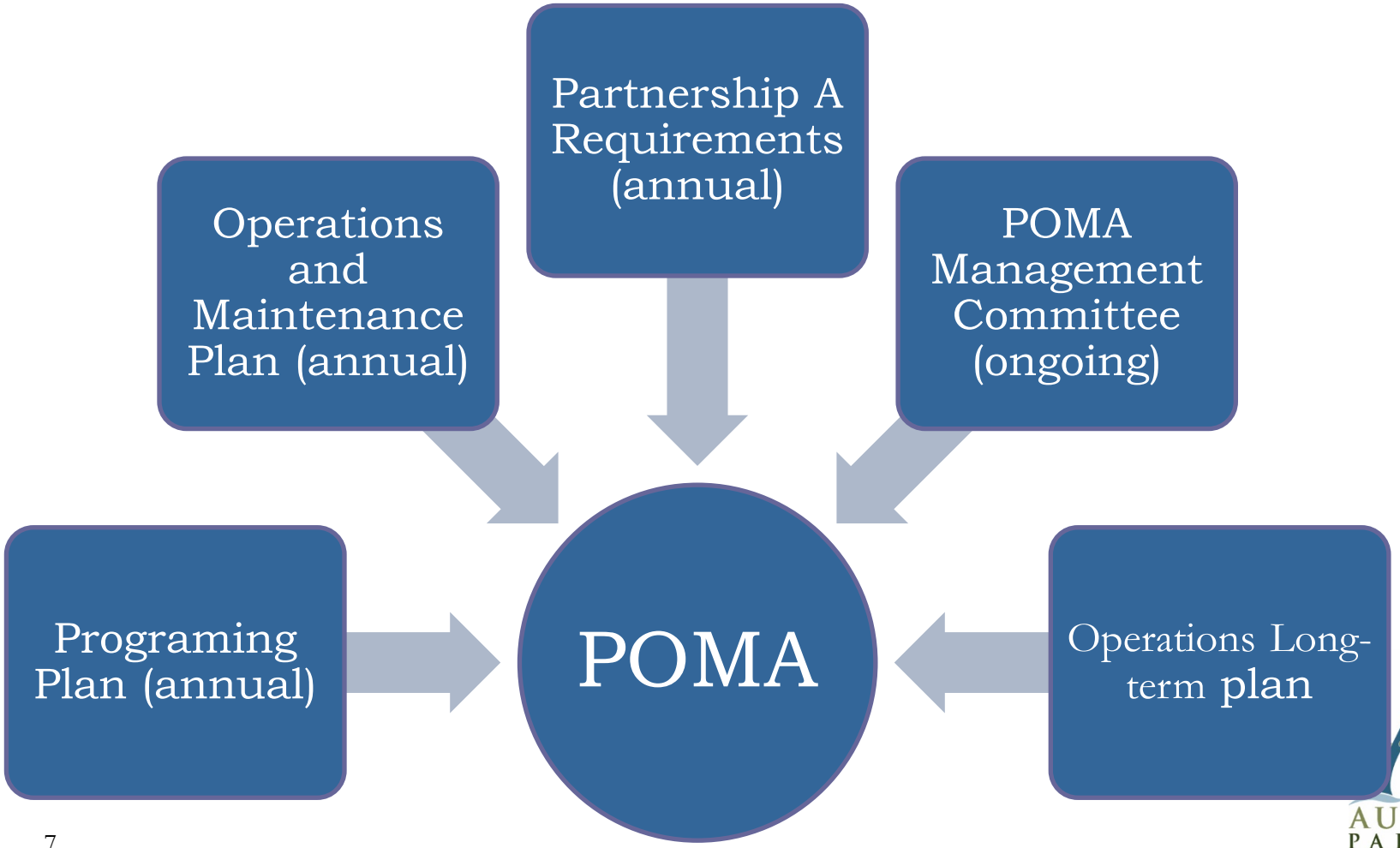
BE IT RESOLVED:
The City Council directs the City Manager to work with parks nonprofit partners that have established relationships with PARD, including but not limited to The Trail Foundation and the Pease Park Conservancy, to create opportunities for partnership agreements that benefit the community, and to outline roles and responsibilities between those groups and PARD.

