

Agenda Item

Agenda Item #11

Authorize negotiation and execution of a lease with Urban Roots, for approximately 9.405 acres of land for the operation of urban agriculture and commercial farming at the Winnebago Property, located at 4711 Winnebago Lane, Austin, Texas 78744 for a term of 15 years, with one 15 year extension option, with a monthly rental rate of \$1,000.

QUESTION:

Does the City have any short- or long-term plans to provide traffic calming along St. Elmo or any opportunities to create safe passage across St. Elmo to the Winnebago site?

ANSWER:

The Austin Transportation Department (ATD) has not identified East St. Elmo Road for evaluation, nor have we received communication from the surrounding community about specific concerns. We have no short- or long-term plans for traffic calming currently. We are in the process of revamping the traffic calming program as outlined in ATD's memo to Mayor and Council dated October 31, 2018, (<http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/pio/document.cfm?id=309735>). ATD envisions long-term improvements along East St. Elmo Road to include curbs and sidewalks for safer pedestrian accommodations, but currently has not identified funding for such improvements. Additionally, with private landowners directly south of the City's Winnebago property, having direct access to the site from St. Elmo Rd. would necessitate real estate negotiations with those landowners for access easements.