




MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

THROUGH: Stephanie Hayden-Howard, LMSW, Assistant City Manager

FROM: Kimberly A. McNeeley, M.Ed., CPRP, Director
Austin Parks and Recreation Department 

DATE: June 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Staff Update on Transition of the Austin Rowing Club (Resolution 20220901-085)

This memo is an update to Austin City Council [Resolution 20220901-085](#), relating to the transition of the Austin Rowing Club and other organizations that use the Waller Creek Boathouse and other similar facilities located at the former Youth Hostel site owned by the City at 2200 South Lakeshore Boulevard. The resolution directs the City Manager to return with a financing plan to make improvements to the former Youth Hostel site and ensure the City is fairly compensated for Project Connect's condemnation of the Waller Creek Boathouse and the land. Furthermore, the resolution gives authority to negotiate and execute agreements necessary for the operation of these organizations, including those currently operating at the former Youth Hostel site. The Mayor and City Council Members last received an update on this in a February 17, 2023, [memo](#) from the Parks and Recreation Department.

On February 23, 2023, City Council authorized an amendment to a contract with Austin Rowing Club for continued management and operation of the Waller Creek Boathouse on Lady Bird Lake to extend the term by an estimated period of three years, or until the current Boathouse is demolished ([Item 26](#)).

The Parks and Recreation Department is waiting on direction from Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) on the future use of the parkland where the current Waller Creek Boathouse is located. Please contact me at kimberly.mcneeley@austintexas.gov if you have any questions.

Cc: Jesús Garza, Interim City Manager
Robert Goode, Interim Assistant City Manager