



Central Wimberley Wastewater Project - Status Update

July 17, 2020

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Construction

Lift Station (RR12 @ FM 3237)

The Lift Station was installed on Thursday July 9. The lower end of the collection lines from the square to the Lift Station are being installed this week including two manholes. The vault containing the pumps for the Lift Station are being shipped on July 20 and will be installed upon arrival.

Collection Lines

Capital Excavation completed the installation of gravity lines on the west side of FM 3237 and crossed over to install lines on the east side of FM3237. We are awaiting approval from TXDOT to crossover FM3237 one more time at the north end of FM3237 to install another manhole and make connections for the Wimberley Inn and the Trailer Park. Work on Oldham Street is expected to begin once work on FM3237 is finished. Oldham street work will be done during the day.

Force Main Lines

The Force Main line from the Lift Station to the south side of Cypress Creek bridge has been installed and tested. We have received approval from TXDOT to attach the force main pipe to the downstream side of the RR12 bridge. This will be done as soon as the Xray results are received. Construction in Blue Hole Park will begin in August to comply with U.S. Fish and Wildlife guidelines to protect the Golden Cheek Warbler.

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.

Plummer and the City have been coordinating with the TWDB on the environmental review. We are working to provide Mr. Miller with the TWDB all the necessary documentation. According to Ms. Miller, "This is the type of project modification that appears to qualify for a Statement of Findings to amend the existing Finding of No Significant Impact dated August 6, 2014."

TxDOT

Review of Plans North of Cypress Creek

TXDOT is still reviewing the plans for the installation of the Force Main north of Cypress Creek. Erin Wiesehan, our representative from Plummer and Associates is working closely with Reed Smith from TXDOT to get these plans approved as soon as possible.

Contract(s)

Construction Contract

The section of force main being installed north of Cypress Creek will need to be sent out for bids. The City will be working with our Contract Attorney and representatives from Plummer and Associates to prepare the bid documents.

Communication

Property/Business Owners

Response to the letter mail out on June 12 has been positive, and many of the question have centered on rates and connection requirements. In conjunction with the letter, the City has created a utilities webpage (www.cityofwimberley.com/utilities). A copy of the letter will also be emailed to the businesses in our service area using the addresses we have been able to compile from the chamber and merchants.

Any property or business owners who would like to meet with the City, please reach out to the Mayor for 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 contracts and City. If you think we may miss anyone, please have them contact the city. We will make sure they are included in the project's coordination.

Other Items

Sewer Utility Rates

On Tuesday, May 29, Council held a workshop to discuss sewer rates. A copy of the rate presentation can be found [here](#). The rates shown in the presentation have not been adopted. Additional rate scenarios and comparisons were discussed on Tuesday, June 9. That presentation can be found [here](#).

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 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) | May 2020 | Completed June 2020 |
| - Gravity Lines (FM 3237) | June 2020 | July 2020 |
| - Force Main (Deer Creek/Blue Hole) | Aug 2020 | September 2020 |
| - Lift Station | July 2020 | August 2020 |
| Collection Lines (Aqua Connection) | Sept 2020 | November2020 |
| - Design Force Main | February 21, 2020 | June 2020 |
| - Connection to Cypress Creek Bridge | Aug 2020 | Aug 2020 |
| - Force Main (RR12-Directional Drill) | Pending Review from TxDOT | 2-3 Months from Awarded Contract |
| - Tie in to HEB Lift Station | Oct 2020 | November 2020 |
| Contract | | |
| Negotiate Aqua Contract | August 2018 | Signed April 2020 |
| Other | | |
| Update Sewer Utility Rates | August 2020 | November 2020 |
| Impact Fees | TBD | TBD |
| Utility Billing | January 2021 | June 2021 |









