



Memo

To: Clay Pearson, City Manager
From: Jennifer Lee, Sr. Project Manager
CC: Jon Branson, Deputy City Manager
Trent Epperson, Assistant City Manager
Robert Upton, P.E., Director of Engineering & Capital Projects
Skipper Jones, Assistant Director of Capital Projects
Date: 24 May 2018
Re: McHard Road Expansion Project

5/30/2018
To: Mayor and City Council members
Update on the big McHard Road project to make major mobility improvement. Clay

Purpose

This memo provides an update on the McHard Road Expansion from Mykawa Rd. to Cullen Pkwy. The update covers environmental permitting, land acquisition progress, design progress, and current budget projections. In addition, this memo provides information about a forthcoming request to amend the Engineering Design contract to add the design of a fiber optics transmission system to the project scope.

Background

The current scope consists of the construction of approximately 3.5 miles of four lane divided concrete curb and gutter roadway with signalized intersections (Max Rd., Roy Rd., O'Day Rd., Garden Rd., and Hatfield Rd.). Also included in the road design is grading, paving, mixed use sidewalks, drainage, detention pond design, signage, pavement markings, illumination, traffic control plans, storm water pollution prevention plans, landscape/irrigation plans, environmental permitting and clearances, specifications and cost estimate.

Current Status

Environmental Permitting

On September 21, 2016, the consultant submitted an application for a wetlands determination to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) based on prior consultations with USACE and presuming these areas to be non-jurisdictional. USACE pushed the application to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for an ultimate determination after twenty months. On May 17, 2018 the City received the determination letter stating that the wetlands were Jurisdictional and would need to be mitigated. This jurisdictional determination will require the City to apply for an Individual Permit which can take a year or more to complete. The Design and Environmental consultants are reviewing the Jurisdictional Determination to determine if there is an alternate course of action.

Land Acquisition

Parcel maps have been approved by TxDOT. The 3rd party appraisals are complete and TxDOT has begun issuing approved appraisal reports for the acquisitions sub-consultant to release to landowners. To date, TxDOT has approved three appraisals for release to begin making offers to landowners.

Design

The design of the McHard Road is approximately 90% complete. Upon completion of the acquisitions, the plans will be submitted to TxDOT for final review and approval. The acquisition phase is expected to take at least nine months. In addition to the acquisition, 100% plans approval will also depend on the approval of the Individual Permit. The project team is aggressively attempting to hold the current bid date of May 2019.

Budget

The proposed 2019 CIP will allocate an additional \$6.7M in 2019 & 2020 to the project. This additional construction funding will resolve the budget deficit that is currently portrayed in the budget analysis below. Also, once the project is bid if there are any cost overruns beyond the cost sharing in the agreement with TxDOT, we will request the overruns be shared 50/50 via a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment through the Houston-Galveston Area Council.

Fiber Optic

Subsequent to the onset of the McHard Road project, the City updated our Intelligent Traffic System (ITS) specification to utilize fiber optics for the primary communications network. This system provides control and video monitoring at intersections and provides overall network connectivity throughout the city including the SCADA system.

Initially, fiber was to be included in the McHard Road Water Line Phase 2 project. The speculation was that due to the waterline installation timing and similar installation techniques, the fiber could seamlessly be installed by the construction contractor. However, it has since been concluded that installing the fiber within the road project is a more viable option to avoid possible damage to the fiber during road construction. Also, the TxDOT partnership and associated cost sharing makes including the installation in the road project a more fiscally responsible option.

As previously mentioned, the McHard Rd. project design began before the current ITS standards were developed. Therefore, fiber optics connectivity was not a consideration of the current roadway design. TxDOT has preliminarily approved the request to amend the scope of the project to add the fiber design and construction within the limits of the project (Cullen Blvd. to Mykawa Rd.). TxDOT's cost sharing is limited to work performed

within the limits of the project defined in the Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA). Design and construction costs beyond these limits will be borne by the City.

Staff is preparing a Supplemental Agreement with TxDOT to amend the design contract adding this additional work to the project and plan to bring this to Council for consideration and approval at the June 25, 2018 meeting.

Next Steps:

Staff will submit to City Council for consideration and approval a Contract Amendment in the amount of \$51,115.01 to add the design of Fiber Optics within the project limits. Under the 80/20 cost sharing agreement, TxDOT will be pay \$40,892.01 and cost to the City will be \$10,223.00.

In addition to the segment of fiber within the project limits, the engineer will submit a proposal to design two segments of fiber along the McHard alignment outside of the project limits. The estimated design cost of the work outside of the project limits is around \$54,000.00. One segment will be from the Westside Event Center along Country Place Parkway to McHard Rd., then east to Cullen Blvd. The second segment will be from west of Mykawa Rd. to Main Street/ SH-35. Freese and Nichols, Inc. has been commissioned to provide a proposal to complete the design of the fiber along this route. The City will be responsible for 100% of this cost. Staff plans to present these contracts at the June 25, 2018 City Council meeting.

