**For Immediate Release**
**April 2, 2010**

**For more information contact:**
Jerry Hendrix, 512-262-3921
City of Kyle

**Kyle City Council Goes to the Limits to**
**Learn More About City Operations**

Kyle, TX – Anyone familiar with the City of Kyle knows that change in the city is the only thing that stays the same. The city spent most of the last decade as one of the fastest growing cities in Texas, increasing its population from 5,000 in the year 2000, to approaching 30,000 in 2010. Add to that a series of changes with elected officials that will result in five of the council's seven seats changing representatives, it seemed that a very sharp learning curve was called for.

In response, Kyle city staff and the city council initiated a daylong workshop that literally took them to all corners of Kyle city limits and was designed to put real-life experience in front of existing, new and future council members. The workshop, which was held on April 1st, was open to all current council members as well as any candidates for the May election.

"We wanted to show the council some of the work done on a daily basis in the city that the council does not get see from their seats on the dais," said City Manger Tom Mattis. "I think the council, as well as the candidates, should be commended for taking an entire day out of their busy schedules to take the time to experience some of the great work being accomplished every day by our city crews and staff."

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The day started with a tour of Kyle City Hall and introductions to City department heads and staff. The tour was followed by presentations from selected departments and a walking tour of the historic downtown area. Following the walking tour, the council was taken by Kyle Trolley to a tour of the Kyle Community Library, the Public Works department maintenance facility, and then on to lunch at the Kyle Pool.

The afternoon portion of the tour took the council to various projects around the city, including all the water pumping stations, the soon to be new Public Works Building, the Plum Creek Preserve and Nature Trail, and the wastewater treatment plant, along with numerous construction projects, parks and utility sites.

"On behalf of the council, I'd like to thank the staff for taking the time and interest to show us all the work currently going on in the city," said Kyle Mayor Lucy Johnson. "We spend so much time dealing with policy decisions, we rarely get the opportunity to see how those decisions are put to work."

Much of what the council witnessed on Thursday included the results from the issuance of debt by previous councils to fund projects like the Downtown Streetscape Project, expansion of the Kyle Parkway and Center Street Bridges, road expansion and extensions for Kyle Parkway and Kohler's Crossing, and numerous utility projects. Projects currently under construction include expansion of the Kyle Crossing Bridge and improvements to the I35 access roads north of Kyle Parkway.

"This was a somewhat historic day for the City of Kyle," said Mattis. "This is the first time in my experience that a city council has come together with city staff to put faces and places together with the actions taken in the council chambers. The staff really enjoyed being able to demonstrate how we are utilizing the funds and equipment that the council has approved for use over the last several years."

(more)

"There are a lot of really great projects being completed in the City of Kyle that will greatly improve the quality of life for our citizens," said Johnson. "But we can also see that there are still a lot of areas that need attention, and as a council, we are committed to addressing those needs and doing so in a fiscally responsible manner."

In addition to being one of Texas's fastest growing cities over the past decade, the City of Kyle has also recently seen tremendous growth in its commercial sector with over two million square feet of retail space currently under development. The City also has benefited from the addition of the 210-bed Seton hospital that opened in Kyle in the fall of 2009. The hospital has been a catalyst for many new medical service businesses coming to the city, further diversifying Kyle's economic portfolio of workplaces and services for residents, employers, employees, and visitors.

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**For Immediate Release**
**April 7, 2010**

**For more information contact:**
Jerry Hendrix, 512-262-3921
City of Kyle

## Kyle City Council Accepts City Manager's Resignation

Kyle, TX – The Kyle city council accepted the resignation of City Manager Tom Mattis at their regular council meeting on Tuesday, April 6th.

The resignation was accepted after a lengthy executive session with a five to two vote in favor of the motion to accept the resignation.

"I am very appreciative of Mr. Mattis' years of hard work for the city," said Kyle mayor Lucy Johnson. "Time and again he has proven himself to be a dedicated manager. It was the council's view, unfortunately, that Mr. Mattis' relationship with the council and the city had come to an end. In his departure, however, I know we all wish him the best."

