



**RESOLUTION OF THE AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOODS COUNCIL REGARDING THE
REWILDING OF ZILKER PARK**

WHEREAS, On August 27, 2020, the Austin City Council authorized the Parks and Recreation Department to contract with consulting firm Design Workshop for the Zilker Metropolitan Park Vision Plan, which planning process started in November 2020 with completion scheduled for April 2022; and

WHEREAS, A 2020-2021 city-wide survey revealed 82% of Zilker Park survey respondents supported expanding natural areas in the park; and

WHEREAS, The Austin City Council adopted a Climate Equity Plan in September 2021, adding climate mitigation and post-Covid public health to water issues as urgent priorities in Austin; and

WHEREAS, The Barton Springs Conservancy commissioned the Siglo Group to “look at opportunities and issues to improve the natural areas of Zilker Park over the next four years . . . and to ensure the Zilker Vision Plan process has the needed information to embed ecological health into the planning process,” and the Siglo Group completed a natural resource inventory of Zilker Park in May 2021; and

WHEREAS, To address these needs and further the goals of the City’s Zilker Park Vision Planning process, the Save Our Springs Alliance, with support from the Barton Hills, Bouldin Creek, and Zilker neighborhood associations, sponsored a report prepared by Elizabeth McGreevy to assess the application of rewilding principles to the features identified in the Siglo inventory; and

WHEREAS, The final opportunities for community engagement in the planning process are scheduled for February 15, 2022*; and

WHEREAS, The South Central Coalition (ANC sector 7, including Barton Hills, Bouldin Creek, Dawson, Galindo Elementary, South Lamar, and Zilker) has endorsed the Rewilding Zilker Park Report**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Austin Neighborhoods Council endorses the Rewilding Zilker Park Report and will request that its recommendations be included in the final draft of the Zilker Metropolitan Park Vision Plan that is submitted to the public in March 2022.

Presented to ANC Membership: February 23, 2022

ANC Membership Approved: March 23, 2022

Sponsor Contact: Julie Woods, Sector 7 Representative: jwoods78704@gmail.com

* From the City website: “Community Meeting #4 – Draft Plan: Conduct a community meeting to present the draft Vision Plan to the community. The meeting will be designed to solicit feedback, generate alternate ideas, recommendations, and solutions to draft proposals. An emphasis will be placed on soliciting feedback and generating alternate recommendations on proposals that are controversial or that lack consensus. Following this meeting, the project team will report back to the community, respond to comment themes, and present the refined concepts”



April 3, 2022

Austin City Council
City Hall
301 W. 2nd
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Honorable Mayor Adler, Mayor Pro Tem Alter, Council Members Natasha Harper-Madison, Vanessa Fuentes, Sabino Renteria, Jose Vela, Ann Kitchen, Mackenzie Kelly, Leslie Pool, Paige Ellis, and Kathie Tovo,

The Austin Neighborhoods Council Membership passed a resolution regarding the Rewilding of Zilker Park, in which we request that its recommendations be included in the final draft of the Zilker Metropolitan Park Vision Plan that is submitted to the public in March 2022. This is an extremely important issue for our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this ANC resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Aguirre'.

Ana Aguirre
ANC President

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