

LAKE WORTH ALLIANCE

LAKE WORTH — A LAKE WORTH SAVING

August 20, 2007

Mayor Moncrief and Members of the City Council:

Perhaps you recall that on October 10, 2006, Lake Worth Alliance presented you with over 1000 signatures on this petition. Those signatures represented not only residents in the Lake Worth vicinity, but also scores of people from all over Fort Worth and surrounding communities expressing their concern over the shallow, muddy, dangerous and polluted condition of this city's oldest, largest and most neglected lake, the source of approximately one fourth of their drinking water.

Since that time Lake Worth Alliance has pursued its goal of educating citizens about the urgent need for reclaiming, rehabilitating and conserving Lake Worth, as well as for preserving as parkland the city-owned green space surrounding its shores. We have held public rallies, spoken at City Council meetings, and conferred with City Staff as well as with professionals in the field. You, the City Council, have taken two very significant and farsighted steps: first, in funding a pilot dredging program, designed to provide data that will guide the major dredging project; secondly, in funding that major dredging study project the Lake Worth Capital Improvements Implementation Plan being conducted by Freese and Nichols, Inc. Both projects are well under way.

The total of 2,368 signatures on the petition that we bring you this evening attest to the increasing awareness of Fort Worth citizens that the need for clean drinking water, flood control, safe recreation and aesthetic quality should top your priorities as you consider the historic opportunities enabled by the Barnett Shale revenues. These citizens understand that Fort Worth is moving west. They implore that you take the crucial third step toward an end that benefits the entire city: dedicate, in a separate fund, adequate money to clean and dredge Lake Worth to an optimal depth, to provide for continuing maintenance in the future, and to preserve what precious woodlands still exist around this potential urban oasis.

We appreciate this opportunity to address the issues here tonight, and thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Muelder,
Secretary,
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