



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

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CITY CLERK
2015 FEB 19 AM 8:19

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Councilman Ron Nirenberg, District 8

COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Edward Benavides, Chief of Staff; Chris Callanen, Assistant to the City Council; Martha G. Sepeda, Acting City Attorney; John Peterek, Senior Management Analyst

SUBJECT: Linear Creekway Safety

DATE: February 18, 2015

Issue Proposed for Consideration

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available meeting of the Governance Committee:

Directing City staff, with input and guidance from the Parks and Recreation and Linear Creekway Advisory Boards, to develop a strategy for bolstering safety and security throughout the Howard W. Peak Greenway Trails System.

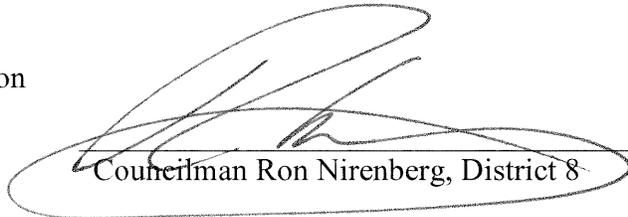
Brief Background

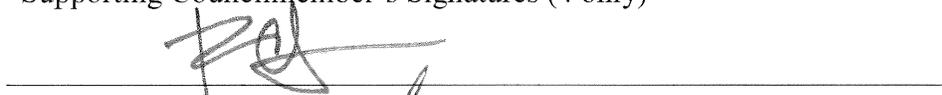
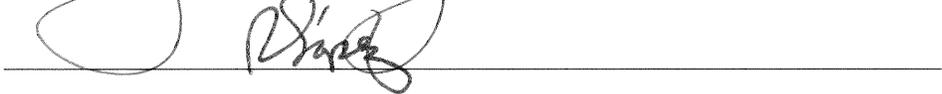
Over the past 15 years, San Antonio citizens have voted resoundingly to invest in our creekways, with the intention of building the best linear park system in the world. Today, the Howard W. Peak Greenway trails reach every corner of our city and continue to be developed. However, violent and property crime, without a direct and proactive strategy of prevention, would have the effect of reducing the impact of this investment and preventing the quality-of-life advantages created by the parks.

A superior linear parks system is deserving of a superior security plan that benefits park-goers of all ages and is concurrent with the development of the trails. This plan should consider all possible courses of action to keep residents and visitors safe, including but not limited to: security camera systems, additional staff and/or Trail Watch Program resources, Emergency Blue Light devices, and an intensive public education campaign.

The Linear Creekway Development Program (“Howard W. Peak Greenway Trail System”), which provides sales tax funding for the land purchases and trails development, was approved by voters in 2000, 2005 and 2010. On Feb. 12, 2015, City Council approved ballot language that places renewal of this program on the May 9, 2015 municipal ballot. There are currently 46 miles of developed greenway trails now open to the public, with an additional 40 miles of trail under development. Trails are now either built or planned for many of San Antonio’s creeks, including the Salado, Leon, Huebner, Olmos, Huesta, Culebra, Alazan, Apache, Martinez, San Pedro and the Medina River. These linear parks consist of approximately 1,200 acres of creek-side open space, which are critical to the City’s quality of life and fitness goals.

Submitted for Council consideration
by:


Councilman Ron Nirenberg, District 8

| Supporting Councilmember’s Signatures (4 only) | District No. |
|---|--------------|
| 1.  | 1 |
| 2.  | 4 |
| 3.  | 9 |
| 4.  | 6 |

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