PARD Partnership | Partnership Pathways Partnership Configuration A

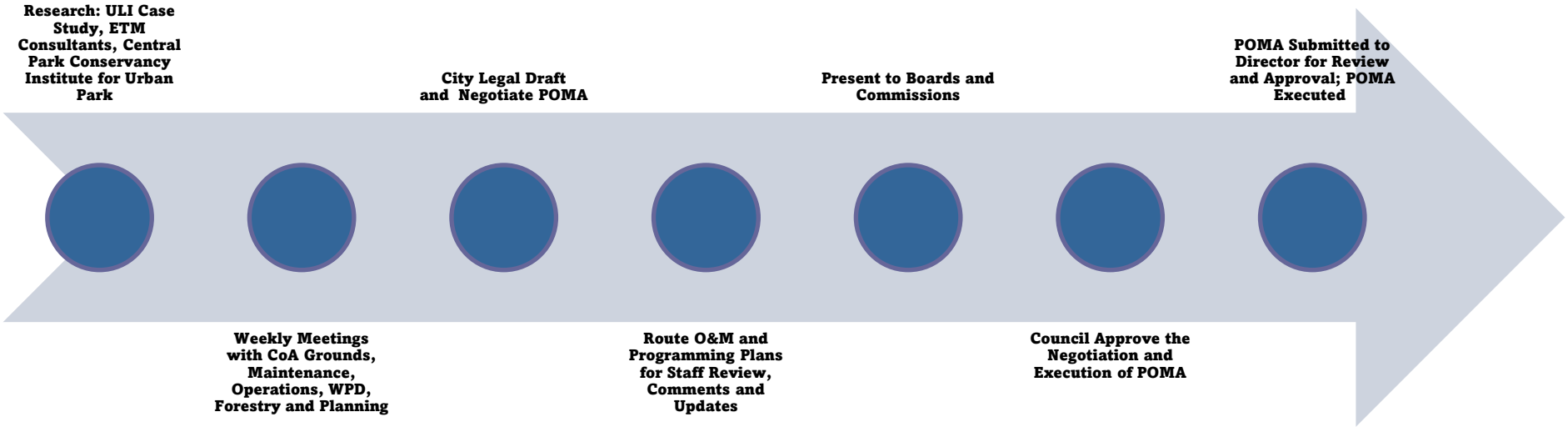
Partnership A Criteria

- Has a minimum 7-year history of collaboration with PARD/CoA
- Is in alignment with CoA and PARD mission, vision, and values
- Has a minimum 5 years of proven philanthropic fundraising with sustained and/or year-over-year growth related to specific vision plan projects, operational items, maintenance, and/or program activation

Park Operations, Maintenance and Programming Agreement (POMA)



POMA Drafting and Review Process



Capital Projects | Follow City/Code Review and Requirements

- Involve Pertinent City Staff
- Site Visit
- Feasibility Review
- Determine Next Steps

PARD Community Activated Park Project Proposal Program

Design Development | Parkland Improvement Agreement

- Community Engagement in partnership with PARD
- Boards and Commissions
- CoA Project Manager Assigned
- Follow Applicable City, Federal, State, Local Law/Code
- Parkland Improvement Agreement; City Manager and/or Council Approve and Execute

