



Central Wimberley Wastewater Project - Status Update

May 22, 2020

Prepared By: Shawn Cox, City Administrator

Construction

Lift Station (RR12 @ FM 3237)

Capital has completed the trenching up to the lift station. Excavation was set to start last week but was delayed due to weather. Work is now scheduled for the first week of June. The wet well is ready and will be delivered and set once excavation is complete. Total time to have the lift station operational is four to five months. The lift station is anticipated to be operational in August 2020.

Collection Lines

Capital Excavation begin work on Ranch Road 12 this weekend (May 17). Construction is at night. The portion of Ranch Road 12 from Blue Heron to the intersection at FM 3237 is closed to through traffic during construction. Detour signage has been placed on Ranch Road 12 coming into town before the Winters Mill bypass and the Blanco River Bridge. Once the lines have been installed on Ranch Road 12, Capital will begin installation on FM 3237. This work will also be at night and will require traffic to be diverted. Installation of the Ranch Road 12 lines (gravity and force main) is expected to be completed by May 29. Once completed, Capital will begin work on FM 3237 rather than Oldham. This change in schedule is to finish up all night work. Work on Oldham is expected to begin around June 8. These lines will be installed during the day.

Force Main Lines

Construction in Blue Hole Park will be postponed until August to comply with U.S. Fish and Wildlife guidelines. This change in schedule will keep construction from taking place during Golden Cheeked Warbler nesting season. Installation of the force main line along Ranch Road 12, from Blue Heron to the lift station at FM 3237, will be completed in conjunction with the gravity lines being installed. This is expected to be completed by May 29.

Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Coordination

The TWDB has been provided a copy of the signed agreement with Aqua Texas. Our Bond Counsel will be working with them to schedule closing of the Refunding Bonds approved by Council on August 15, 2019. The closing of the bonds was deferred until both parties (City and Aqua) had an approved agreement.

TxDOT

Review of Plans North of Cypress Creek (Force Main & Connection to Bridge)

TxDOT has completed the initial review of the plans for connection to the Cypress Creek Bridge. TxDOT's Structures Group and Bridge Division are working with Plummer to complete a load analysis for our proposal. This was expected to be completed this week (week of May 17), but unfortunately the TxDOT systems were attacked (hacked) by Ransomware last week. Once their systems are back up and running, the load analysis will be completed.

Reed Smith has approved the alignment (route) of the force main line up Ranch Road 12 to the HEB/Emergency Lane Lift Station. With this approval, plans are being finalized for submittal next week (week of May 25).

Contract(s)

Construction Contract

The section of force main being installed north of Cypress Creek will need to be sent out for bid. To award the contract as soon as possible, we are working with Plummer and the TWDB on necessary contract language to provided to our City Attorney for review.

Communication

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

An updated list of frequently asked questions and answers is being put together. Previous lists focused on the construction of the plan and discharge. What we want to provide with this updated list are answers to the question our customers may have. If there are specific questions you have, please send them to me at scox@cityofwimberley.com, so we can include them.

Property/Business Owners

Any property or business owners who would like to meet with the City, please reach out to me at scox@cityofwimberley.com. I am happy to provide an update on the status of the project.

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. Historically, this involved going door to door to contact the resident or property owner. We will also utilize written notices to contact those we are unable to meet face to face. This will involve a notice at the property (typically on the front door) which will provide a time frame for construction and contact information for the contractors and City. If you think we may miss anyone, please have them contact me at scox@cityofwimberley.com. We will make sure they are included in the project's coordination.

Other Items

Sewer Utility Rates

Building from the previous rate studies the City has undertaken, and utilizing the developed models and schedules, a new rate model is being developed internally. The model will make sure the rate schedule adopted is enough to cover the cost of operating the utility system (maintenance/administration costs/etc.), payment of debt, capital improvements (major repairs/improvements). A telephonic Council Workshop has scheduled for May 26 to discuss the rates and assumptions utilized.

Impact Fees

An "Impact Fee," per the Texas Local Government Code (Chapter 395.001(4)) is a "charge or assessment imposed by a political subdivision against new development in order to generate revenue for funding or recouping the costs of capital improvements or facility expansions necessitated by and attributable to the

new development.” This is a fee imposed to recover costs related to expanding a utility system in order to accommodate the new development(s).

The City, when it adopted its most current wastewater utility rates in 2017, included a “Capital Recovery Fee” of \$2,500 per each Living Unit Equivalent (LUE). A “Capital Recovery Fee” such as the one implemented by the City, is a fee assessed to recover costs a utility provider has fronted in order to install a utility system. The current fee established by the City only applies to customers initially connecting at the time the system is operational. It does not apply to customers already connected to the system (Deer Creek & Blue Hole) or new development starting after the system comes online. This is different than the “Impact Fee” defined above.

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 impact fees.