Voting in favor of accepting the resignation was mayor Lucy Johnson and council members David Salazar, Russ Huebner, Becky Selbera, and Jaime Sanchez. Voting against accepting the resignation was mayor pro tem Michele Lopez and council member David Wilson.

Part of the motion included a payment by the City to Mattis of an amount between $200,000 and $250,000 which will be determined by an audit of Mattis' salary and benefits as called for in his contract.

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“I am very proud of our service to the city of Kyle,” said Mattis in a statement issued after the meeting. “We made history. Our team achieved heights never before seen in Kyle - which will never be repeated in any 8-year period. I am thankful to have been given the opportunity.”

The city council will convene a special meeting on Tuesday, April 13th, to appoint an interim city manager and begin the process of recruiting and selecting a new city manager.

Mattis was appointed Kyle city manager in January 2002, and was Kyle’s first full-time professional city manager.

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For Immediate Release
April 14, 2010

For more information contact:
City of Kyle
Jerry Hendrix, 512-262-3921

# Kyle City Council Appoints Interim City Manager

KYLE, TX – The Kyle City Council has appointed current Kyle Assistant City Manager James R. Earp, CPM, to serve as interim city manager while the council conducts a search for a new permanent city manager.

The appointment was the result of a special called council meeting on Tuesday, April 13th, that included council interviews with Earp and outgoing Elgin City Manger Jeff Coffee. The vote to appoint Earp was unanimous.

Earp came to Kyle in September 2006, from the City of Ennis where he served for two years as Assistant to the City Manager.

"After extensive discussion from the council on Tuesday night, it was clear James Earp would be the best fit for Kyle moving forward in the interim," said Kyle Mayor Lucy Johnson. "We believe his knowledge and experience from serving as assistant city manager in Kyle will serve the city well as we continue work on ongoing projects and head into the next budget season."

Earp, who replaces former city manger Tom Mattis, will receive a $3,000 month stipend in addition to his current salary while he serves in the interim role. The council voted 5 - 2 on the salary stipend with Mayor Lucy Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem Michelle Lopez and council

(more)

members Becky Selbera, David Salazar and David Wilson voting in favor of the increase. Voting against were council members Jaime Sanchez and Russ Huebner.

“I’m honored and humbled that the council has seen fit to entrust me with this huge responsibility, said Earp. “It is my promise to the council, city staff and most of all, the people of Kyle, that I will work my hardest to prove worthy of that trust.”

"James has done an excellent job serving as an assistant city manager,” said Johnson. “I'm really excited to get to work with him as our interim manager during these next few months."

Earp has a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington and has also received a Graduate Certificate in Environmental Management, focusing heavily on sustainable development of cities, from Harvard University. He also a holds a BBA in Finance and a BS in Economics from Tarleton State University and has completed the requirements for his Certified Public Manager designation.

“I realize that it is always difficult to make the necessary transitions when a city manager leaves, especially after such a long tenure as Mr. Mattis,” said Earp. “I will endeavor to assist making that transition for everybody involved as seamless as possible while working to continue moving the City of Kyle forward.”

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**For Immediate Release**
April 14, 2010

**For more information contact:**
Lucy Johnson, Mayor of Kyle
mayor@cityofkyle.com
(512) 913-4742

# Kyle Mayor to Meet with Young Elected Officials in Washington

KYLE - Kyle Mayor Lucy Johnson will join more than 200 other young elected officials in Washington, DC next week at the fifth annual convening of the national Young Elected Officials Network.

The participants, elected officials from across the country, are all under the age of 35. The young leaders will meet with a number of national leaders in Washington and share with each other their policy ideas, leadership strategies, and best practices.

"I'm really excited to have the opportunity to meet other young people in my position and get to share our ideas and unique perspective on governance and public policy issues."

Johnson, age 26, was elected Mayor just three months ago in a special election on February 13th. At the convening, she will share and discuss with other elected officials best practices for local governance, including job creation, economic development, budgetary reform, energy efficiency and protecting the environment.

The Young Elected Officials (YEO) Network consists of over 550 young city, county, state and federal officials from all 50 states.

