

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 06/27/23

**M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 23-0517

**LOG NAME:** 80COBB PARK/HIGHLAND HILLS ROAD AND PARKING IMPROVEMENTS

**SUBJECT**

(CD 8) Authorize Execution of an Engineering Services Agreement with Neel-Schaffer, Inc., in the Amount of \$177,963.00, for Design and Preparation of Construction Documents for Road & Parking Improvements at Cobb and Highland Hills Parks

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council authorize execution of an engineering services agreement with Neel-Schaffer, Inc., in the amount of \$177,963.00, for design and preparation of construction documents associated with roadway and parking lot improvements for the ARPA Cobb Park Rd/Prking Impro project (City Project No. 104476) and ARPA HH Park Rd/Prking Improv project (City Project No. 104477).

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**DISCUSSION:**

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize execution of an engineering services agreement with Neel-Schaffer, Inc., in the amount of \$177,963.00, for design and preparation of construction documents associated with roadway and parking lot improvements at both Cobb Park and Highland Hills Park.

On September 27, 2022 (M&C 22-0789) City Council approved the allocation of \$4,000,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, Subtitle M (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) for a transfer to capital for Cobb Park road and parking reconstruction, Highland Hills Park road and parking reconstruction, and improvements at the Fort Worth Zoo which include bridge, erosion, and road improvements and the installation of broadband. Of the \$4,000,000.00 in ARPA funds, \$1,500,000.00 was appropriated to fund the road and parking improvements at Cobb Park and \$1,000,000.00 was appropriated to fund road and parking improvements at Highland Hills Park.

Cobb Park is situated along Sycamore Creek with access to US 287 to the north and E. Berry Street to the south. The park encompasses over 224 acres and was originally dedicated in 1921. Project scope will focus on paving and drainage along Cobb Park Drive, beginning on the west side of the new bridge, extending north to US 287.

Highland Hills Park was dedicated in 1968, consists of 28 acres and includes two entry roads with parking lots and the Highland Hills Community Center. Access to the southern portion of the park is provided at the end of Engblad Drive with both the road surface and parking surfaces in need of repair. This project will provide a new driving surface and parking area for this portion of the park.

The ARPA funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026. Staff foresees no issues with these projects meeting that timeline.

Business Equity – Compliant to the BE Ordinance, Section 20-368(d), DVIN does not set goals on federally-funded projects when the City's participation in the agreement is less than \$1,000,000.00.

These projects are located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 8.

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**FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are currently available in the current capital budgets, as previously appropriated, in the Grants Cap Projects Federal Fund ARPA Cobb Park Rd/Prking Impro and ARPA HH Park Rd/Prking Improv projects to support the approval of the above recommendation and execution of the agreement. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Park & Recreation Department has the responsibility of verifying the availability of funds.

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