



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Jose M. Guerrero, P.E., Interim Director  
Watershed Protection Department

**DATE:** July 31, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Council Item for Ratification - Emergency Construction Storm Drain Repair  
1111 S. Congress Avenue

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that the Watershed Protection Department (WPD) has procured construction services to repair a failed storm drain pipe located in the S. Congress Avenue right-of-way, near its intersection with Academy Drive, located in District 9. Closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspection of the pipe and visual observation of the condition of the road surface indicated that the failed storm drain pipe was impacting the integrity of the road, posing a threat to public safety. The work to repair the failed condition of the storm drain pipe has been completed, the costs have been tallied, and a payment for \$79,163 has been processed to the vendor, Fuquay, Inc. Request for Council Action Item #47 has been scheduled for the August 8, 2019 City Council Meeting to ratify payment for these services.

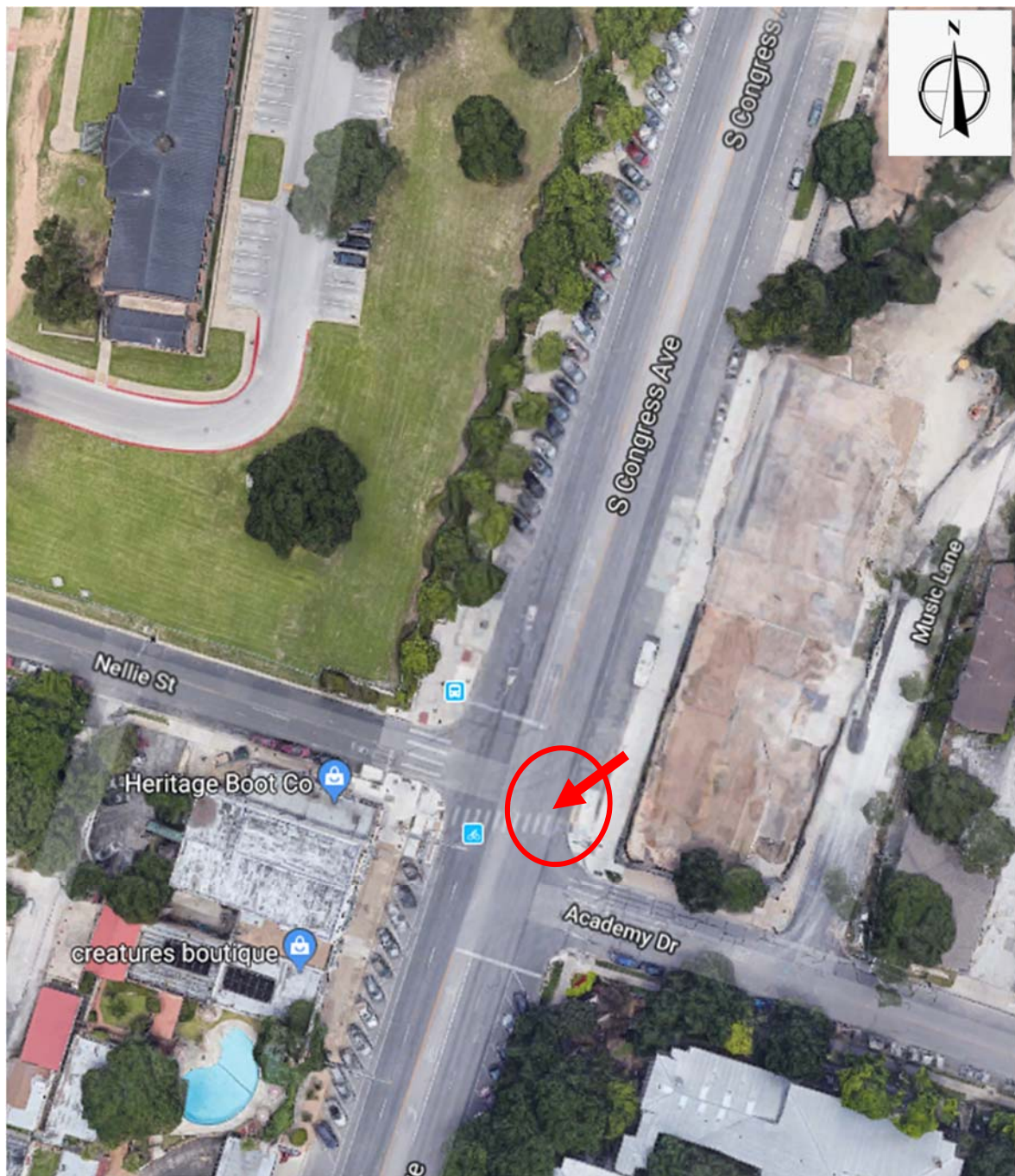
The City became aware of this situation when contacted by the contractor working to develop the property at 1111 S. Congress Avenue. The City began communicating with the developer's team regarding issues encountered while connecting a new storm drain constructed on their property to the existing storm drain system. The City requested that the existing storm pipes be CCTV-inspected to assess the connection point and condition of the pipe.

Upon review of the video evidence, the existing 24-inch pipe located beneath S. Congress Avenue was observed to have several areas where the bottom half of the corrugated metal pipe was corroded, was missing, and was located at a depth ranging between 8 feet to 35 feet below the road surface. Visual observation of the surface of the road near the area indicated that the road had experienced some localized settlement and movement. The soils which were excavated in the local area were visually observed and are generally described as fill soils containing landfill trash and debris. If storm water was not contained within the pipe, erosion of the soils surrounding the pipe would continue and form voids that could develop into a sink hole. Given this information, WPD determined that the conditions required immediate action.

City staff determined that the ideal means to repair the pipe would be to use a trenchless technology to “line” the failed pipe from within manhole access points on either side of the failed pipe. By using this approach, the City facilitated a repair and caused the least disruption to traffic and businesses along S. Congress Avenue. Although the repair was done as an emergency, a cooperative contract was used to ensure the pricing paid was reasonable. Cooperative agreements save taxpayer dollars by leveraging the State’s volume-buying power to drive down costs on hundreds of contracts through a streamlined cooperative purchasing program. In addition, Fuquay, Inc. is certified by the State of Texas as a women-owned, historically underutilized business. Funding for this repair is available from WPD operating funds.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Joseph Zerda, P.E., Watershed Protection Department Project Manager, at (512)974-1522 or at [joseph.zerda@austintexas.gov](mailto:joseph.zerda@austintexas.gov), for additional information.

Cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager  
Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager



**Figure #1: General Location Map – Area of Work**





**Photograph #2 – Uneven Road Surface in Area of Failed Pipe**



**Photograph #4 – Corrugated Metal Pipe, Bottom Gone**



**Photograph #5 – Rehabilitated Storm Drain Pipe**