

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	8493	Agenda Number	19.
Meeting Date:	8/18/2011		Department:	Management Services
Subject				
<p>Approve an ordinance vacating the portion of Colorado Street between 10th and 11th Streets and certain other City-owned rights-of-way adjacent to the Texas Governor's Mansion; authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a master agreement with the State of Texas regarding the use of the vacated City right-of-way; amending Chapter 12-1 of the City Code to restrict vehicular traffic on the vacated portion of Colorado Street; authorizing the reimbursement of costs to relocate City utilities in an amount not-to-exceed \$178,440.90; and waiving certain other requirements under Chapter 14-11 relating to vacation of right-of-way.</p>				
Amount and Source of Funding				
<p>Funding is available in the 2010-2011 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.</p>				
Fiscal Note				
<p>A fiscal note is attached.</p>				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:				
For More Information:	Judd Leach, Assistant City Attorney 974-2568; Taja Beekley, City Manager's Office 974-2611			
Boards and Commission Action:				
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				

The requested ordinance will vacate certain right-of-way adjacent to the Texas Governor's Mansion, authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a master agreement with the State of Texas (State) to authorize use of the vacated right-of-way while retaining utility easements, cost participate in utilities relocation, and waive certain requirements for right-of-way vacation.

The State is in the process of restoring the Texas Governor's Mansion. As part of that restoration process, the State under the direction of the Department of Public Safety seeks to implement several new critical security measures at the site as well as overall design improvements. The items that will be addressed in the master agreement include:

- A comprehensive security infrastructure plan with ability to control the portion of Colorado Street between 10th and 11th Streets and provide safe access through a new security screening facility and construction of a guard station
- Development of user-friendly pedestrian and bicycle pathways with high visibility of the restored Governor's Mansion
- Removal of one lane on Colorado Street, to be incorporated into the Mansion grounds at the visitor entrance area, with the other lane closed to vehicular traffic except for emergency and utility repair vehicles.
- Compliance of ADA standards at the street level and into the Mansion grounds
- Reconstruction and improvements on Colorado Street between 10th and 11th according to City specifications
- Removal of certain sidewalks adjacent to the Mansion grounds
- New decorative iron fencing with gates on both side of Colorado Street and entrance to provide protection for the Mansion as needed
- Installation of stationary and retractable bollards at 10th and 11th Streets on Colorado and traffic grade pavers
- New landscaping and planting of trees
- Installation of bicycle racks
- Installation of project specific site utilities
- Relocation of water and wastewater lines and associated reconnections according to City regulations and drawings
- New signage and traffic controls to be set by the City

With the exception of the traffic signal installation and water and wastewater lines relocation, the State will cover all the above expenses and required maintenance in perpetuity or as long as the master agreement is in place.

The State began work on the screening facility under a previously executed license agreement with the City. The State is ready to start immediate construction along Colorado Street and on other redevelopment efforts authorized by the master agreement and have requested the City to expedite the right-of-way vacation process.