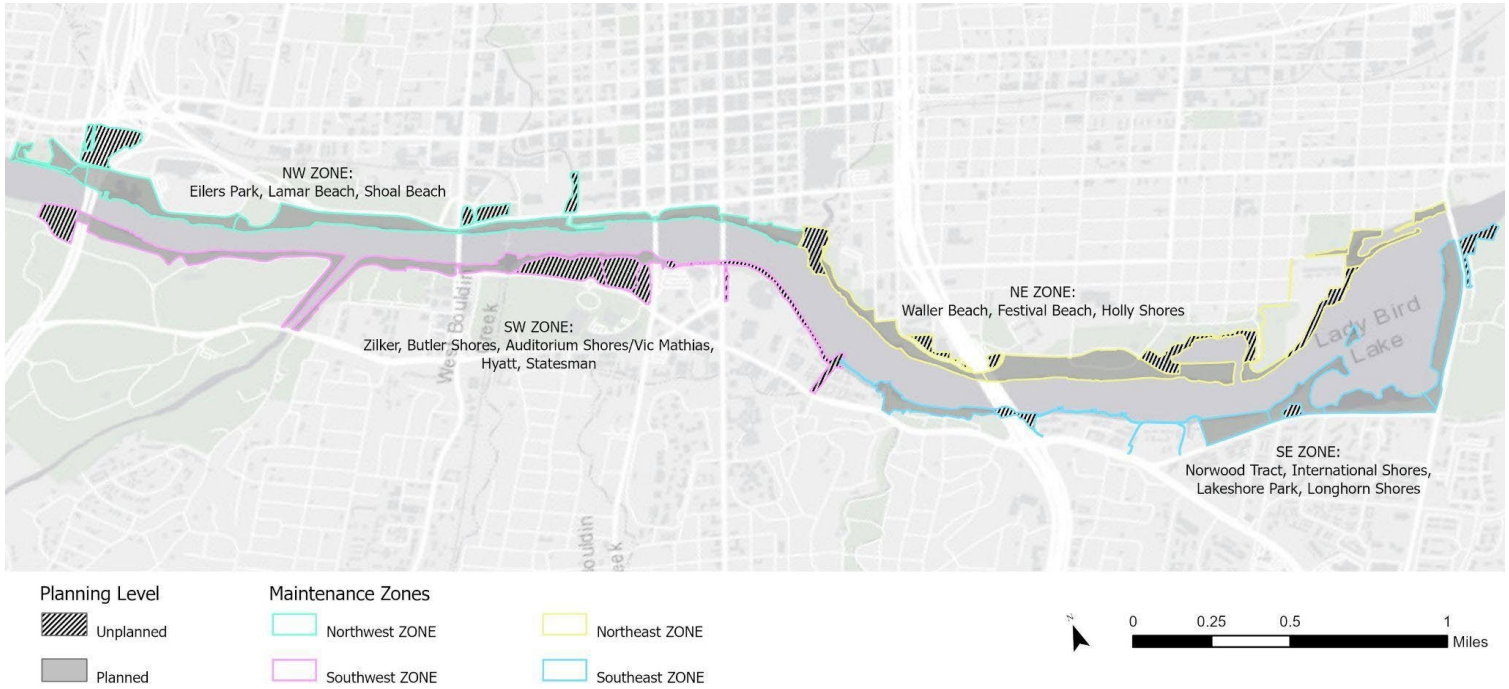
- City Project Manager Ensures PIA/City Construction Compliance
- CoA Approve Final Design
- Secure Necessary Permits
- CoA Provides Notice to Proceed
- CoA monitors construction; City provides final acceptance of constructed amenity

Project Final Design, Permitting, Procurement & Construction

Outline Partnership Agreement Terms

- Meet PARD Partnership A Criteria
- Delineate Roles and Responsibilities
- COA and TTF Management Advisory Committee
- PARD Director Annually Approves TTF Programing Plan and Operations & Maintenance Plan (Council the first two years)
- Meet Public Benefit Deliverables
- Annual Reporting Requirements
- Annual Agreement Compliance Review

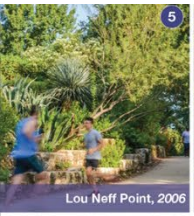
Proposed Partnership Phasing

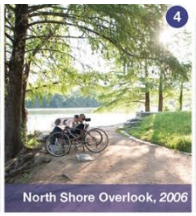


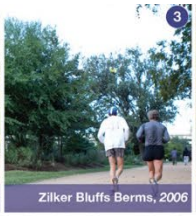
ZONE	YEAR									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Southeast										
Northeast										
Northwest										
Southwest										

