



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Greg Meszaros, Director, Austin Water Utility

DATE: January 19, 2011

SUBJECT: Ratification for 24" Valve Repair

A 24-inch water valve at the intersection of Oltorf Street and Schriber Road was found to be broken in September 2010. The Austin Water Utility (Utility) attempted to shut out this 24" main without using this valve, but was unable to do so. With this valve inoperable, a large portion of the Utility's distribution system and a great number of customers would be out of service in the event of a main break. In addition, the broken valve was delaying a project for the Watershed Protection Department that would likely lead to significant claims from the contractor if the situation was not resolved.

Due to the specialized construction methods required, the scope of the repairs was beyond the capabilities of the Utility's workforce. An Emergency Affidavit was executed and bids were requested from four contractors. Bids were received on Friday November 12, 2010 at 2:00 pm; and the contract was awarded on Monday November 15, 2010.

Due to delivery time for the valve and associated piping, the start date for the repair was planned for Saturday, December 4, 2010. Work was done around the clock to minimize traffic and water distribution system disruptions. No customers were out of water during the repair process. The contractor completed the work within 24 hours.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Greg Meszaros, Director
Austin Water Utility

xc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
Rudy Garza, Assistant City Manager
George Calhoun, Assistant Director, Austin Water Utility
Gopal Guthikonda, P.E., Assistant Director, Austin Water Utility
Mark Dollins, P.E., Division Manager, Austin Water Utility
Matt Cullen, P.E., Supervising Engineer, Austin Water Utility