



Central Wimberley Wastewater Project - Status Update

January 10, 2020

Prepared By: Shawn Cox, City Administrator

Engineering

Aqua System Feasibility Study

Plummer Engineering is working to complete the feasibility study on Aqua's System for connection of the City's collection system. The HEB/Emergency Lane lift station pumps are rated at 350 gallons per minute (gpm). Plummer has requested information on the operation of the lift station to determine the maximum additional flow that can be accommodated. Plummer expects this information today (January 10) and will proceed in evaluating the maximum flow that could be pumped from the RR 12 lift station to the HEB/Emergency Lane lift station. This flow rate will determine if any modifications to the RR 12 lift station (i.e. diameter and/or depth of wet well) will be necessary. Once received it will take approximately a week to ten days to assess.

Construction

Lift Station (RR12 @ FM 3237)

The lift station specs are being reviewed for possible changes to the wet well depth, diameter and pumps. Any needed changes will be based off the determination of the feasibility analysis. Once any changes are confirmed, the lift station will be ordered for construction to begin. It is expected to take five (5) months once the specifications are approved to have the lift station operational

Collection Lines

Capital Excavation will begin construction of the remaining gravity lines this month (January). A specific start date is not known yet. Lines to be installed are on Oldham, Ranch Road 12, and FM 3237. Once we have a specific start date, we will provide a schedule for when construction on each line is anticipated to start and finish.

Force Main Lines

Reviewing the route to connect the force main from our lift station at Ranch Road 12 & FM 3237 to the HEB/Emergency Lift Station we will look to follow the same trench back to the Cypress Creek Bridge we have used for the gravity line already installed. This would route the force main along Rio Bonito to Blue Heron. From Blue Heron we would take the line up Henson to the Square and onto Ranch Road 12 to connect to the side of the bridge. From the bridge we will direction drill along Ranch Road 12 to take the line to the HEB/Emergency Lane lift station. For convenience a map with this proposed route is attached (lines in green).

To connect the properties on Blue Hole Lane and the Deer Creek lift station to the system, a line running down Blue Hole Road will connect these two areas to a manhole at the end of the gravity line on Old Kyle. This too is shown on the attached map (line in orange).

Easements

The proposed route of the force main will require agreements with two (2) property owners. Discussions with these owners have begun related to the location of the force main line. Currently the City has easement agreements with these owners for the gravity lines. These are being reviewed by the City and the owners to see if they will accommodate the force main lines as well. Continued discussions with the owners are expected to be scheduled for next week, after their review of the project.

Connection to Cypress Creek Bridge

On Tuesday (January 7) I talked with Reed Smith, TxDOT's Transportation Engineer in the South Travis/Hays Area Office, to review what will be required to connect the force main line to the side of the Cypress Creek Bridge. Plummer Engineering is putting together a rendering of what this connection would look like to provide to TxDOT for review.

Ranch Road 12 (Force Main)

In my conversation with Mr. Smith, we also briefly discussed the use of Ranch Road 12 Right-of-Way (ROW) for the installation of the force main north of Cypress Creek for the purpose of connecting to the HEB/Emergency Lane lift station. The line will be installed via directional drilling. The work will be done during the day, and no lane closures are expected.

Wastewater Treatment Contract (Aqua Texas)

Council Member Barchfeld and I met with the City Attorney on December 20, 2019 to continue developing the Contract with Aqua Texas for treatment of the City's wastewater. Charlie (City Attorney) is reaching out to Aqua's attorney and he will be prepared to provide an update on our progress with Aqua in January. Additionally, the City Attorney is reviewing whether there is any opportunity to work with Aqua to construct the line north of the creek.

Engineering (Design)

While we are reviewing whether Aqua can construct the line north of the creek, we are also working with Plummer Engineering on a proposal for engineering services to design this section of the project. There has been no design engineering on the connection to Aqua's lift station at HEB/Emergency Lane. In addition to design, this contract would also include bid coordination for construction of this section. Key components to the proposal are any conditions TxDOT will ask for regarding connecting to the Cypress Creek Bridge. As stated above the City and Plummer are working on putting a rendering for review by TxDOT.

Communication

Property/Business Owners

A meeting with a few business and property owners in the Square is being set up for the week of January 20th. The purpose is to provide as much information on the status of the project as possible, including next steps, schedule, and any other information available.

As we did previously, the City and Capital Excavation will work with each property owner to determine the best location for their connection to the system. Additionally, we will coordinate any work in the Square and along Ranch Road 12 with the merchants to mitigate any impact to business.

Town Hall

We are working to schedule a Town Hall meeting for either the week of January 20th or 27th, depending on availability of the Community Center. Much like the meeting with the business and property owners we are looking to provide as much information as we can and answer any and all questions we can.

Other Items

Sewer Utility Rates

The City last adopted utility rates in August 2017. The final rates were to become effective after the completion of the final phase of the Discharge Permit (WQ001321001). As we are now connecting to Aqua's system the final phase of the permit will not be complete. Building from the numerous rate studies the City has undertaken, a new rate model is being developed internally. The model will make sure the rates are sufficient to cover the cost of operating the utility system (maintenance/administration costs/etc.), payment of debt, capital improvements (major repairs/improvements). A draft is anticipated to be ready for Council discussion in late February or early March.

Impact Fees

The City started the development of its impact fees in 2016 with the selection of HDR to assist in the assessment and establishment of the fees. While this was to be completed in January 2017, no committee was established, and no fees were evaluated or adopted.

Based on the utilization of Aqua Texas to treat the wastewater produced, I am working with our City Engineer/Project manager and Plummer Engineering to determine if there is still a need to establish these fees.

