

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 26305 Agenda Number 83.

Meeting Date: 8/29/2013 Department: Office of Real Estate Services

Subject

Set a public hearing to consider the permanent use and temporary working space use for the construction, use, maintenance, repair, and replacement of a wastewater line for the Austin Water Utility Wastewater Line Relay and Spot Repair Services, 2506 Hartford Road to 2614 Jefferson Street Project, through, over and across dedicated parkland known as Hartford Strip in accordance with Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. (Suggested date and time, September 26, 2013, 4:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX).

Amount and Source of Funding

All costs associated with construction, as well as any parkland restoration, will be paid by requester.

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Junie Plummer 974-7085; Richard Fraser 974-3139; Lauraine Rizer 974-7078; Amanda Glasscock 974-7173.
Boards and Commission Action:	March 26, 2013 - Approved by the Parks and Recreation Board on a 6-0 vote with Board Member Glover off the dais.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code provides that the use of parkland for non-park purposes may be approved upon a finding that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of this land.

The Austin Water Utility Department is proposing to replace a deteriorating wastewater line which was originally constructed in 1935 and serves a portion of the Pemberton Heights neighborhood along the 2500 block of Hartford Road. The Mopac Expressway is now near the wastewater line and repairs of the existing pipe without use of the parkland would require closure of the shoulder and/or main lanes of the Mopac Expressway. Furthermore, the sound wall that the Texas Department of Transportation soon plans to install along Mopac will further limit access for any required repair, maintenance, or replacement of the existing pipe. The proposed replacement wastewater line will be located further east within Hartford Strip (the "Park") which was dedicated by plat in 1941. The alignment will be selected to minimize the overall impact in the Park. This proposed work in the Park will be constructed by an

Austin Water Utility's service contractor. The proposed wastewater line is planned to be approximately 500 – 600 feet in length and include 4 new manholes.

Approval of the use of parkland is made on the condition that all restoration is completed in accordance with the Standard Specifications and Construction Standards of the City of Austin and the Parks and Recreation Department's "Construction in Parks Specifications". The Austin Water Utility Department is required to pay all costs associated with the restoration and tree mitigation as part of the site restoration process.

There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the dedicated parkland which includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to such lands. The dates of public notification in the Austin American-Statesman are September 1, 8 and 15, 2013.