



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-2240, Agenda Item #: 106.

7/28/2022

Posting Language

Approve a resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings and payment to acquire the property interest needed for the Circuit 811 Transmission Electric Line Upgrade Project for the public use of providing reliable, safe electricity service, the acquisition of an electric transmission and distribution easement divided in two parts, one consisting of approximately 0.125 of an acre (5,424 square feet), the second consisting of approximately 0.060 of an acre (2,613 sq.ft); and a temporary construction easement consisting of approximately 0.626 of an acre (27,253 sq.ft) being a portion of Lot 2, Northway Crest section four, a subdivision in Travis County, Texas, according to the plat recorded in Volume 78, Page 376, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas, the said Lot 2, being described to Austin Center in that certain warranty deed with vendor's lien as recorded in Volume 6948, Page 605, Deed Records, Travis County, Texas, currently appraised at \$366,650 subject to an increase in value based on updated appraisals or a Special Commissioner's award. The owner of the property is Austin Center. The property is located at 7801 North Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78752. The general route of the project is along the east side of North Lamar Blvd. from U.S. Highway 183 to the McNeil Substation to the McNeil Substation.

Lead Department

Austin Energy

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$366,650 is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

For More Information:

Thomas Pierpoint, VP Electric Service Delivery, (512) 972-9507; Pamela England, Manager, Public Involvement & Real Estate Services, (512) 322-6442.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

June 13, 2022- Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on an 8-0 vote, with Commissioners Funkhouser and Hadden absent and one vacancy.

Additional Backup Information:

The project includes upgrade of the 4.0 mile transmission line with bundled 795 ACSS Drake conductor rated for 3000 amps, and to reinsulate the line and make-ready for ultimate operation at 138kV. The project will provide redundancy and increase reliability. The downtown service area could be seriously jeopardized if one of Austin Energy's four autotransformers fails and is unavailable for an extended period of time while a replacement unit is being secured. In that scenario CKT811 loads could reach 151 percent of its 120 MVA thermal limit risking outages and fluctuating service. Additional easement widths are necessary for safety and clearance requirements pursuant to the National Electric Safety Code, and for access and maintenance.

The City has attempted to purchase the needed property at 7801 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78752. The City and property owner have been unable to agree on the value of the needed acquisition. The Law Department is requesting authorization to file an action in eminent domain on behalf of the City, and to authorize the City to pay for the property interest in an amount determined by the appraisal, updated appraisal (s), or a Special Commissioners' "award."

Strategic Outcome(s):

Government that Works for All.