

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council

June 4, 2024

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SUBJECT: TRINITY RIVER WATERWHEEL INITIATIVE UPDATE

The purpose of this Informal Report is to provide an update on the Trinity River Waterwheel Initiative which is a collaborative and innovative partnership project between the City of Fort Worth, Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD), Streams & Valleys, Inc. and private donors to support a clean and healthy Trinity River. This report supplements the information provided in a previous Informal Report issued on October 24, 2023 and will provide an update on anticipated project timing.

Waterwheel Procurement and Funding Status

Funding for the waterwheel project comes from the following sources listed in the table below.

| Donations and Commitments (as of June 2024) | |
|--|--------------------|
| Funding & donations received | \$240,700 |
| City of Fort Worth | \$350,000 |
| Tarrant Regional Water District | \$350,000 |
| Other committed donations | \$400,000 |
| Available project funding | \$1,340,700 |

Waterwheel Fundraising

The City and its partners continue to engage in private fundraising efforts. Fundraising efforts include outreach to corporations, private foundations, and individuals who are being referred through partners. Additional donors will be announced as donations are received. The City, TRWD, and Streams & Valleys offer special thanks to our current donors, included in the table, below.

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Christine A Miller & Gary H Glaser Charitable Fund | Mrs. Renfro's |
| Freese & Nichols | Nicholas Martin Jr. Family Foundation |
| Greater Fort Worth Assoc. of Realtors | Terracon |
| GWR Foundation Fund | TTI, Inc. |
| Leggett & Platt | Wilkes Family Charitable Fund |
| META | UpSpire |
| Fort Worth City Credit Union | Plummer Associates, Inc. |
| Keep Texas Beautiful | Other Individual Donors |

The City, TRWD, and Streams and Valleys continue to work together to strategize on additional donors.

Project Procurement and Estimated Costs

The initial Request for Proposal (RFP), released in 2023, was for the installation of two Waterwheels in the Trinity River. Funding was inadequate to install waterwheels in two locations therefore, the City and its partners focused on fundraising and installing a single Waterwheel at the Purcey Street Outfall. A second (RFP) was issued, and closed in January 2024. The responses were evaluated and for the second time, each response exceeded available funding. The presented prices for the scope of work exceeded the engineering estimates provided in the RFP and available

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project budget. Cost drivers are related to increased construction material prices for steel and concrete, subcontractor availability, and the increased cost of labor.

After evaluation and interviews, staff requested last and final proposals from respondents. Last and final proposals did not reduce the cost estimates. The proposals received in January 2024 are listed in the table below.

| Proposals Received January 2024 | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Proposal | A | B |
| Construction of Mooring Pilings | \$1,274,200 | \$1,203,450 |
| Waterwheel | \$582,000 | \$582,000 |
| Project Expenses | \$1,856,200 | \$1,785,450 |
| Current Project Funding Available | \$1,340,700 | \$1,340,700 |
| Funding Gap | \$515,500 | \$444,750 |

Waterwheel Next Steps

The next steps include a detailed review of the costs associated with each proposal and the impacts by inflationary factors. Adjustments to the RFP scope of work and continued outreach to the fundraising community will be made to advance the project. An update on fundraising efforts needed to close the gap will be provided at a work session in the Fall of 2024.

To learn more about the waterwheel project, and project donors to date, or to contribute, please visit: www.fortworthtexas.gov/waterwheel.

For questions regarding information in this report, please call: Environmental Services Director, Cody Whittenburg, at (817) 392-5455.

David Cooke
City Manager