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"These young elected officials play a critical role in our local, state, and national governments," said Andrew Gillum, Tallahassee City Commissioner and executive director of the YEO Network. "They are leaders in policy debates around the country, and manage billions of dollars in public funds. They are passionate, innovative, and committed to helping their communities be places of freedom, fairness, and opportunity. The YEO Network National Convening is a great way for them to work together to share ideas and empower each other as they continue their careers in public service."

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For Immediate Release
April 21, 2010

For more information contact:
City of Kyle
Jerry Hendrix, 512-262-3921

**Some Kyle Access Roads to go One-Way on May 4th**

KYLE, TX – The Texas Department of Transportation will switch the current two-way access roads between Kyle Parkway and FM 2001 to one way on May 4th, 2010.

This conversion is part of a $?? Million dollar road construction project

The east side, frontage road of IH 35, from FM 2001 to Kyle Parkway will convert to one way north bound on May 4th.
The west side, frontage road of IH 35, from FM 2001 to Kyle Crossing will convert to one way south bound on May 4th.

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**For Immediate Release**
**May 7, 2010**

**For more information contact:**
City of Kyle
Jerry Hendrix 512-262-3921

# Request for Coverage:
# City of Kyle to Rededicate Historic City Hall

**What:** Officials from the City of Kyle will rededicate the City's historic city hall after a $700,000 facelift that has restored much of the early 1900's era building to it's original state. Joining the rededication will be Congressman Lloyd Doggett and members of the Kyle Area Senior Zone who are contributing and additional $100,000 worth of appliances for the interior or the building.

**When:** Saturday, May 8th, 4 pm

Where: 101 Burleson St, Kyle, Texas

**Who:** Kyle Mayor Lucy Johnson, Congressman Lloyd Doggett, State Representative Patrick Rose, Kyle Interim City Manager James Earp, representatives from the Kyle City Council, Kyle Area Seniors Zone and other dignitaries.

**Why:** The Historic Kyle City Hall served as the seat of Kyle government in 1960s and 1970s when the city was a small ranching community. Now, the City of Kyle is one of the fastest growing cities in Texas and a "Hot Spot" for commercial and residential growth. Even with the tremendous growth, City of Kyle elected officials, residents, business owners, and city staff have made a commitment to paying tribute to the City's heritage. The refurbishment of the Historic City Hall, along with the displaying of Kyle's famous ranch brands on the City's new bridges, demonstrates that commitment.

Photo Opps: Ribbon cutting for Historic City Hall, comments from officials, tours of the building,

Other: Food and music in the Historic City Hall grounds through 6 pm.

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**For Immediate Release**
May 11, 2010

**For more information contact:**
Jerry Hendrix, APR
Director of Communications
City of Kyle
512.262.3921

# Kyle Nature Preserve and Trail System Takes Home Envision Central Texas Award

**KYLE, TX –** The City of Kyle's Plum Creek Preserve and Nature Trail is still a few months away from development, but it already is receiving recognition for the planning and innovation that city leaders put forth to make the dream become a reality.

Envision Central Texas declared the 350-acre project the winner of its 2010 Environmental Stewardship Award for Public Policy and Planning. Kyle's entry for the award was also the sole finalist in its category this year based on the merits of the project.

"I am so happy and so proud of our city for receiving this prestigious recognition," said Kyle Mayor Lucy Johnson. "We have worked on this project for a long time and we are proud to be bringing it to reality. This is a perfect example of how a city can work together with the community and other organizations to create a real benefit for our residents."

Once the project is complete, the Plum Creek Preserve & Nature Trail will offer the community numerous outdoor recreational opportunities, including over 350 acres

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of open space to roam and play in, over 6 miles of nature trails to hike over, 2 large lakes to fish in, wildlife viewing points, natural areas, picnic sites, wetland preserve and even a wildflower meadow. The development of the project will begin within six months and should be available to the public within two years.

“Now that the planning and preliminary work is done, I’m ready to get actually building the preserve,” said Kerry Urbanowicz, Kyle Parks and Recreation Director. “This is really going to be the crown jewel for our parks system and something the entire region can enjoy.”

The Plum Creek Preserve & Nature Trail will be located east of IH35 and will run along the portion of the City's Plum Creek Watershed, ultimately connecting all Kyle's residential, commercial and school developments along the watershed.

