



## PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD RECOMMENDATION 20230925-7

Date: September 25, 2023

Subject: Public Transportation to Barton Springs

Motioned By: Holly Reed

Seconded By: Lisa Hugman

### **Recommendation for Transit Solution during Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation**

Whereas the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation project is anticipated to begin in Winter of 2024 and be completed in Spring of 2025;<sup>1</sup>

Whereas during the Bathhouse Rehabilitation construction, the parking lot in front of Barton Springs Pool, with approximately 140 spaces, will be closed for use by staff and the public beginning in early 2024 and continuing for 14 months, through the popular summer tourist season;

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Board, on July 24<sup>th</sup> 2023, unanimously approved a recommendation that the Austin City Council direct PARD to permanently close the Zilker Polo Field to overflow visitor parking beginning September 4<sup>th</sup> 2023, and to fund shuttles for transportation within Zilker Park.<sup>2</sup>

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Board voted to create a Zilker Shuttle Working Group on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to recommend solutions for parking and shuttle transportation within Zilker Park.<sup>3</sup>

Whereas alternative solutions to guide visitors to Barton Springs Pool's north entrance will be essential in 2024;

Whereas the Bathhouse Rehabilitation construction is under the supervision of Public Works of the Transportation and Public Works Department;

Whereas no plans have been made as yet by Public Works to provide solutions for visitor access alternatives during the Bathhouse Remodel at the pool's north entrance for the summer of 2024;

Whereas the several existing Zilker Park parking lots near the pool's north entrance will likely be at full capacity on peak-use summer days during the same hours of the day when the number of visitors entering at the pool's north entrance are projected to be 500-800 individuals per hour;

Whereas the Zilker Shuttle Working Group seeks to collaborate with Austin Transportation and Public Works Dept. (TPW) and CapMetro to find the best public transportation solution for Zilker Park and Barton Springs Pool in 2024;

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.austintexas.gov/departments/barton-springs-bathhouse-rehabilitation>

<sup>2</sup> <https://services.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=412493>

<sup>3</sup> <https://services.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=414295>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Board:

1. Recommends that the Austin City Council direct the Transportation and Public Works Dept. to develop a Transportation Plan for visitors to Barton Springs during the Bathhouse Rehab. Construction.
2. Recommends that the proposed 2024 Transportation Plan and parking solution consider there are 500-800 visitors per hours during peak hours on summer weekend days, and plan accordingly.

**Vote**            **The motion to 1) Recommends that the Austin City Council direct the Transportation and Public Works Dept. to develop a Transportation Plan for visitors to Barton Springs during the Bathhouse Rehab. Construction; 2) Recommends that the proposed 2024 Transportation Plan and parking solution consider there are 500-800 visitors per hours during peak hours on summer weekend days, and plan accordingly.**

For:            Lane Becker, Kathryn Flowers, Lisa Hugman, Shelby Orme, Holly Reed, Kim Taylor and Pedro Villalobos.

Against:       None

Abstain:       None

Absent:        Stephanie Bazan, Jennifer Franklin, Julie Hayes and Nicole Merritt.

Attest:        Tim Dombeck, Board and Council Liaison, Parks and Recreation Department.

*Tim Dombeck* \_\_\_\_\_