CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS

Russell Humphrey, Mayor

Vicki McKenzie, Mayor Pro Tem
Position 3 At-Large
Bert Lyle, Position 1 At-Large
Karen Denman, Position 2 At-Large
Pat Graham, Position 4 At-Large

Tore Fossum, Ward 1
Casey Cox, Ward 2
Anissa Antwine, Ward 3
Jon Strong, Ward 4

HUNTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025

WORKSHOP 5:00 P.M. - Main Conference Room
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M. - Main Conference Room

City of Huntsville Service Center Complex, 448 Highway 75 N, Huntsville, Texas, 77320

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and may need auxiliary aids or services are requested to contact the City Secretary's office (936.291.5413) two working days prior to the meeting for appropriate arrangements.

WORKSHOP (5:00 to 5:45 p.m.)

a. Community Meet and Greet with newly appointed City Manager Scott Swigert.

MAIN SESSION (6:00 p.m.)

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION AND PLEDGES - ***U.S. Flag and Texas Flag:*** *Honor the Texas Flag. I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state, under God, one, and indivisible.*

PRESENTATIONS

a. Oath of Office and Statement of Office for newly appointed City Manager Scott Swigert

b. Empty Bowls Proceeds Presentation to Walker County Senior Center Meals on Wheels Program
Tammy Gann, Director of Economic Development

1. CONSENT AGENDA

The presiding officer will call for public comments before action is taken on these items. *(Approval of Consent Agenda authorizes the City Manager to implement each item in accordance with staff recommendations. An item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Statutory Agenda for full discussion by request of a member of Council.)*

a. Consider approving the Minutes from the March 4, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.
Kristy Doll, City Secretary

b. Consider Resolution 2025-9 authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept, if awarded, funding under the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Program, Texas Department of Transportation, for the Sycamore Avenue Widening Project.
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

c. Consider Resolution 2025-10 authorizing the City Manager to submit for and accept, when awarded, funding under the FY24-25 Congressionally Directed Spending, Community Project Funding, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for the N.B. Davidson Wastewater Treatment Plant.
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

d. Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Aurora Technical Services for the Professional Engineering Services.
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

e. Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) for the Professional Engineering Services.
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

f. Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with LJA Engineering for the Professional Engineering Services.
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

g. Consider approval of the purchase of hardware and services to replace aging network equipment per the City's IT hardware replacement schedule.
Bill Wavra, IT Director

2. STATUTORY AGENDA

a. Receive presentation from Pattillo, Brown, and Hill, LLP, CPAs concerning the audit and consider acceptance of the audit for FY 23-24.
Steve Ritter, Finance Director

b. **FIRST READING -** Consider Adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-11 Suspending the rates proposed by Centerpoint Energy Resources Corp., D/B/A Centerpoint Energy Entex and Centerpoint Energy Texas Gas Company's Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program Filing made with the City on or about February 18, 2025.
Leonard Schneider, City Attorney

3. CITY COUNCIL/MAYOR/CITY MANAGER

a. Consider the appointments to the City of Huntsville Boards and Commissions.
Russell Humphrey, Mayor

b. Consider directing staff to amend Chapter 46 Utilities of the Huntsville Municipal Code, Article IV Stormwater Utility System, the Division 3 Stormwater Utility Fees.
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

c. Consider Opposing Senate Bill 924 and House Bill 2479
Sam Masiel, Interim City Manager

d. Consider Resolution No. 2025-11 Opposing legislation that eliminates the Countywide Polling Place Program, Electronic Poll Books, and Electronic Ballot Marking Devices.
Kristy Doll, City Secretary

4. MEDIA INQUIRIES RELATED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

5. ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

ADJOURNMENT

*If during the course of the meeting and discussion of any items covered by this notice, City Council determines that a Closed or Executive session of the Council is required, then such closed meeting will be held as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Section 551.071 – consultation with counsel on legal matters; 551.072 – deliberation regarding purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property; 551.073 – deliberation regarding a prospective gift; 551.074 – personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; 551.076 – implementation of security personnel or devices; 551.087 – deliberation regarding economic development negotiation; Sec. 551.089 - deliberation regarding security devices or security audits; and/or other matters as authorized under the Texas Government Code. If a Closed or Executive session is held in accordance with the

Texas Government Code as set out above, the City Council will reconvene in Open Session to take action, if necessary, on the items addressed during Executive Session.

