**Boggy Creek – East MLK**

**Storm Water Conveyance Improvements**

 **Phase 1**

Dear neighbor,

The City of Austin Public Works Department is implementing phase one of a storm water conveyance improvements project that will reduce the flooding risks in the area. Construction will begin in and along East Martin Luther King Boulevard from Boggy Creek to the CapMetro Rail Line on or around March 28, 2020. The construction should take about 1 year.

As part of this project, a pedestrian hybrid beacon (signalized crosswalk) has already been installed at Clifford Ave. and E. MLK to facilitate the safety of neighbors and students crossing E. MLK. In addition, the early installation allowed for a reduction in construction duration.

The project will consist of augmenting the existing storm drain pipeline with a larger stormwater pipeline to better meet the demands of increased development in the area. The project is sponsored by the Watershed Protection Department and construction will be performed by M.A. Smith Contracting Company, Inc.

The standard practice for City of Austin construction projects is to have a meeting with the public to provide an overview of the project. However, directives from Travis county officials have ordered gatherings of no more than 10 people over concerns for the safety of the City of Austin Community due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation. Guidelines from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), state, and national officials have also made recommendations to limit gatherings. Thus, a public meeting will not be conducted prior to the start of construction for this project.

Instead, we encourage you to visit the project website at austintexas.gov/boggymlk or reach out to Public Works Public Affairs at pwdpublicaffairs@austintexas.gov.

Please note that during most of the construction, traffic will be reduced to a single lane in both the east and westbound lanes on E. MLK Blvd but vehicles will always have access in either direction. Utility services will not be impacted by the project. The contractor’s working hours will be Mon-Sun from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.