

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 03/25/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0273

LOG NAME: 80CARTER PARK WLMA - CHAPTER 26

SUBJECT

(CD 11) Conduct Public Hearing and Authorize the Use of Approximately 0.12 Acres of Dedicated Parkland at Carter Park for a Water Line Maintenance Area

(**PUBLIC HEARING** - a. Report of City Staff: Lori Gordon; b. Public Comment; c. Council Action: Close Public Hearing and Act on M&C)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Conduct a public hearing under the guidelines set forth by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 26, Protection of Public Parks and Recreational Lands;
 2. Find that no feasible or prudent alternative exists for the use of Carter Park for water line maintenance area;
 3. Find that the proposed water line maintenance area includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the parkland;
 4. Close the public hearing and authorize the use of approximately 0.12 acres of parkland at Carter Park for the water line maintenance area;
 5. Authorize the use of approximately 0.17 acres of parkland at Carter Park for temporary construction workspace; and
 6. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute and record the appropriate instruments.
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DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize the City of Fort Worth Water Department's (Water Department) use of parkland within Carter Park (Park) for a permanent maintenance area for installation of water line.

The Water Department has requested the use of a portion of the park for a permanent water line maintenance area for replacement and realignment of a 12 inch water line (Project). The new water line will replace an existing exposed 12 inch water line crossing Sycamore Creek, just north of Seminary Drive.

The purpose of this Texas Parks and Wildlife – Chapter 26 parkland conversion process is to use a portion of Carter Park for the realignment of the water line outside the existing permanent maintenance area.

A section of the existing water line crossing Sycamore Creek is exposed to water flow and debris in the channel. The Water Department has identified this project as a priority to replace the water line and bury the line under Sycamore Creek. The section of existing water line exposed will be removed as part of the project. The park will be restored to previous condition or better upon completion of the project.

The proposed water line requires an approximate 15 foot wide by 340 linear foot permanent maintenance area that equates to approximately 5,100 square feet or 0.12 acres. In addition, a temporary construction workspace area totaling approximately 7,358 square feet or 0.17 acres is required for project construction. The method of construction selected within the park is open cut and by other than open cut (directional drill).

The City Forester has determined that no park trees require removal for installation of the new water line. Trees within 75 feet of the project will be protected as a precautionary measure.

Construction is anticipated to begin in February 2025 and last approximately three months. The park will be restored to previous conditions or better upon completion of the project.

In accordance with Chapter 26 of Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, the City of Fort Worth seeks to use a portion of Carter Park for a water line maintenance area.

On November 20, 2024, the Park & Recreation Advisory Board endorsed staff's recommendation to the City Council to authorize the use of portions of Carter Park for a water line maintenance area.

In accordance with state law, the parkland conversion will be advertised in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and *Dallas Morning News* on March 2, 2025, March 9, 2025, and March 16, 2025.

An email announcing the proposed change of use was sent to registered Neighborhood Associations within 1.5 miles of the park before February 21, 2025 and posted on the City's Web page.

In addition, signage was posted at the project site informing the public of the proposed change of use and providing instructions for directing comments to the Park & Recreation Department. The sign will remain posted through the public hearing process.

Carter Park is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 11, east Interstate Highway (IH) 35W, south of Elva Warren Street, west of Campus Drive, and north

of IH 20.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that approval of these recommendations will have no material effect on City Funds.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Dana Burghdoff 8018

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