CERTIFICATE

I, Kristy Doll, City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above notice was posted on the City Hall bulletin board, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times, and to the City's website, www.HuntsvilleTX.gov, in compliance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

Kristy Doll

DATE OF POSTING: March 14, 2025
TIME OF POSTING: 9:15 a.m.
TAKEN DOWN:

Kristy Doll, City Secretary

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: a.

Agenda Item: Community Meet and Greet with newly appointed City Manager Scott Swigert.

Initiating Department/Presenter: City Secretary

Presenter:

Recommended Motion: Not applicable

Strategic Initiative:

Discussion:

Previous Council Action:

Financial Implications:

Approvals:
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: a.

Agenda Item: Oath of Office and Statement of Office for newly appointed City Manager Scott Swigert

Initiating Department/Presenter: City Secretary

Presenter:

Recommended Motion: Not applicable

Strategic Initiative:

Discussion:

Previous Council Action:

Financial Implications:

Approvals:

Kristy Doll

Associated Information:

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: b.

Agenda Item: Empty Bowls Proceeds Presentation to Walker County Senior Center Meals on Wheels Program

Initiating Department/Presenter: Economic Development

Presenter:
Tammy Gann, Director of Economic Development

Recommended Motion: NA

Strategic Initiative: NA

Discussion: NA

Previous Council Action: NA

Financial Implications: NA

Approvals:
Tammy Gann
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 1.a.

Agenda Item: Consider approving the Minutes from the March 4, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.

Initiating Department/Presenter: City Secretary

Presenter:
Kristy Doll, City Secretary

Recommended Motion: Motion to approve the Minutes from the March 4, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.

Strategic Initiative:

Discussion:

Previous Council Action:

Financial Implications:

Approvals:
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:
1. City Council Meeting Minutes 3-4-2025

HUNTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE 4TH DAY OF MARCH 2025 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE SERVICE CENTER COMPLEX, LOCATED AT 448 HIGHWAY 75, IN THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, WALKER COUNTY, TEXAS.

The City Council met in a regular session with the following:
COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Humphrey, Councilmember At-Large Position 1 Lyle, Councilmember Ward 1 Fossum, Councilmember At-Large Position 2 Denman, Councilmember Ward 2 Cox, Councilmember Ward 3 Antwine, Councilmember At-Large Position 4 Graham, Councilmember Ward 4 Strong

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem McKenzie

OFFICERS PRESENT: Sam Masiel, Interim City Manager; Kristy Doll, City Secretary, Leonard Schneider, City Attorney

OFFICERS ABSENT:

MAIN SESSION CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Humphrey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGES - ***U.S. Flag and Texas Flag:*** *Honor the Texas Flag. I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state, under God, one, and indivisible.*

Councilmember Lyle gave the invocation, and Mayor Humphrey led the pledges.

1. **CONSENT AGENDA**
The presiding officer will call for public comments before action is taken on these items. ***(Approval of Consent Agenda authorizes the City Manager to implement each item in accordance with staff recommendations. An item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Statutory Agenda for full discussion by request of a member of Council.)***
   a. **Consider approving Minutes from the February 18, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.**
   Kristy Doll, City Secretary

   b. **Consider adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-10 to amend the budget for FY 24 - 25 and/or CIP Project Budgets.**
   Lance Hall, Assistant Finance Director

   c. **Consider authorizing the City Manager to approve a Co-operative "Piggyback Agreement" with Corpay Technologies Operating Company, LLC (formerly known as "FleetCor Technologies Operating Company, LLC") for Fuel Card Services and Related Products for off-site point-of-sale fueling of City vehicles for an initial term until April 30, 2026.**
   Lance Hall, Assistant Finance Director

   d. **Consider authorizing the City Manager to award the contract for Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) services.**
   Penny Joiner, Director of Parks and Leisure

   e. **Consider adopting Resolution No. 2025-08, adopting the Walker County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2024 Update.**
   Greg Mathis, Fire Chief

Councilmember Casey Cox made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items a. through e. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tore Fossum. The motion passed 8 - 0. Yes: Russell Humphrey, Karen Denman, Jon Strong, Pat Graham, Bert Lyle, Anissa Antwine, Tore Fossum, Casey Cox; No: None

2. STATUTORY AGENDA

a. Consider approving an Interlocal Agreement between the Trinity River Authority and the City of Huntsville.
Brent Sherrod, Public Works Director

Councilmember Jon Strong made a motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Huntsville and the Trinity River Authority of Texas for the preliminary and final design phase of engineering services for the Tenaska Pump Station and Tank Improvements contingent upon final approval by the City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tore Fossum. The motion passed 8 - 0. Yes: Russell Humphrey, Karen Denman, Jon Strong, Pat Graham, Bert Lyle, Anissa Antwine, Tore Fossum, Casey Cox; No: None.

b. Consider adopting Ordinance No. 2025-9, the Third Supplemental Ordinance to the Master Ordinance Establishing the City of Huntsville, Texas Utility System Revenue Financing Program.
Lance Hall, Assistant Finance Director.

