

## AGENDA



Thursday, December 17, 2009

**Contract and Land Management**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 38

**Subject:** Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to the professional services agreement with PARSONS WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE, INC., Austin, TX, for construction phase engineering services and construction inspection for the Downtown Wastewater Tunnel Project in the amount of \$5,288,039, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$10,510,910.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

**Fiscal Note:** A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** Lora Teed 974-7025; Ayman Benyamin 703-6685; April Thedford 974-7141

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) with 20.43% MBE and 11.25% WBE subconsultant participation to date.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

**Prior Council Action:** November 9, 2000 - Council authorized negotiation and execution of the professional services agreement with Parsons Water & Infrastructure, Inc.; January 26, 2006 – Council approved an amendment to the professional service agreement; July 24, 2008 - Council approved an amendment to the professional service agreement.

This proposed amendment covers Construction Phase Engineering Services and Construction Inspection Services for the Downtown Wastewater Tunnel Project. These services were excluded from previous authorizations and contract actions as the estimate for them was indeterminate at the time. Given the specialty nature of this project, the project team in conjunction with Austin Water Utility management has determined that additional inspection provided by the consultant is critical to the project's success.

The Downtown Wastewater Tunnel will expand the capacity of the wastewater system to accommodate the continued growth of Downtown and South Austin. The tunnel will begin near the intersection of Lamar and Cesar Chavez and extend approximately 3.5 miles to the Krieg Shaft in East Austin. The tunnel varies in diameter between 8 feet and 10 feet.

The existing, primary wastewater line north of Lady Bird Lake is the North Austin Interceptor (NAI). The NAI generally follows the north shore of Lady Bird Lake and collects wastewater from the area roughly bounded by MoPac to the west, Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to the north and Pleasant Valley Road to the east. The NAI currently operates at or near capacity, and additional capacity is required in the system to accommodate continued growth and redevelopment in the downtown Austin area.

The existing, primary wastewater line south of Lady Bird Lake is the South Austin Interceptor (SAI). The SAI generally follows the south shore of Lady Bird Lake and collects wastewater from the area roughly bounded by MoPac to the west, Ben White Boulevard to the south and Pleasant Valley Road to the east.

The SAI is expected to reach capacity around 2010, and additional capacity is required in the system to accommodate continued growth and redevelopment in south Austin.

A major weak point in the system, the Shoal Creek Lift Station, is located along the NAI near the crossing of Cesar Chavez Street over Shoal Creek. During periods of high flow and major rain events, the Shoal Creek Lift Station surcharges, resulting in overflows in the system.

The Downtown Wastewater Tunnel project accomplishes the following goals: Eliminating overflows in the NAI; Relieving flows in the NAI downstream of the Shoal Creek Lift Station; Removing the Shoal Creek Lift Station, an aging and high maintenance structure, from the system; Removing the Toomey Lift Station from the system; Relieving flows in the SAI; Creating additional capacity in the wastewater system for continued growth near downtown Austin.

The Downtown Wastewater Tunnel project is expected to begin construction in January 2010, with the decommissioning and demolition of the Shoal Creek Lift Station to occur in late 2011, and project completion occurring by March of 2012.