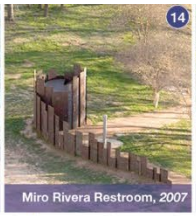
Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Final Phase

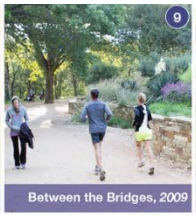
Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail | The Trail Foundation

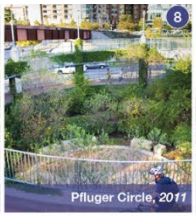

Lou Neff Point, 2006

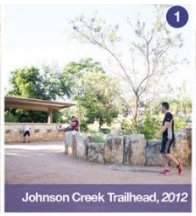

North Shore Overlook, 2006

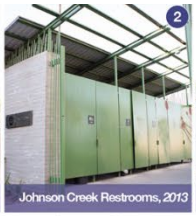

Zilker Bluffs Berms, 2006

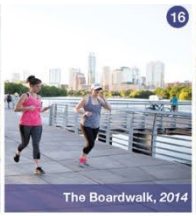

Miro Rivera Restroom, 2007

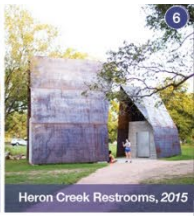

Between the Bridges, 2009

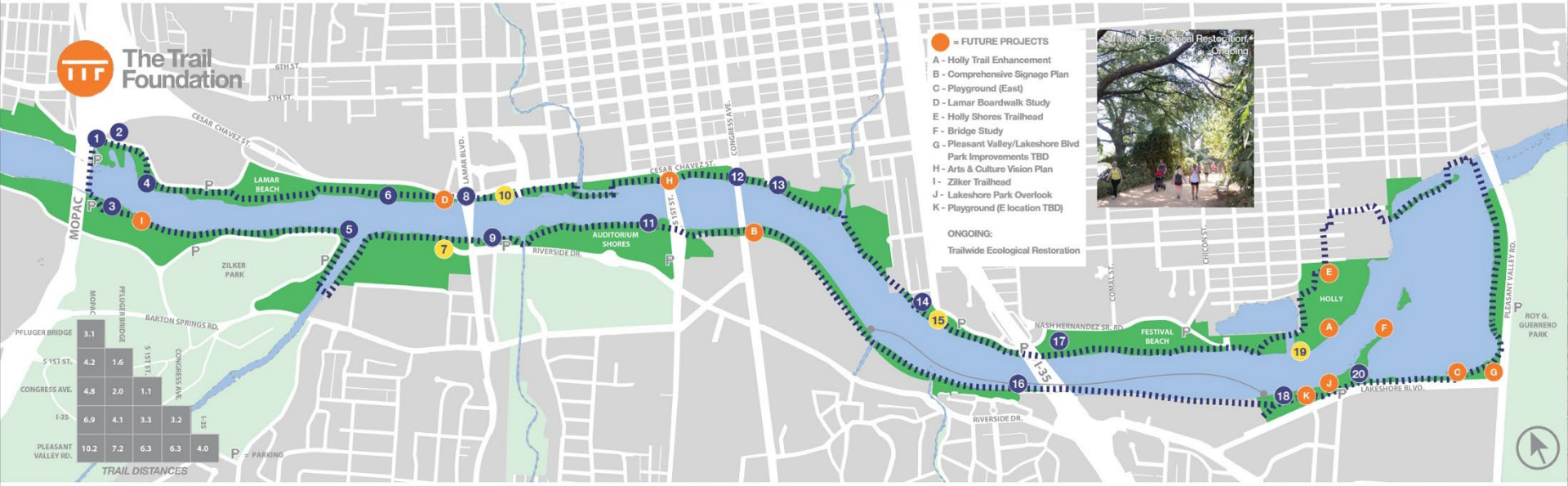

Pfluger Circle, 2011

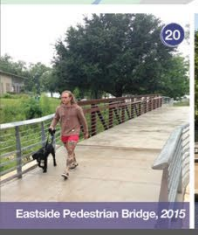

Johnson Creek Trailhead, 2012

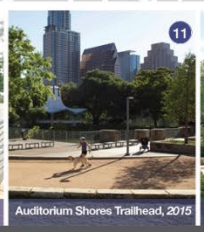

Johnson Creek Restrooms, 2013

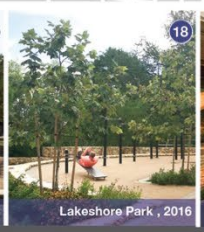

The Boardwalk, 2014

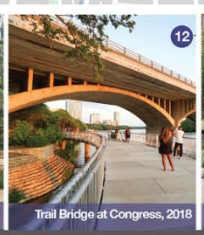

Heron Creek Restrooms, 2015




Eastside Pedestrian Bridge, 2015


Auditorium Shores Trailhead, 2015


Lakeshore Park , 2016

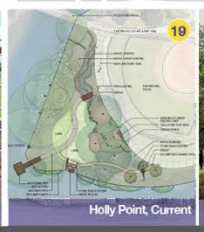

Trail Bridge at Congress, 2018

Brazos Bluff, 2020

Festival Beach Restroom, 2020

Seaholm Waterfront, Current

Butler Shores Exercise Equipment, Current


Holly Point, Current

Rainey Street Trailhead, Current

Partnership Agreement | The Trail Foundation | Collaboration

Public Works