Councilmember Jon Strong made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-9, the Third Supplemental Ordinance to the Master Ordinance Establishing the City of Huntsville, Texas Utility System Revenue Financing Program to issue the Series 2025 Wastewater System Revenue Bonds. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tore Fossum. The motion passed 8 - 0. Yes: Russell Humphrey, Karen Denman, Jon Strong, Pat Graham, Bert Lyle, Anissa Antwine, Tore Fossum, Casey Cox; No: None

c. Second Reading - Consider Ordinance No. 2025-6, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Texas, amending the Zoning District Map of the City of Huntsville, Texas, to change the Zoning District classification for property adjacent to Veterans Memorial Parkway and Smither Drive on approximately 708.866-acre tracts located on Walker County Property ID #11382, 45683, 11417, 45685, 42930, 45678, 21344, 15912, 20702, 69467, 20703, 38208, 17467, and 45680, also known as the Legacy Pines Planned Development from Mixed Use to Planned Development (Huntsville Planned Development-3) and approve the Planned Development Design Standards.
Layne Yeager, City Planner/Airport Manager

Councilmember Bert Lyle made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-6, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Texas, amending the Zoning District Map of the City of Huntsville, Texas, to change the Zoning District classification for property adjacent to Veterans Memorial Parkway and Smither Drive on approximately 708.866-acre tracts located on Walker County Property ID #11382, 45683, 11417, 45685, 42930, 45678, 21344, 15912, 20702, 69467, 20703, 38208, 17467, and 45680, also known as the Legacy Pines Planned Development from Mixed Use to Planned Development (Huntsville Planned Development-3) and approve the Planned Development Design Standards. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tore Fossum. The motion passed 8 - 0. Yes: Russell Humphrey, Karen Denman, Jon Strong, Pat Graham, Bert Lyle, Anissa Antwine, Tore Fossum, Casey Cox; No: None

d. Consider approving an Agreement to Construct Public Improvements with Ranier & Son Development Company, LLC, to construct a Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection System in the ETJ for the Sterling Ridge Phase 5 Project.
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

Councilmember Jon Strong made a motion to approve the Agreement to Construct Public Improvements with Ranier & Son Development Company, LLC, for constructing a Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection System in the ETJ for the Project Sterling Ridge Phase 5. The total construction amount is $670,100. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Pat Graham. The motion passed 8 - 0. Yes: Russell Humphrey, Karen Denman, Jon Strong, Pat Graham, Bert Lyle, Anissa Antwine, Tore Fossum, Casey Cox; No: None

3. **CITY COUNCIL/MAYOR/CITY MANAGER**
   a. **Consider collaborating with Sam Houston State University and Pierce Manufacturing to introduce a uniquely branded fire truck to serve our city and community.**
   Casey Cox, Councilmember Ward 2
   Bert Lyle, Councilmember At-Large Position 1
   Vicki McKenzie, Councilmember At-Large Position 3

Councilmember Bert Lyle made a motion to have the City collaborate with Sam Houston State University and Pierce Manufacturing regarding a branded fire truck. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tore Fossum. The motion failed 4 - 4.
roll call vote:
Yes: Jon Strong, Bert Lyle, Tore Fossum, Casey Cox
No: Russell Humphrey, Karen Denman, Pat Graham, Anissa Antwine

4. **MEDIA INQUIRIES RELATED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**
   None

5. **ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**
   Councilmembers announced Items of Community Interest.

6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

7. **RECONVENE**

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Humphrey adjourned the meeting without objection at 6:23 p.m.

ATTEST:	**CITY OF HUNTSVILLE**
______________________________	______________________________
Kristy Doll, City Secretary	**Russell Humphrey, Mayor**

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 1.b.

Agenda Item: Consider Resolution 2025-9 authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept, if awarded, funding under the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Program, Texas Department of Transportation, for the Sycamore Avenue Widening Project.

Initiating Department/Presenter: Engineering

Presenter:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

Recommended Motion: Move to approve Resolution 2025-9 authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept, if awarded, funding under the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Program, Texas Department of Transportation in the amount of $15,901,000.00 for the Sycamore Avenue Widening Project; and to designate the City Manager as the City's Authorized Representative; and adopt Resolution 2025-9 in support of the same.