Budget Info:

Funding Sources	Series	To Date	Future	Total Budget
Certificates of Obligation			136,382	136,382
General Obligation Bonds	2014	531,488		531,488
General Obligation Bonds	2015	238,566		238,566
General Obligation Bonds	2016A	222,627		222,627
General Obligation Bonds	2017	1,725,715		1,725,715
General Obligation Bonds			7,748,362	7,748,362
General Revenue - Cash				-
Other Funding Sources		12,938,275	20,055,256	32,993,531
Total Funding Sources		15,656,671	27,940,000	43,596,671

Expenditures	To Date	Future	Total
PER			-
Land	3,219	4,122,362	4,125,581
Design	4,416,355	105,000	4,521,355
Construction Contract	88,423	37,767,157	37,855,580
Construction Management/Inspection		1,200,000	1,200,000
Construction Materials Testing		400,000	400,000
FF&E			-
Total Expenditures	4,507,997	43,594,519	48,102,516

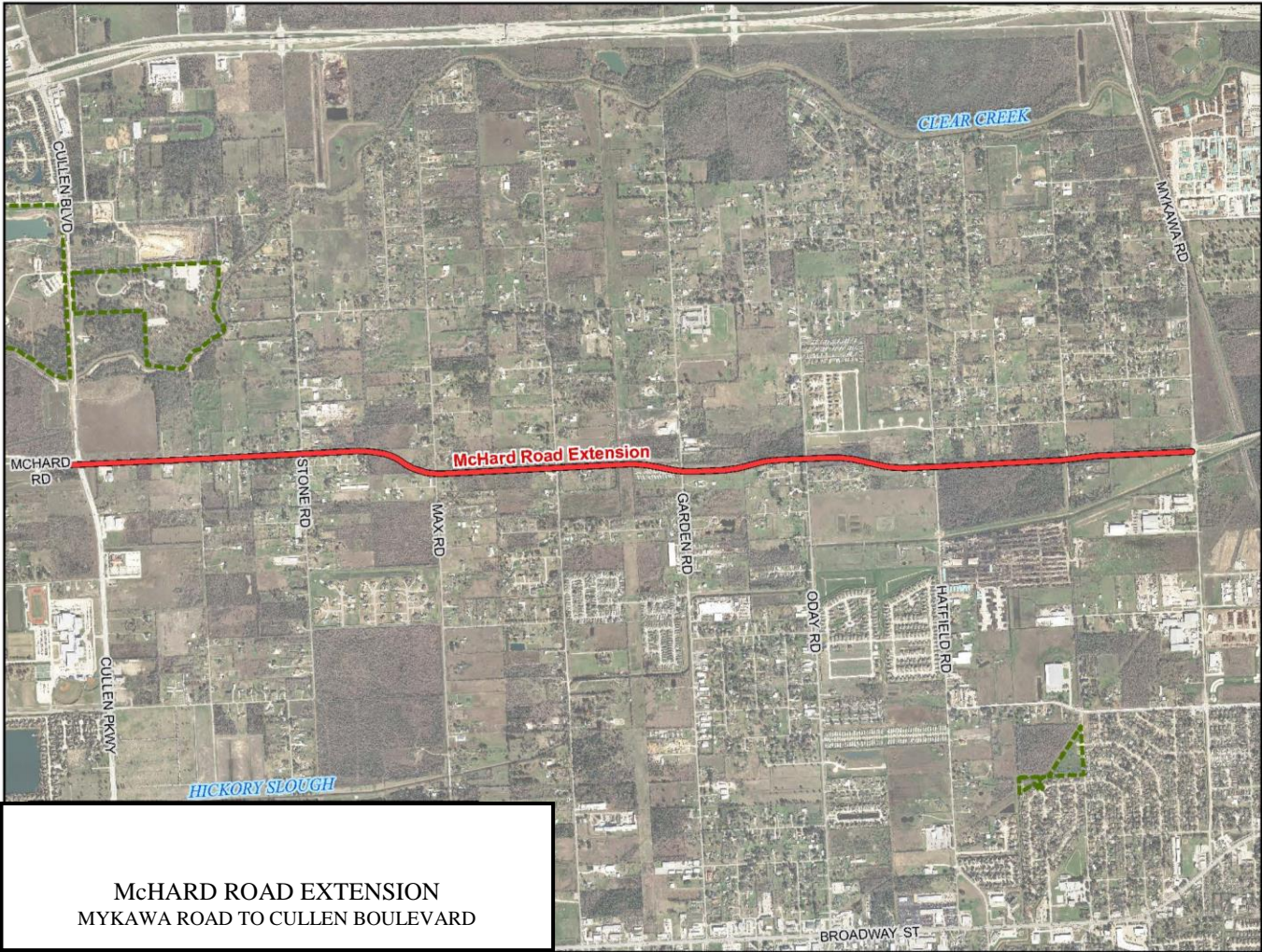
Project Balance/Contingency	(4,505,845)
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Schedule Info:

	Base Line	Current
Design Start	August-14	August-14
Bid Start	April-17	May-19
Construction Start	August-19	
Proposed Construction Completion	August-21	

Previous Memos: October 2015, April 2015, October 2015, February 2016, October 2016, January 2017, May 2017, August 2017, March 2018.

Project Location Map:



**McHARD ROAD EXTENSION
MYKAWA ROAD TO CULLEN BOULEVARD**