



TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Robert D. Goode, Assistant City Manager
DATE: April 11, 2012
SUBJECT: Waller Creek Tunnel Project Update

On Thursday, April 12, the City Council agenda will include an item to award the construction contract for the Outlet Facility of the Waller Creek Tunnel Flood Control Project. The apparent low bid for the outlet facility is \$2.7 million below projected costs. The outlet contract is the last of the three largest Waller Creek Tunnel contracts to be awarded (inlet, tunnel, and outlet). With the bids in for this item, ninety percent of projected costs have now been bid, and the project remains on schedule and within budget. A brief status update follows.

Contract Status

The Waller Creek Tunnel project is broken into the seven contracts listed below.

- **Outlet at Waller Beach** (*Contract Award Phase*) – The outlet contract will include a tunnel outfall structure and lagoon adjacent to Lady Bird Lake. On February 23, the City received four bids on the outlet facility. As shown below, the apparent low bid is \$13.16 million, which is below the City’s project estimate of \$15.8 million.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bids</u>
Zachry Construction Corporation	\$ 13,162,313
Laughlin-Thyssen, Inc.	\$ 13,390,448
Quest Civil Construction Texas, LLC	\$ 14,777,777
Oscar Renda Contracting, Inc.	\$ 18,670,489
City Estimate	\$ 15,854,149

- **Waller Creek Bridge Upgrade** (*Completed*) – To improve pedestrian safety near the tunnel outlet and meet parkland mitigation requirements, the bridge over Waller Creek on the Lady Bird Lake trail was recently renovated. The upgrades bring the bridge into compliance with ADA requirements and improve safety by widening the decking to 12 feet.
- **PARD Boathouse** (*Construction nearly complete*) – A new multi-use rowing facility is currently nearing construction completion on the north shore of Lady Bird Lake near the Four Seasons Hotel. Another parkland mitigation requirement, this new facility will replace two smaller rowing buildings constructed in 1987 that are located in the footprint of the tunnel’s proposed outlet facility.

- Tunnel/4th Street Creekside Inlet (*In construction*) – Just over a mile long, the Waller Creek Tunnel will stretch from Waterloo Park (north of 12th Street) to the shores of Lady Bird Lake near the mouth of Waller Creek. The contractor has completed excavating the vertical shaft at 4th Street and has begun horizontal tunneling. Approximately 600 feet of the 5,600 -foot tunnel has been excavated. The tunnel is expected to be complete in late 2014.
- Inlet at Waterloo Park (*In construction*) –Work began on the inlet facility in November 2011. The contractor has erected perimeter fencing around Waterloo Park and has begun site preparation - including the installation of erosion/sedimentation controls and tree protection, utility line relocation and initial excavation of the building footprint.
- 8th Street Creekside Inlet (*In design*) – Located between 8th and 9th Streets, this creekside inlet will allow floodwaters to enter the tunnel downstream from the main inlet at Waterloo Park. The project is currently nearing design completion and construction is anticipated to start in 2013.
- Waterloo Park Restoration (*In design*) – Upon completion of the tunnel inlet in late 2014, this contract will provide for the restoration of those portions of Waterloo Park disturbed by construction as a parkland mitigation requirement. The final design will be coordinated with Parks and Recreation Department staff after additional public input.

If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact me.

cc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
Victoria Li, P.E., Director, Watershed Protection Department
Joe Pantalione, P.E., Deputy Director, Watershed Protection Department
Howard Lazarus, P.E., Director, Public Works Department
Keri Juarez, P.E., Assistant Director, Public Works Department
Doug Matthews, Director, Communications and Public Information Office
