CIP
EXPENSE DETAIL

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION: 8/25/11
CONTACT DEPARTMENT(S): Austin Water Utility

SUBJECT. Approve a resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the Harris Branch Interceptor Lower A Project for approximately 2.010 acres of land for a permanent wastewater easement, being out of and a part of the Mariquita Castro Survey No. 50, Abstract No. 160 and the Josiah Wilbarger Survey No. 42, Abstract No. 794, in Travis County, Texas, in the amount of $113,536. The owner of the needed property interests is TRAFALGAR I, LP, A TEXAS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP. The property is located off Gregg Manor Road, several lots north of Parmer Lane at the dead-end of Hill Lane and one lot west of SH-130, in Austin, Travis County, Texas 78653.

CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:

Department:	**Austin Water Utility**
Project Name:	Harris Branch Interceptor (Lower-A)
Fund/Department/Unit:	4570 2307 8843
Funding Source:	Commercial Paper
Current Appropriation:	1,316,678.00
Unencumbered Balance:	330,555.92
Amount of This Action:	(113,536.00)
Remaining Balance:	217,019.92
Total Amount of this Action	113,536.00

ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The design plans for the Harris Branch Interceptor Lower A Project require the acquisition of 2.010 acres of land (87,547 square feet) for a permanent wastewater easement, being out of and a part of the Mariquita Castro Survey No. 50, Abstract No. 160 and the Josiah Wilbarger Survey No. 42, Abstract No. 794, in Travis County, Texas. An independent third party appraisal has established the fair-market value of the proposed easement at $113,536.

The Harris Branch Interceptor Lower A Project is one of two designs that will redirect by gravity flow the wastewater flows from the Harris Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Wildhorse Wastewater Treatment Plant and allow for the decommissioning of the existing Harris Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant. “Lower A” consists of approximately 7,800 linear feet of 30-inch pipe, which include two creek crossings of Harris Branch Creek, one county road crossing (Boyce Lane) and one TxDOT road crossing (Parmer Lane), and connect to a manhole in the “Lower B” interceptor west of SH 130.

The City of Austin has attempted to purchase the necessary easement. The City and the property owner were unable to agree on the value of the necessary acquisition. The Law Department is requesting authorization to file an action in eminent domain on behalf of the City of Austin.