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**For Immediate Release**
May 11, 2010

**For more information contact:**
Jerry Hendrix, APR
Director of Communications
City of Kyle
512.262.3921

# Kyle Police Looking for information on missing 12-year-old girl

**KYLE, TX -** Kyle police are investigating the disappearance of a 12-year-old Kyle girl.

Emily Nicole Cherkitz has been missing from her home since early Tuesday morning. Emily is 5'7", 146 lbs, and has blue eyes and strawberry blond hair over her shoulders. She is believed to be wearing a blue shirt.

According to Emily's family she may be attempting to find transportation to the state of Washington. Additional unconfirmed reports state that she may be in the company of unknown associates in an unknown make and model silver colored sedan.

Anyone with any information regarding the whereabouts of Emily should contact the Kyle Police Department at 268-3232

Photo attached

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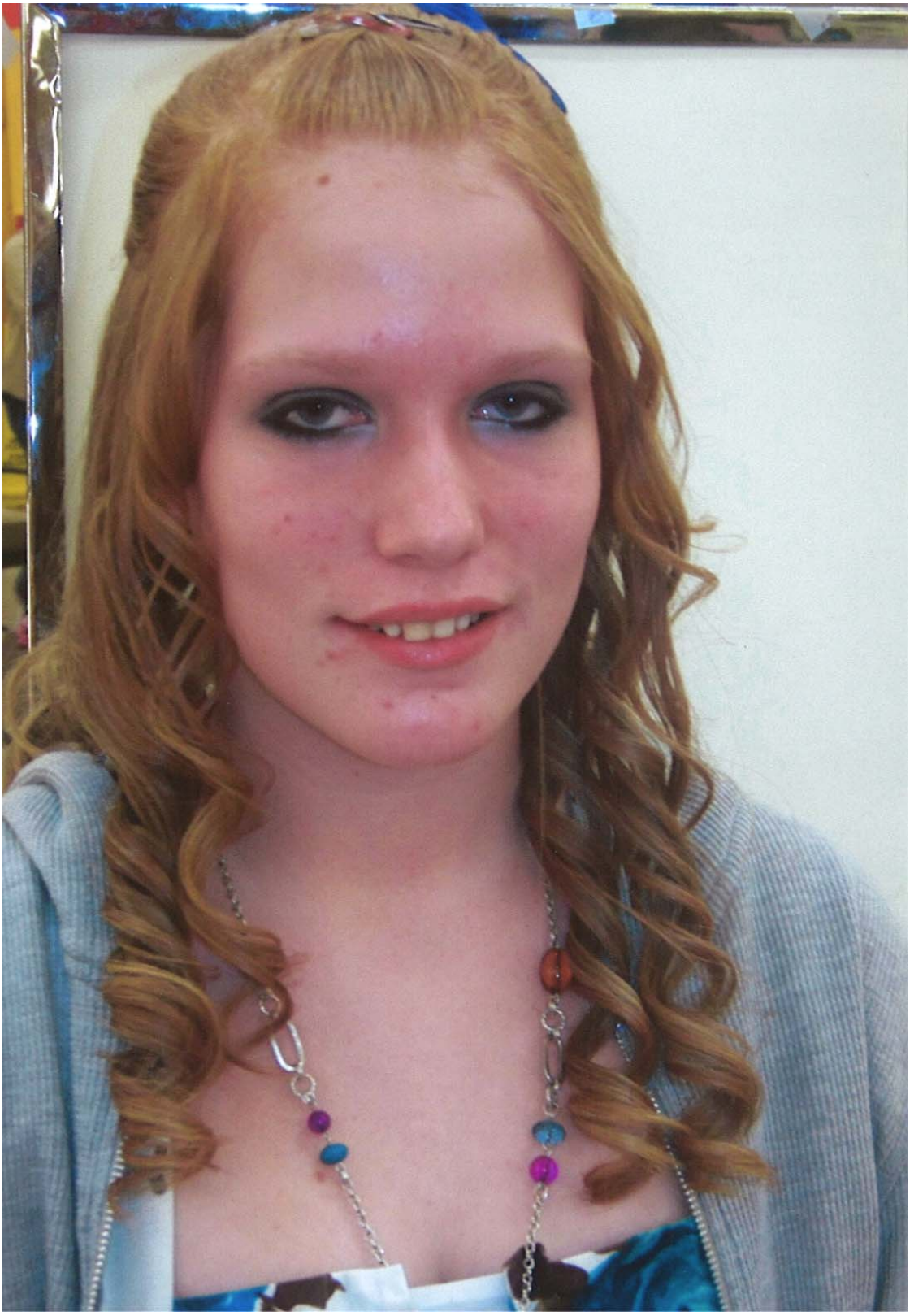

