



## Parks & Recreation

**To:** Mayor and City Council Members  
Doug Faseler, City Manager

**From:** Jack Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Through:** Rick Cortes, Assistant City Manager

**Date:** June 16, 2015

**Subject:** **Resolution of the City Council of Seguin, Texas approving Walnut Springs Trail as the name of the hike and bike trail being constructed along the Walnut Branch south of FM 78 (West New Braunfels Street) to Convent Street.**

In October 2011, the City was awarded a Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP) grant by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for a hike and bike trail project along the Walnut Branch. The project consists of a shared use concrete path for pedestrian and bicycle traffic from FM 78 (New Braunfels Street) going southeast to Convent Street. This project is highly anticipated in our community and when completed will be a great addition to our mobility and the connectivity to many amenities in Seguin. The hike and bike trail runs through Park West connecting to Walnut Springs Park at Court and Guadalupe Streets and to the future Library site off of Nolte Street. The project includes two substantial bridge structures, one over the creek immediately north of Court Street and a longer span bridge over the creek at the Convent Street right-of-way. Those bridges have been set in place and are in the process of being completed.

The project has been delayed several weeks due to all of the wet weather and is now anticipated to be completed in August, weather permitting. With the project about two-three months away from completion, now is an appropriate time to give the trail an official name for public consumption. Over the years, staff has been informally referring to the TxDOT hike and bike project that is currently under construction as the “Hike and Bike Trail”.

Staff proposes to officially name the hike and bike trail “Walnut Springs Trail”. When Walnut Springs Park was officially named several years ago, it was thought at the time that “Springs” sounded better than “Branch” and folks could identify with that name better due to all of the natural springs in the area. In addition, Seguin was originally called Walnut Springs for the nearby fresh water sources. For continuity purposes, it is better to keep the Walnut Springs name going and name the hike and bike trail Walnut Springs Trail as the hike and bike trail connects to the pedestrian trail in Walnut Springs Park.

Staff recommends approval of the Resolution of the City Council of Seguin, Texas approving Walnut Springs Trail as the name of the hike and bike trail being constructed along the Walnut Branch south of FM 78 (West New Braunfels Street) to Convent Street.