

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 09/27/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0798

LOG NAME: 80ROLLING HILLS PARK UTILITY EASEMENTS

SUBJECT

(CD 8) Conduct Public Hearing and Authorize the Use of a Portion of Rolling Hills Park for Two Utility Easements

(**PUBLIC HEARING** - a. Report of City Staff: Lori Gordon; b. Citizen Presentations; 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 Rolling Hills Park for the use of two utility easements;
 3. Find that the proposed utility easements include all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the parkland;
 4. Close the public hearing; and
 5. Authorize the use of approximately 0.226 acres of Rolling Hills Park property for the proposed two utility easements.
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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 two utility easements for new athletic field lights within Rolling Hills Park.

Under the 2018 Bond Program, the City of Fort Worth will install eighteen (18) athletic field poles on seven (7) playing fields within Rolling Hills Park. During project design, it was discovered that the existing underground conduit and wire on the west side of the field are not in an easement. Oncor is requesting two easements, one easement on the west for the existing underground conduit and wire and one easement on the east for the proposed conduit and wiring for the athletic field lights.

Easements

1. The west easement requires an area of approximately 10.11 feet by 434.00 feet and an area of approximately 26.88 feet by 22.58 feet equating to a combined area of 4,994 square feet or 0.115 acres of parkland.
2. The east easement requires an area of approximately 10.00 feet wide by 432.18 feet and an area of approximately 26.0 feet wide by 20.0 feet equating to a combined area of 4,838 square feet or 0.111 acres of parkland.

Installation of the utilities require an adjacent temporary construction workspace that is approximately 15' wide by 920' in length totaling 13,800 square feet or 0.317 acres for both the west and east easements combined. The park, including the roadway and parking lot area will be used for access. The park will be restored to previous condition or better upon completion of the work.

The park will remain open during the project. Playing fields may be closed for routine maintenance while construction is underway. The City Forester has determined that no trees are impacted by this project.

On August 24, 2022, the Park & Recreation Advisory Board endorsed staff's recommendation to the City Council to authorize the use of a portion of Rolling Hills Park for two utility easements totaling 0.226 acres combined and two adjacent temporary construction workspace areas totaling 0.317 acres combined.

In accordance with State law, public notice of the hearing was advertised in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on September 6, September 13, and September 20, 2022. Project information and 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 the Glen Eden, Glen Park, Glencrest Civic League, Highland Hills, and Oakridge Terrace Neighborhood Associations on August 15, 2022.

Staff will note any public comment received during the public hearing Report of City staff.

Rolling Hills Park is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 8.

Rolling Hills Park - located at 2525 Joe B. Rushing Road, north of Joe B. Rushing Road, east of Campus Drive, south of East Seminary Drive and west of Wichita Street.

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 these recommendations will have no material effect on City Funds.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Jessica McEachern 5804

Originating Business Unit Head: Dave Lewis 5717

Additional Information Contact: Joel McElhany 5745

Expedited