**For Immediate Release**
May 19, 2010

**For more information contact:**
Jerry Hendrix, APR
Director of Communications
City of Kyle
512.262.3921

# Kyle City Council Approves New Library

## Construction could begin as early as October 2010

**KYLE, TX –** The Kyle city council unanimously approved moving forward with the construction of a new library during its regularly scheduled meeting on May 18th.

The approved budget of $3.657 million was over the $3.2 million target set by the council last year, but council members agreed that project was long overdue and that the final result would be worth the extra expenditures.

"Our current library has been a great asset for our community for a very long time," said mayor Lucy Johnson. "But the time is finally here to deliver a new library, with all the modern features libraries can now offer, to our citizens for them to use and be proud of for a long time to come."

The new Kyle Library, located in the western part of Kyle's historic downtown, will be 20,000 square feet and will feature community rooms to accommodate meetings and gatherings as well as special areas for teens and young children. Expanded computer areas and an outdoor plaza and amphitheater feature will also be included.

(more)

The exterior of the building will feature limestone and brick and will mirror Kyle's architectural brand established with the construction of its new City Hall four years ago

"The library building committee has worked diligently for the past year to plan a library that would serve the community of Kyle and become a true landmark for our city," said Kathy Ryan, Library Building Committee Chairperson. "We are delighted that the project has been approved by council and construction will begin soon."

Kyle's current 5,000 square foot library is located in the heart of downtown Kyle and has served the community since 1962. Since then, Kyle has grown from a small ranching community to a full service city of approximatly 30,000. Much of Kyle's growth has occurred over the past 10 years when the city was the fifth fastest growing city in Texas.

"I am thrilled that we are able to bring forward such a quality project for our city," said interim city manager James Earp, CPM. "The building committee has done a very thorough job of making sure to meet the council's expectations and getting as much for every dollar as possible."

Construction of the new library is expected to start as early October of this year with completion expected by the end of 2011. The architect is BLGY, Inc and the contractor is Raymond Construction, Inc.

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**For Immediate Release**
May 24th, 2010

**For more information contact:**
Jerry Hendrix, APR
Director of Communications
City of Kyle
512.262.3921

# Kyle Officers Ask Drivers to "Click It" So Officers Won't Have to "Ticket"

**Kyle, TX** – The Kyle City Council has proclaimed May 24th through June 6th as the Click It or Ticket period in Kyle, Texas. Police officers in Kyle are hoping for more "Click It" than "Ticket".

"Our purpose during this period is to educate motorist, not only about the law requiring people to buckle their seatbelts while in the car, but also way it is important to take this precaution," said Kyle Police Chief Michael Blake. "We don't want to be writing tickets for people not wearing their seat belts anymore then we want to be seeing people seriously injured because they weren't buckled up."

According to the Click It or Ticket web site (www.buckleuptexas.com), Texans are using their safety belts more than ever before. Based on statewide surveys completed by the Texas Transportation Institute, a record high 91.83 percent of Texans buckled up in 2007 compared to the 90.44 during 2006. The current 91.83 percent safety belt usage translates into an estimated 1,600 fewer Texans killed in traffic crashes

(more)

and an estimated 37,600 fewer injuries on Texas roadways.

“We promote this every Memorial Day because this signifies the start of the Summer driving season,” said Blake. “But we live this everyday, and our goad is for all motorists to live this everyday as well.

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**For Immediate Release**
May28th, 2010

**For more information contact:**
Jerry Hendrix, APR
Director of Communications
City of Kyle
512.262.3921

# Request for Coverage
# Kyle VFW to Honor Fallen Veterans

**What:** Kyle/Buda VFW Post 12058 will perform a memorial ceremony in honor of all those who so dutifully serve our country and in memory of our departed veterans.

