



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and the Parks and Recreation Board

**FROM:** Kimberly McNeeley, CPRP, Acting Director, Austin Parks and Recreation Department  
Michael L. Personett, Acting Director, Watershed Protection Department *MLP*

**DATE:** January 9, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Purview of the Joint Committee

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The Parks and Recreation Department (PAR) and Watershed Protection Department (WPD) would like to provide this memorandum in an effort to clarify the history and purview of the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and the Parks and Recreation Board.

In October 2006, Austin City Council directed the City Manager and the Director of PAR to work with the Friends of Barton Springs Pool and other community groups to develop the Barton Springs Pool (BSP) Master Plan. Due to the environmental sensitivities of the pool and the springs, staff from PAR and WPD began working together on the BSP Master Plan in February, 2007. PAR and WPD made recommendations to Council for short-term improvements and deferred maintenance projects in September, 2007. Following the recommendations, Council approved action to fund the identified short-term projects, and recommended creating the Joint Committee consisting of Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board Members.

In October 2007, funding for the Short-Term Projects was received by PAR and in December, 2007, the first official Joint Committee meeting was held to support the completion of the short-term projects. The purpose of the Joint Committee is to provide assistance in conducting public outreach, and to ensure that projects meet both the environmental goals and objectives of the BSP Master Plan, as well as the recreational needs of the general public. In addition, the Joint Committee provides oversight for the implementation of the Council-approved short-term projects. In 2009, the Council directed the Joint Committee through Resolution No. 20090115-028 to continue in an oversight capacity, hosting representatives of all stakeholder groups as short-term projects are implemented and long-term projects are considered in the future. However, it is important to note that long-term projects have not been identified by Council for funding as of this writing.

Below is a summary of the short-term projects along with progress status to date. Please note that all short-term projects have been completed, with the only exception being the restoration improvements on the historic Sunken Garden, which are on hold until additional funding is identified.

Subproject Name		Date Completed\Status	Budget Estimate
Barton Springs Pool - General Grounds Improvements	Completed	2014	\$4,600,000
Barton Springs - Tree Assessment	Completed	2014	\$95,000
Barton Springs - Interpretive Plan	Completed	2012	\$83,605
Barton Springs - Removal of Flood Debris	Completed	2011	\$741,000
Barton Springs - Bathhouse Renovations Roof\Mech.	Completed	2011	\$766,404
Barton Springs - Hydrodynamic-Related Study\Imps.	Completed	2017	\$102,000
Barton Springs - Sunken Garden Imp. Phase 1	Hold	Requires Funding	
Barton Springs - Structural Testing of Dams	Completed	2013	\$137,000
Barton Springs - Replace Bypass Inlet Gate	Completed	2012	\$311,000
Barton Springs Pool - Pump Replacement	Completed	2017	\$50,000
<b>Total To Date</b>			<b>\$6,886,009</b>

Lastly, reference to the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and the Parks and Recreation Board is included in the Bylaws of Environmental Commission in Article 8 Section A regarding committees. The Bylaws state "The duties of the Joint Committee are to review and recommend actions related to the Barton Springs Master Plan." Given this information and the resolution from Council, the purview of the Joint Committee would be to engage stakeholder groups and review short-term project implementation, and future long-term projects when identified for funding, to ensure alignment with the goals and objects of the BSP Master Plan.

Should you have any questions, please contact my office at (512) 974-6722.

Cc: Sara Hensley, CPRP, Interim Assistant City Manager

Attachments: Council Resolution No. 20090115-028