

# Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/14/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0404

LOG NAME: 80GATEWAY PARK SANITARY SEWER MAINTENANCE AREA

## **SUBJECT**

(CD 4) Conduct Public Hearing and Authorize the Use of a Portion of Gateway Park for the Installation of a Parallel Sanitary Sewer Relief Main and Associated Maintenance Area (Continued from a Previous Meeting)

(PUBLIC HEARING - a. Report of City Staff: Richard Zavala; b. Citizen Presentations; c. Council Action: Close Public Hearing and Act on M&C)

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## **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 Gateway Park for the installation of a sanitary sewer relief main and associated maintenance area;
  3. Find that the proposed sanitary sewer line and associated maintenance area includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the parkland;
  4. Close the public hearing and authorize the use of approximately 2.93 acres of dedicated parkland at Gateway Park for the proposed sanitary sewer line and associated maintenance area; and
  5. Authorize the use of approximately 0.91 acres of dedicated parkland at Gateway Park for temporary construction workspace.
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## **DISCUSSION:**

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize the use of a portion of public parkland for a 50 foot wide by approximately 2,550 linear foot sanitary sewer maintenance area to install a sewer relief main (M-245) with associated infrastructure improvements within Gateway Park.

The City of Fort Worth Water Department (Water Department) is requesting the use of a portion of Gateway Park for installation of a 72-inch sanitary sewer relief main to serve portions of the surrounding project areas, including downtown Fort Worth and service areas to the north and northwest of downtown Fort Worth.

The City of Fort Worth's Wastewater Master Plan identified the need for a parallel sanitary sewer relief main (project) to an existing 72-inch M-245 west fork interceptor to help address system capacity issues in the West Fork Basin. The project alignment enters Gateway Park at Beach Street and Gateway Park Drive. The alignment travels east along the north side of Gateway Park Drive, crosses under Gateway Park Drive just north of the soccer fields, and ends at Disposal Road.

The project will utilize a combination of open cut and bore methods for installation. During construction, Gateway Park Drive will be shared by contractors and the general public. The sanitary sewer line requires an approximate 50 foot wide maintenance area. The proposed maintenance area equates to approximately 2.93 acres for the 2,550 linear feet of sanitary sewer line. The temporary construction workspace is approximately 39,640 square feet, which equates to approximately 0.91 acres. The park will be restored to previous condition or better upon completion.

City of Fort Worth Water Department will be responsible for all public notices, signage, traffic control and safety methods to ensure public safety during construction.

The City Forester has identified 55 trees that require removal, equating to 664 caliper inches, with a mitigation fee in the amount of \$133,000.00 to be paid by the Water Department into the Tree Mitigation Fund for the loss of trees on parkland before any construction work on parkland begins. The existing trees in proximity to the proposed construction will be protected with fencing. The project consultant will continue to work with the City Forester to reduce the impact of trees loss in the park.

On May 25, 2022, the Park & Recreation Advisory Board endorsed staff's recommendation to the City Council to authorize the use of a portion of Gateway Park for a sanitary sewer maintenance area.

In accordance with State law, public notice of the hearing was advertised in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on May 24, 31, and June 7, 2022. An exhibit map was available for public review on the Park & Recreation Department website.

Signage was posted at the site noting the proposed use and providing instructions for directing comments to the department. An email announcing the proposed conversion was sent to White Lake Hills, United Riverside, West Meadowbrook, and Near East Side Neighborhood Associations on May 11, 2022. Staff will note any public comment received during the public hearing Report of City staff.

Gateway Park is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 4.

Gateway Park - located at 751 Beach Street, north of Interstate Highway 30, east of Beach Street, south of East 1<sup>st</sup> Street and west of Oakland Boulevard.

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

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**FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are available in the current capital budget, as previously appropriated, in the W&S Capital Projects 2019 Fund to support the approval of the above recommendations, funds will be transferred into the Tree Mitigation Fund for the removal of the trees. The Park & Recreation Department (and Financial Management Services) is responsible for the collection and deposit of funds transferred from the Water Department.

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