

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 04/09/24

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 24-0302

LOG NAME: 80MALLARD COVE PARK - CHAPTER 26

SUBJECT

(CD 5) Conduct Public Hearing and Authorize the Use of a Portion of Mallard Cove Park for the Realignment of Randol Mill Road Due to Hazardous Roadway Flooding

(**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 Mallard Cove Park for the realignment of Randol Mill Road due to hazardous roadway flooding;
 3. Find that the proposed improvements includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the parkland;
 4. Close the public hearing and authorize the use of approximately 4.6 acres of dedicated parkland at Mallard Cove Park for the realignment of Randol Mill Road due to hazardous roadway flooding; and
 5. Authorize the use of approximately 2.6 acres of dedicated parkland at Mallard Cove Park for temporary construction workspace area.
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DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize the use of a portion of Mallard Cove Park for the realignment of Randol Mill Road due to hazardous roadway flooding to improve public safety.

The City of Fort Worth Transportation and Public Works Department (TPW) has requested the use of a portion of Mallard Cove Park for the realignment of Randol Mill Road due to hazardous roadway flooding (Project). Randol Mill Road is adjacent to the southern portion of Mallard Cove Park and within the 100-year floodplain. The roadway was selected under the City's Hazardous Road Overtopping Mitigation Program.

The proposed project improvements include:

- Realignment of Randol Mill Road outside the 100-year floodplain;
- Relocation of the park roadway entrance outside the 100-year floodplain;
- Install one 10 foot-wide shared-use path within the park parallel to Randol Mill Road; and
- Install two 10 foot-wide trails connecting the neighborhood to the existing playground area.

The project improvements require the following within Mallard Cove Park:

- Use of approximately 200,996.1 square feet, which equates to 4.6 acres;
- Permanent Maintenance Area of approximately 48,086.3 square feet, which equates to 1.1 acres; and
- Temporary Construction Workspace Area of approximately 111,078.0 square feet, which equates to 2.6 acres for installation of the project improvements.

The City Forester has identified sixteen (16) trees that require removal, equating to 195 caliper inches requiring a tree mitigation fee in the amount of \$45,600.00. The fee in the amount of \$45,600.00 was paid by TPW into the Tree Mitigation Fund for the loss of trees on parkland. The trees include: thirteen (13) Cedar Elms, two (2) Pecans, and one (1) Post Oak. The existing trees in proximity to the proposed construction site will be protected with fencing. The project consultant will continue to work with the City Forester to reduce the impact of tree loss in the park.

Construction is anticipated to begin in December 2024 and last approximately 18 months. No park roadways or trails will be closed during construction. The park will be restored to previous conditions or better upon completion of the project.

On February 28, 2024, the Park & Recreation Advisory Board endorsed staff's recommendation to the City Council to authorize the use of a portion of Mallard Cove Park for the realignment of the roadway outside the 100-year floodplain to improve public safety.

In accordance with state law, the proposed use of parkland was advertised in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on, March 19, March 26, and April 2, 2024.

An email announcing the proposed use of parkland was sent to the registered Neighborhood Associations within one and one-half miles of the park on or before February 23, 2024 and posted on the City Web page.

Signage was posted at the park noting the proposed parkland use and providing instructions for directing comments to the Park & Recreation

Additional Information Contact: Joel McElhany 5745