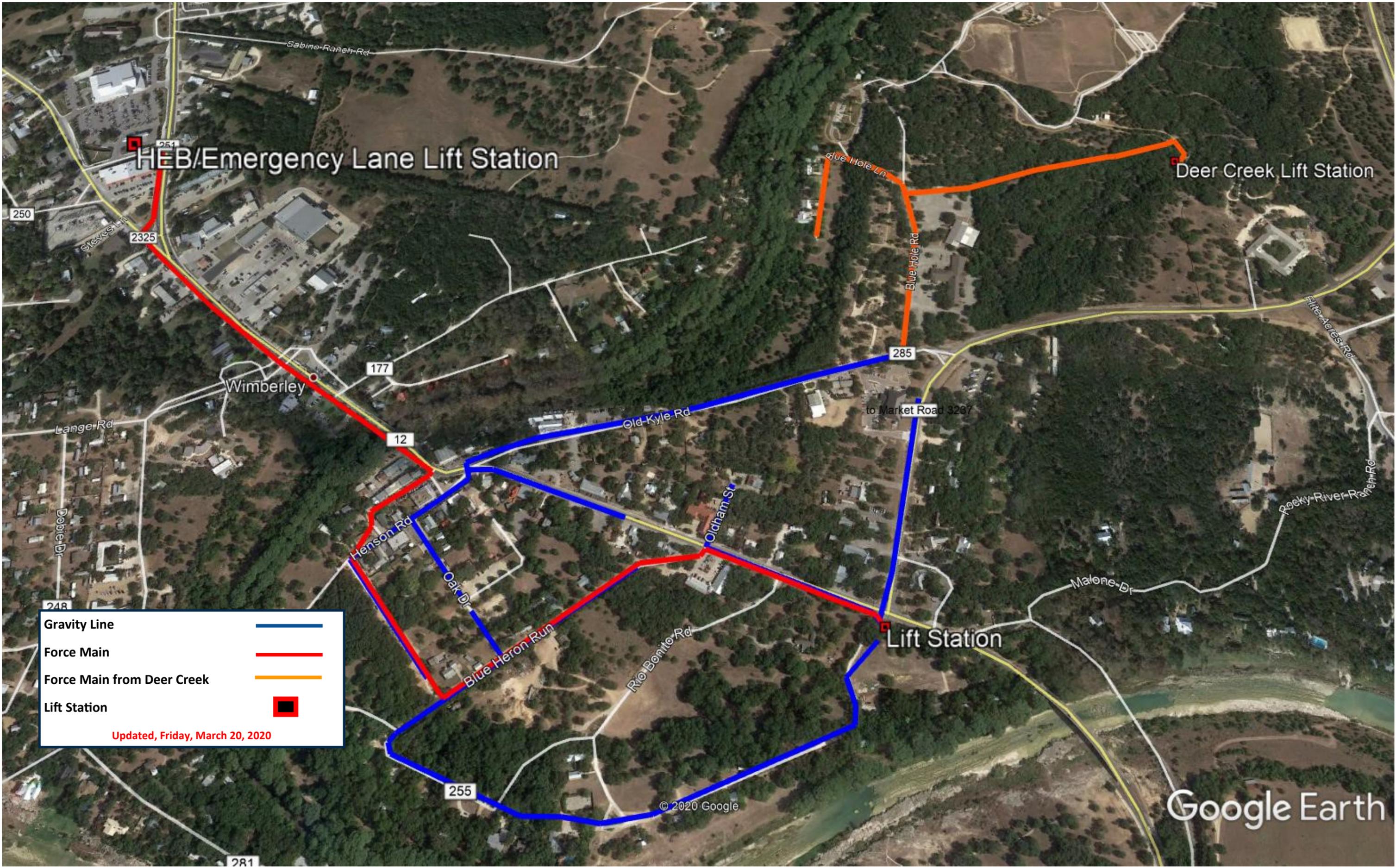
Schedule

An updated schedule chart has been put together by our Project Manager at Gilpin Engineering. Included in the chart is the construction schedule provided by Capital Excavation and the design/review schedule from Plummer Associates.

Construction		
<u>Component</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Completion</u>
Collection Lines (CO#4)	February 2020	August 2020
- Gravity Lines (RR12)	June 2020	July 2020
- Gravity Lines (FM 3237)	June 2020	July 2020
- Force Main (Deer Creek/Blue Hole)	May 2020	August 2020
- Lift Station	April 2020	August 2020
Collection Lines (Aqua Connection)	July 2020	October 2020
- Design Force Main	February 21, 2020	April 2020
- Connection to Cypress Creek Bridge	Pending Review from TxDOT	2-3 Weeks from Approval
- Force Main (RR12-Directional Drill)	Pending Review from TxDOT	2-3 Months from Awarded Contract
- Tie in to HEB Lift Station	Currently Being Designed	October 2020
Contract		
Negotiate Aqua Contract	August 2018	Completed April 2020
Other		
Update Sewer Utility Rates	January 2020	April 2020
Impact Fees	TBD	TBD
Utility Billing	January 2020	May 2020

Attachment(s)

- Collection System Map
- Wastewater Collection System Schedule



HEB/Emergency Lane Lift Station

Deer Creek Lift Station

Lift Station

Gravity Line	
Force Main	
Force Main from Deer Creek	
Lift Station	

Updated, Friday, March 20, 2020

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WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM SCHEDULE