**When:** 10:00 am on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31, 2010

**Where:** Kyle/Buda VFW Post 12058,
103 S. Front Street
Kyle, Texas

**Why:** There are in excess of 1,000,000 Veterans of all wars in which the United States has participated who have lost their lives in defense of our Country. The citizens of Kyle understand that this annual event honors those brave men and women, sons, daughters, husbands, wives, friends, and neighbors, who have willingly answered the call to service, some even giving their lives in defense of our democratic principles.

**Who:** City of Kyle council members and officials, Kyle/Buda VFW Post 12058 representatives and color guard.

**PHOTO OPPS:**

Rifle salute by the Kyle/Buda VFW Post 12058 Color Guard
Presentation of Mayoral Proclamation by Kyle Mayor Lucy Johnson

**For immediate Release**
**June 2, 2010**

**For more information contact:**
**City of Kyle**
**Jerry Hendrix 512-262-3921**

**Kyle City Council Seeking Applications for Community Support Dollars**

**Kyle, Texas** – The Kyle city council is taking applications for allocations of $30,000 set aside in this year's budget for supporting service organizations in the City of Kyle. Applications must be submitted to the Kyle City Secretary by Noon on Thursday, July 1st.

Application forms can be downloaded from the City of Kyle's web site at cityofkyle.com. The forms are also available at the Kyle City Hall, Kyle Public Library or by requesting them by calling the City of Kyle at 262-1010.

Qualifying organizations must provide services directly to the citizens of Kyle. Final recommendations regarding the allocation of the funds will be made by the city council's community relations committee and presented to the Kyle city council. The council is scheduled to hear the recommendations and make final decisions on allocating the funds at the July 20th regular council meeting.

For more information, contact the City of Kyle Communications Department at 512-262-3921 or jhendrix@cityofkyle.com.

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**For Immediate Release**
**June 16, 2010**

**For more information contact:**
City of Kyle
Jerry Hendrix 512-262-3921

# City of Kyle Kicks-off Water Quality Education Program

**KYLE, TX -** The City of Kyle officially kicked-off a landmark education program designed to increase awareness about the importance of the area's creeks and streams. The program is funded by a $517,000 grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, of which $310,000 is reimbursable.

Part of the grant has already been used to purchase 1,000 markers that will be placed on Kyle's storm drains to serve as a reminder that the drains connect with Plum Creek Watershed and that trash, chemicals and yard waste should not be placed in the drains. Other parts of the program will include enhanced monitoring of the creek, additional education programs, and implementation of various activities designed to keep pollutants out of the creek.

"The City of Kyle has been making great strides in many areas relating to how responsibly we are going to grow our community," said Kyle Mayor Lucy Johnson. "It is only fitting that we also extend our efforts towards being good stewards of our natural resources. This grant will allow us to do remarkable things with Plum Creek that will only enhance the quality of life for everyone."

(more)

Other activities and programs funded by the grant include: Hiring of a GIS technician, purchasing GIS mapping software and equipment, engaging a sub-contractor for retrofitting of detention facilities, installation of dog waste stations, purchasing of a street sweeper, implementing regular trash clean up days on Plum Creek, and develop a comprehensive community outreach program to educate residents about the creek

The City of Kyle is committed to doing our part to improve and maintain the quality of water flowing through our City," said Kyle interim city manager James R. Earp, CPM. "There are many things we can do in our everyday lives to improve our environment. Likewise, we can also distress our natural resources if we do not properly manage everyday things like yard chemicals and pet waste."

Plum Creek Water Protection Plan (PCWPP) grant was issued to improve conditions existing in the creek as identified in the 2004 Texas Water Quality Inventory Report. The report indentifies that the creek is distressed to various contaminant levels of E. Coli and nutrients.

The City of Kyle, located just south of Austin, has been one of the fastest growing cities in Texas for much of the last decade. During that time, Kyle's population has increased from 5,000 residents in the year 2000, to approaching 30,000 in 2010.

PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The preparation of this report was financed through grants from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

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