



M E M O R A N D U M

To: Mayor and Council Members

From: Richard Mendoza, Director, Public Works Department *Richard Mendoza*

Date: April 15, 2022

Subject: Five Priority Fire/EMS Stations Progress Report

The purpose of the memo is to provide an update on progress responsive to Council Resolution No. 20180524-035, which directed the City Manager to develop a plan to construct and staff five permanent Fire/EMS stations over a six-year timeline in the areas of greatest need as identified in the updated 2017 Austin Fire Department/Austin Fire Association Fire Risk and Service Delivery Analysis Report.

The last update on this effort was December 30, 2021. Since then, owner requested items have been completed at the Del Valle station and warranty items are nearing completion on the Travis Country station. Additionally, Loop 360/Davenport station construction is progressing with the first concrete pours occurring this month.

As you know, COVID-19, as well as the 3.5 percent property tax cap, have had a great impact on our budget and fiscal outlook. Specific to the budget for the one-time capital construction costs, we can still deliver the remaining three stations within the original six-year timeline through the issuance of Certificates of Obligations. However, the ability to fund the ongoing operations of the remaining stations presents a challenge and are working in partnership with the Financial Services Department, the Austin Fire Department, and the Austin/Travis County Emergency Medical Services Department on next steps for delivery given the projected budget constraints.

The following outlines our progress to date, and additional information can be found online at <http://www.atxpublicsafetyprojects.com>

Del Valle/Moore's Crossing Station

- Project is complete. Additional owner requested items complete.

Travis Country Station

- Construction is complete and the station is operational and in the warranty phase. Project team is working with the contractor to address remaining open warranty issues.

Loop 360/Davenport Station

- Property lease has been finalized and approved by City Council in January, with the understanding that Council be better apprised of any future property negotiations.
- Construction is on-going with utility excavation and concrete pours in progress. Estimated completion date is now March 2023 due to additional community outreach efforts and challenging site conditions.

Goodnight Ranch Station

- Design work has started and is progressing quickly.
- Site permit package has been accepted by Development Services and is in review.
- The project remains on schedule with expected construction to begin in June 2022 pending a positive financial forecast to fund operational expenses.
- Property conveyance to the City is anticipated to move forward once Goodnight Ranch Developer has completed development milestones.
- A public meeting to update the surrounding community is being planned for later this spring or early summer.

Canyon Creek/620 Station

- APD facility (shared site) design is in progress and nearing completion, AFD/EMS station design planned to start June 2022.
- Water service extension request will be required. Annexation for the site on the March 24, 2022, council agenda to enable Austin Water services.
- Workplan being developed to enable an earlier construction start date to account for sensitive protective wildlife habitat, pending a positive financial forecast to fund operational expenses.

Next Steps

- Pre-construction public meeting for the Goodnight Ranch station being planned, pending a positive financial forecast to fund operations.
- We will work with you regarding next steps on funding authorization for the final two stations.
- Public Hearing for annexation of the Canyon Creek/620 station on March 24, 2022, council meeting agenda.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact Richard Mendoza, at Richardv.Mendoza@austintexas.gov.

CC: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
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