

City of Austin | Austin Water

P.O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767 AustinWater.org

MEMORANDUM

To:

Water and Wastewater Commissioners

From:

Colleen Kirk, P.E., Utility Development Services

Date:

July 8, 2019

Subject:

Rolling Hills West Sewer LLC (Wastewater SER-4516)

Enclosed is additional technical information related to Wastewater SER-4516 and the Request for Council Action.

Other SERs:

- Wastewater service to the properties was previously approved by City Council on 04/26/2018 under SER-4125. That SER has subsequently expired.
- There are 36 wastewater SER applications located within one-half of a mile of SER-4516. Of these SERs, 28 were approved by City Council, six were administratively approved by Austin Water, and two were withdrawn. None of these SERs were denied by City Council.
- There are two water SER applications located within one-half of a mile of the Property. Of these SERs, one was approved by City Council and one was withdrawn.

Water Utility Service:

- Water service is currently provided by Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No.
- On-site water service (e.g. water well) is not utilized.

Wastewater Utility Service

- Wastewater service from the City is located approximately 100 feet from the properties in SER-4516.
- Decentralized wastewater service (e.g. on-site sewage facility (OSSF)) is currently utilized at the properties but proposed to be abandoned by the Applicant.
- The combined septic tank capacity and drainfield footprint of the existing 30 OSSFs is unknown.
 It is assumed that these systems were originally installed in the 1960's and 1970's when the subdivision was developed.

SER Improvements:

- The SER improvements will cross a known environmental feature, Eanes Creek. The improvements will be located within the Silver Hill Drive right-of-way at this creek crossing.
- The SER improvements will conform to all City Code requirements, be designed in accordance with City's Environmental Criteria Manual and Utilities Criteria Manual, and be inspected by the City's Development Services Department.

If you need additional information, please let me know. Thank you.

cc: Kevin Critendon, P.E., Assistant Director Greg Meszaros, Director



The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Linda Guerrero, Chair, and Members of the Environmental Commission

FROM: Kaela Champlin, Program Coordinator

Watershed Protection Department

DATE: July 9, 2019

SUBJECT: Rolling Hills West Sewer LLC Wastewater SER #4516

Service Extension Requests (SERs) located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone (DWPZ) and outside of the City of Austin's full purpose jurisdiction require Council approval and recommendation by the Environmental Commission. Watershed Protection Department (WPD) staff has completed the review for the Rolling Hills West Sewer LLC wastewater SER and recommends approval of the item.

Site Overview

This SER application (SER #4516) is identical to expired SER #4125. The Environmental Commission recommended approval of SER #4125 on April 4, 2018, and the Water and Wastewater Commission recommended approval on April 11, 2018. The SER was approved by Council on April 26, 2018.

The site is in the City of Austin's 2-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ), adjacent to the City's full purpose jurisdiction. The site is within the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone and the Eanes Creek watershed, which is classified as Water Supply Suburban. Approximately 77 percent of the site is located in the critical water quality zone (CWQZ) or water quality transition zone (WQTZ) of Eanes Creek.

The 11.75-acre site consists of 30 existing single-family residential lots in the Rolling Hills West subdivision, along Silver Hill Drive, Silver Hill Circle, Moon River Road, Pasaguarda Drive, and Constant Springs Drive. The lots were originally developed in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The lots receive water service from the Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 10 (WCID #10) and use privately-maintained on-site sewage facilities (OSSFs) for wastewater treatment. The property owners are requesting centralized wastewater service so they can abandon their existing, aging OSSFs.

The SER site is within the area covered by the Robert E. Lee Road Relief Interceptor Study (August 1996), and within the areas designated for centralized wastewater service in the Report

of the Consensus Building Group (October 1997). There have been 29 prior SERs to provide wastewater service to approximately 27 existing single-family lots in this neighborhood; 28 of the SERs were approved, and one was withdrawn by the applicant prior to the approval process.

Development Impact Analysis

This SER would provide wastewater service for 30 existing single-family residences in an area that is fully developed with single-family residences. WPD staff does not anticipate that providing centralized wastewater service to these homes would facilitate additional development intensity in the area.

Environmental Impact Analysis

All of the existing septic fields are located within the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone. Twenty-four of the 30 lots are located within the CWQZ or WQTZ of Eanes Creek, and many of the existing septic fields are located on lots that drain directly to Eanes Creek. Providing centralized wastewater service may eliminate potential negative water quality impacts associated with onsite septic treatment to those nearby surface water and groundwater resources.

Recommendation

WPD staff concludes that providing centralized wastewater service could solve potential environmental problems associated with the existing, aging OSSFs and would not facilitate increased development intensity in this environmentally sensitive area. Staff therefore recommends approval of SER #4516.

The attached information provides further detail on the applicant's request. Please contact Kaela Champlin at (512) 974-3443 or kaela.champlin@austintexas.gov if you have any questions or comments about the proposed SER.

cc: Kevin Critendon, P.E., Austin Water Colleen Kirk, P.E., Austin Water Chris Herrington, P.E., Watershed Protection Department



