



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Greg Meszaros, Director
Austin Water Utility

DATE: February 11, 2008

SUBJECT: Repair of Bedding for the 72-inch Water Transmission Main at 3rd and San Antonio

While constructing a utility tunnel for the placement of a wastewater main to serve the 360 Condominium project in the intersection of 3rd and San Antonio Streets, the developer's contractor undermined the gravel bedding for an existing 72-inch diameter water transmission main (Water Main). The roof of the tunnel failed which allowed the gravel bedding to spill into the tunnel. The resulting loss of support created a situation that might impact structural integrity of the City's 72-inch water transmission main.

To prevent failure of the Water Main, its bedding needs to be reestablished. This will be accomplished by injecting grout into the soil and voids around the main. Due to the specialized construction methods required, the scope of the repairs is beyond the capabilities of the Utility's workforce. In addition, the main must be back in service by March 15th. This does not allow enough time to advertise for bids. Therefore, an Emergency Affidavit has been executed and the Utility has acquired the services of a grouting contractor to perform this work.

Prior to commencing the grouting operation, the Utility has utilized an existing contract with a Subsurface Utility Engineering firm to identify the location of existing facilities in the intersection. This information is necessary to plan and execute the grouting operation without impacting the surrounding Utility lines.

The developer's contractor will start work next week to prepare the tunnel area for the grouting operation. City's grouting contractor will initiate the grouting operation beginning February 18, 2008, and we plan to complete the grouting by February 29, 2008. This will release the site back to the Developer's contractor to continue with the tunnel work to install the wastewater pipeline.

If you require additional information regarding this situation, please contact Matt Cullen at 972-0250.

Greg Meszaros, Director
Austin Water Utility

xc: Toby Hammett Futrell, City Manager
Rudy Garza, Assistant City Manager
Gopal Guthikonda, P.E., Assistant Director, Austin Water Utility
Kathi Flowers, P.E., Division Manager, Austin Water Utility
Matt Cullen, P.E., Project Engineer, Austin Water Utility