Utility Billing

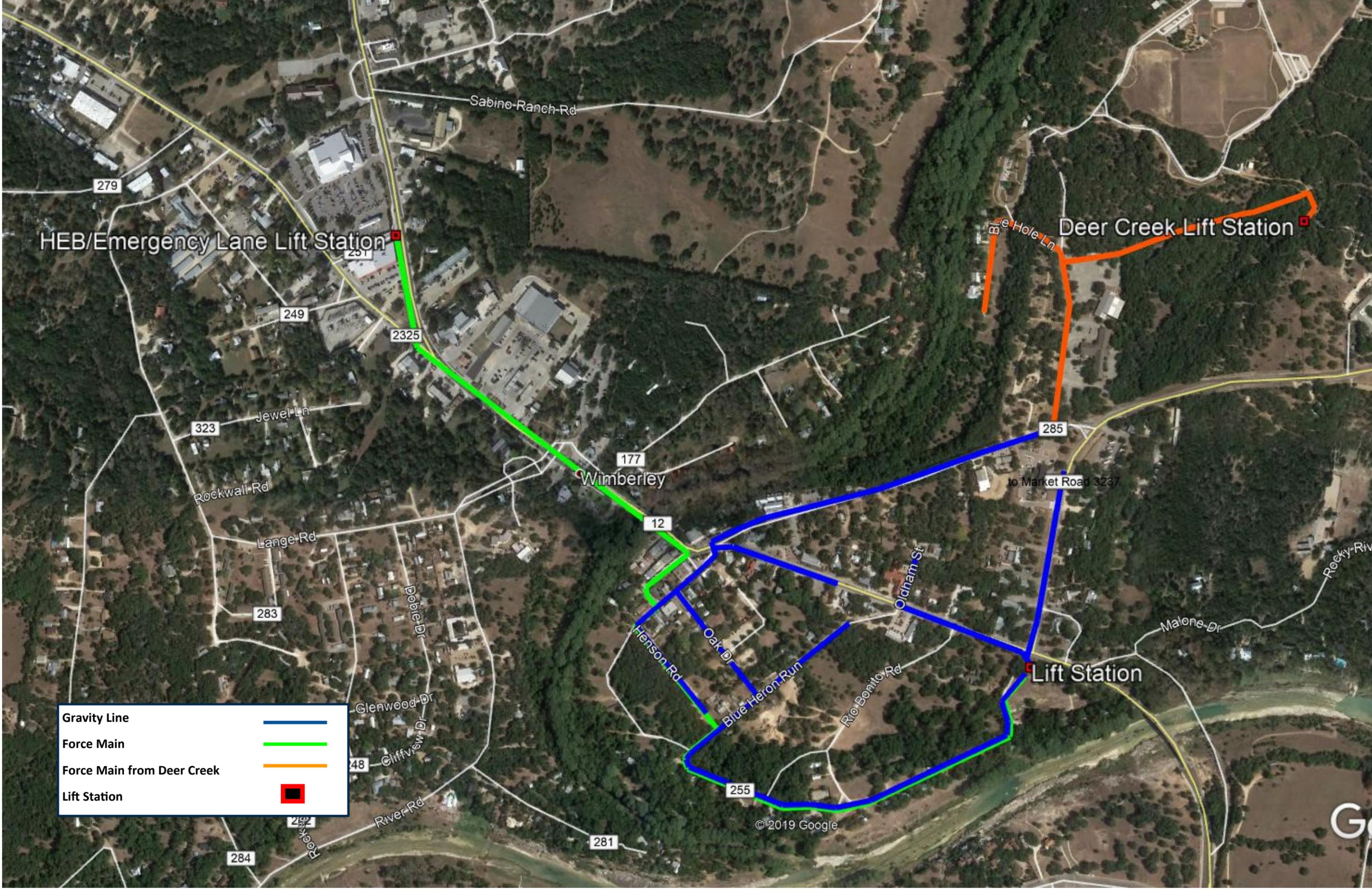
Currently the City's Financial Clerk sends out the utility bills for the City. There are only two (2) customers being billed. We are reviewing our current finance software and the modules it can accommodate to see if there is a solution for expanding our billing needs. We, along with the Wastewater Ad Hoc Advisory Committee have also looked at how this could be accomplished with the programs we have now. Options for Council consideration are anticipated to be reviewed in March or early April.

Schedule

| Construction | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>Component</u> | <u>Start</u> | <u>Completion</u> |
| Collection Lines (CO#4) | January 2020 | July 17, 2020 |
| - Gravity Lines (RR12) | TBD | TBD |
| - Gravity Lines (FM 3237) | TBD | TBD |
| - Force Main (Deer Creek/Blue Hole) | TBD | TBD |
| - Lift Station | TBD | 5 Months from Start |
| Collection Lines (Aqua Connection) | TBD | TBD |
| - Connection to Cypress Creek Bridge | TBD | TBD |
| - Force Main (RR12-Directional Drill) | TBD | TBD |
| - Tie in to HEB Lift Station | TBD | TBD |
| Contract | | |
| Negotiate Aqua Contract | August 2018 | TBD |
| Other | | |
| Update Sewer Utility Rates | January 2020 | February/March 2020 |
| Impact Fees | TBD | TBD |
| Utility Billing | January 2020 | March/April 2020 |

Attachment(s)

- Collection System Map



HEB/Emergency Lane Lift Station

Deer Creek Lift Station

Wimberley

Lift Station

- Gravity Line
- Force Main
- Force Main from Deer Creek
- Lift Station