Watershed Protection Department

Art in Public Places

Austin Transportation Department

Mexican American Cultural Center

Camacho & Metz Recreation Centers

Project Connect

South Central Waterfront Advisory Board

Keep Austin Beautiful

Waterloo Greenway

Austin Parks Foundation

Shoal Creek Conservancy

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Austin Texas Musicians

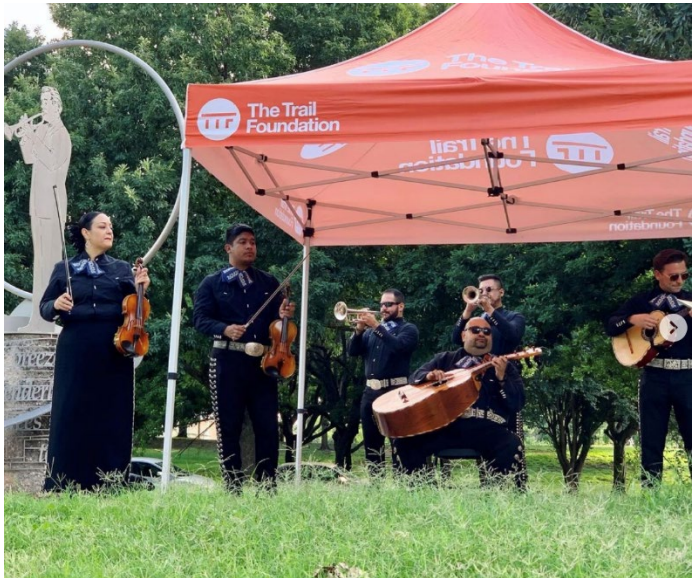
Young Men's Service League

Texas School for the Deaf

Texas Conservation Corps

AISD

Partnership Agreement | The Trail Foundation | Public Benefit



TTF/PARD POMA | Next Steps

8.18.2021 - Environmental Commission

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8.19.2021 - Contracts and Concessions

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Downtown Commission (TBD)

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8.24.2021 - Parks and Recreation Board

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9.30.2021 - Council for Approval to Negotiate and Execute

Requested Action

Make a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Board to recommend to City Council approval for the negotiation and execution of a partnership agreement with The Trail Foundation for the operations, maintenance and programming for the Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail at Town Lake Metropolitan Park.