Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: December 13, 2018 Item Number: 053

Eminent Domain

Approve a resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the acquisition of easement rights consisting of approximately 0.077 acres (3,373 square feet) of land a part of Lot 1, Block A, Collins Subdivision, a subdivision in Travis County, Texas, according to the Plat Recorded in Document No. 201600066, the said Lot 1, being described to Rouche LLC, in that certain special warranty deed Document No. 2016058051, of which both documents are recorded in the official public records Travis County, Texas, in the amount of \$5,312. The owner of the needed property interest is Rouche LLC, a Texas limited liability company. The property is located entirely in District 7, at 1800 Scofield Ridge Parkway, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78728. The general route of the project is along the south side of Avenue N and West Howard Lane from the Howard Lane Substation on Gardenia Drive to the east side of Center Line Pass into the Techridge Substation, in Austin, Travis County, Texas.

District(s) Affected: District 7

Lead Department	Austin Energy
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$5,312 is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.
For More Information	Jeff Vice, Director, Local Government Issues (512) 322-6087; Dan Smith, VP, Electric Service Delivery, (512) 505-7009; Pamela England, Manager, Public Involvement & Real Estate Services, (512) 322-6442, Angela Rodriguez, Staff Attorney, Law Department (512) 974-6032. Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action: November 19, 2018 - Recommended unanimously by the Electric Utility Commission on an 8-0 vote with Commissioners Osborne and Wray absent, and one vacancy.

Additional Backup Information:

This project will upgrade the 1.7 mile Techridge-Howard Lane 138kV transmission line. One of the upgraded circuits (Circuit 1004) will be terminated at Howard Lane. The second circuit will bypass Howard Lane and tie into the existing Howard Lane-Jollyville 138kV transmission line (Circuit 961) to create a new Techridge-Jollyville circuit.

The upgrades are necessary for increased safety and reliability, as well as improved connectivity within the overall electric service system. Austin Energy identified 11 easement tracts required for this upgrade project. To date, six property owners have accepted appraised values. The remaining tracts are in negotiations for acquisition.

The current fair market value of the Rouche tract, as determined by an independent, third-party appraiser, is \$5,312. The City has attempted to purchase the needed property. The City attempted to purchase the needed property for this amount however; the City and the property owner were unable to agree on the value of the tract. The Law Department requests authorization to file an action in eminent domain on behalf of the City of Austin.