SUMMARY:
At their April 5 meeting, the City Council reviewed a report regarding a proposed alternate alignment of a trail connecting Forum Katy Parkway near Katy Place Apartments to the MKT Trail. The alternate plan would route the trail through wooded, city owned property, rather than the Katy Place Apartment parking lots, providing a safer path for trail users. The Council referred the issue to the Parks and Recreation Commission for their comment and recommendation.

DISCUSSION:
The Parks and Recreation Commission met at the proposed trail site and walked the alternate alignment prior to their May 20 meeting, then discussed the route as part of their regular meeting agenda.

The Commissioners expressed support for the alternate alignment, citing safety concerns with the route winding through parking lots. Pauls expressed a desire to see a trail surface that would be more preferred by runners installed adjacent to the proposed concrete connector trail. Devine said a potential gravel path would concern him if it meant more erosion and/or the need to remove more trees.

A motion was made by Pauls, seconded by Davis, to recommend to Council the approval of the alternate alignment of the Katy Place Trail, with the caveat that design engineers be asked to investigate the possibility of adding a running surface adjacent to the concrete trail.

Voting in favor of the motion: Kloeppe1, Blevins, Pauls, Devine, Davis
Opposed: None
Absent: Donaldson
Motion passed unanimously.

FISCAL IMPACT:
No fiscal impact is anticipated as a result of this report.

VISION IMPACT
The proposed alternate trail alignment directly addresses vision strategy 12.4.2: achieve trail connectivity in new and existing developments.

SUGGESTED COUNCIL ACTIONS:
Accept this report and consider the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission as part of the on-going review of the proposed alternate trail alignment.