



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 24-4028, **Agenda Item #:** 26.

3/7/2024

Posting Language

Conduct a public hearing and consider a resolution authorizing and directing the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department to act on the City's behalf to work with the National Park Service and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in connection with the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) program and to apply for an ORLP grant for up to \$4,000,000, to be matched by the City, to partially fund the cost of the John Treviño Jr. Metro Park Vision Plan Phase One Implementation project.

Lead Department

Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of up to \$4,000,000 is available from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department to meet the City's matching requirement of \$4,000,000.

Prior Council Action:

October 15, 2020 - Council approved the John Treviño Jr. Metro Park at Morrison Ranch Vision Plan, including recommending a phased development process.

February 29, 2024 - Council set the date and location of this public hearing for March 7, 2024, at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas.

For More Information:

Liana Kallivoka, Assistant Director, (512) 974-9455; Steven Linett, Capital Improvement Program Manager, (512) 974-9321; Tim Dombeck, Business Process Specialist, (512) 974-6716.

Additional Backup Information:

The Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) program is a nationally competitive grant funded through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Its purpose is to provide new or significantly improved recreation opportunities in urban, disadvantaged communities. The program provides 50% matching grants (up to \$15,000,000) on a reimbursement basis to eligible applicants. The City will request a grant award of \$4,000,000 to partially fund the John Treviño Jr. Metro Park Vision Plan Phase One Implementation project.

The 330 acres of parkland bounded by FM 969 and the Colorado River were purchased by the Parks and Recreation Department (The Department) in 2003, but farming and ranching operations continued on the land up until 2016. The Phase One Implementation project will open the park to the public by providing utility services, a safe vehicle access point, parking, picnic areas, playground, a community walk, wildflower meadow, and a restroom, as budget allows. The project is currently in the preliminary phase. The City will provide its grant match through 2018 General Obligation Bond Proposition C funding.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) grant application guidelines require the Department to

obtain City Council authorization to apply to the ORLP program for up to \$4,000,000 in grant funding for the John Treviño Jr. Metro Park Vision Plan Phase One Implementation project. The guidelines further require the City to hold a public hearing in compliance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, including the opportunity for public comment, prior to submitting the application. At this hearing, the governing body must pass a resolution authorizing and directing the Department Director to act for the City in connection with the ORLP program and to submit an application to TPWD.