Strategic Initiative: Strategic Priority #4, Infrastructure - Develop and maintain a comprehensive and well-planned infrastructure network that prepares for the challenges of the future and provides quality, modern and efficient, water, wastewater, drainage and transportation services.

Discussion: On January 3, 2025, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT or the department) announced a statewide Call for Projects for the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Program for bicyclist and pedestrian infrastructure and planning. The TA program provides funding to plan for and construct a variety of alternative transportation projects that improve safety and mobility for non-motorized travelers and mitigate congestion by providing safe alternatives to motor vehicle transport.

The Texas Department of Transportation will select projects for recommendation to the Texas Transportation Commission for a total of approximately $250 millions. The Call for Projects features a two-step application process. The Preliminary Application (Step 1) provides high-level proposed project information to determine eligibility and funding opportunities. Following the successful completion of Step 1, a Detailed Application (Step 2) provides more comprehensive project information. This two-step approach is intended to enhance the quality of project applications and to foster communication between prospective project sponsors and TxDOT District staff. Both steps must be completed in order for a project to be considered for funding under this program call.

The Preliminary Application (Step 1) was submitted prior to the deadline of February 21, 2025. Detailed application and associated material will be provided to project sponsors who complete the preliminary application (Step1) on or around April 16, 2025.

Eligible project areas under this Program include:

- Bicycle infrastructure improvements;

- Shared use paths;
- Sidewalk Improvements; and
- Infrastructure-related projects to improve safety for non-motorized transportation.

The Sycamore Avenue Widening project was included in the Potential Street Bond Project Program, which was presented to the Council on June 18, 2024. Its estimated total cost (2029-2030) is $39,393,834. However, this grant application only includes the southern half of the project, which has a conceptual estimated cost of $15,900,300 (See attached Map I). The estimated cost includes engineering, utility adjustments, construction, environmental investigation, and project closeup at $15,900,300.

The Transportation Development Credits map indicates that this proposed project qualifies for the use of the Transportation Development Credits that allow for 100% federal TA funds to be applied to the project in lieu of a local match (See attached Map II).

Previous Council Action: No

Financial Implications: None

Approvals:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:
1. Resolution No 2025-09 Sycamore 3 18 2025
2. Map 1 Project Map
3. Map 2 elgibility

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE 2025 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE (TA) PROGRAM (SYCAMORE AVENUE WIDENING PROJECT); AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACT AS THE CITY'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE 2025 GRANT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS The City desires to ensure the safety of all citizens and enhance the quality of life for citizens, businesses and visitors; the City to improve safety and mobility for non-motorized travelers and mitigate congestion by providing safe alternatives to motor vehicle transport; and

WHEREAS It is necessary and in the best interest of the City to apply for funding under the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Grant, Texas Department of Transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Texas, that:

SECTION 1: An application is hereby authorized to be filed on behalf of the City and be placed in competition for funding under the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Program.

SECTION 2: The application will be for $15,900,300.00, of which $15,900,300.00 will be in grant funds.

SECTION 3: The City acknowledges that there is no match requirement for this program.

SECTION 4: The Mayor and City Council strongly support this application to ensure the safety of all citizens and enhance the quality of life for citizens, businesses, and visitors.

SECTION 5: The City Council directs and designates the City Manager as the City's Chief Executive Officer and Authorized Representative to act in all matters concerning this application and the City's participation in the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Program, Texas Department of Transportation.

SECTION 6: All funds will be used per all applicable federal, state, local, and programmatic requirements, including, but not limited to, procurement, environmental review, labor standards, and civil rights requirements.

PASSED AND APPROVED This 18th day of March 2025.

THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

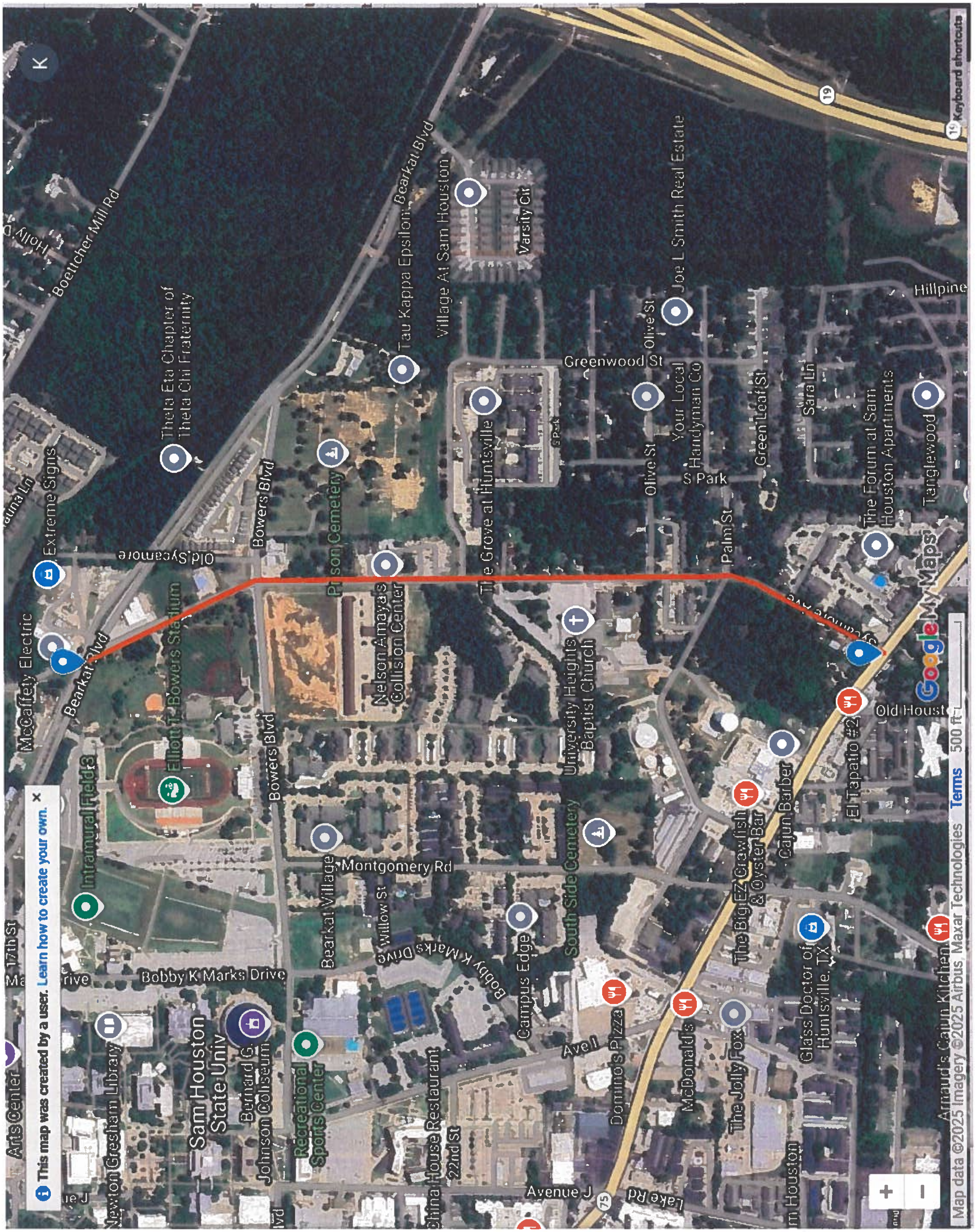
____
Russell Humphrey, Mayor

ATTEST

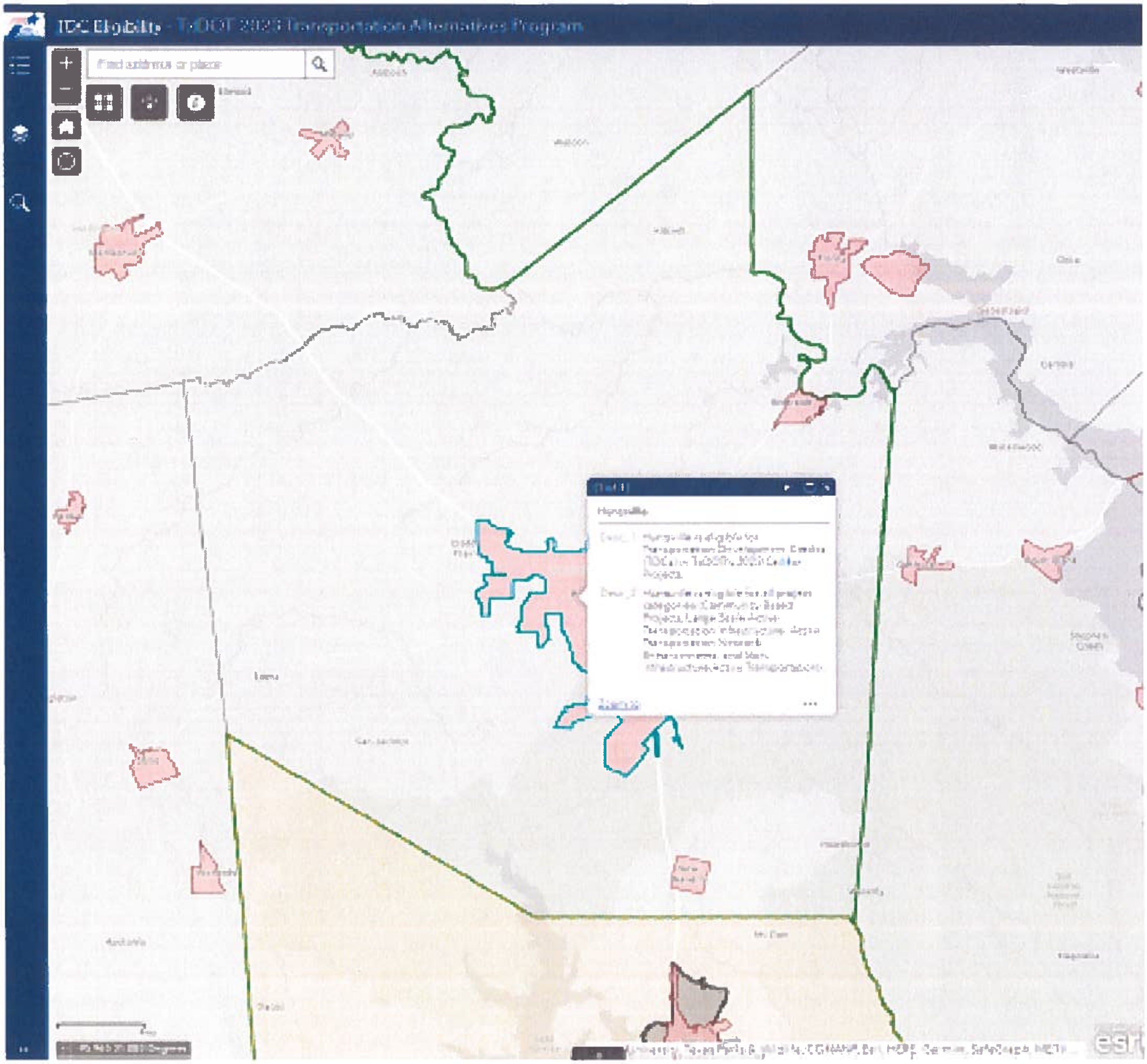
____
Kristy Doll, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

____
Leonard Schneider, City Attorney


This map was created by a user. Learn how to create your own.
Boettcher Mill Rd
Theta Eta Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity
Extreme Signs
Old Sycamore
McCaffety Electric
Bearkat Blvd
Elliott T. Bowers Stadium
Intramural Field 3
Bowers Blvd
Prison Cemetery
Nelson Amaya's Collision Center
Tau Kappa Epsilon
Village At Sam Houston
Varsity Cir
The Grove at Huntsville
Greenwood St
Olive St
Joe L Smith Real Estate
Your Local Handyman Co
S Park
Palm St
Green Leaf St
Sara Ln
The Forum at Sam Houston Apartments
Tanglewood
Hillpine
University Heights Baptist Church
South Side Cemetery
Montgomery Rd
Bearkat Village
Willow St
Bobby K Marks Drive
Campus Edge
Sam Houston State Univ
Newton Gresham Library
Bernard G. Johnson Coliseum
Recreational Sports Center
Arts Center
17th St
China House Restaurant
22nd St
Ave I
Avenue J
Lake Rd
Domino's Pizza
McDonald's
The Jolly Fox
The Big EZ Crawfish & Oyster Bar
Cajun Barber
El Tapatio #2
Glass Doctor of Huntsville, TX
Arnaud's Cajun Kitchen
Old Houston
Google My Maps
Map data ©2025 Imagery ©2025 Airbus, Maxar Technologies
Terms
500 ft
Keyboard shortcuts

MAP I


TDC Eligibility - TxDOT 2023 Transportation Alternatives Program
Find address or place

Map II

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 1.c.

Agenda Item: Consider Resolution 2025-10 authorizing the City Manager to submit for and accept, when awarded, funding under the FY24-25 Congressionally Directed Spending, Community Project Funding, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for the N.B. Davidson Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Initiating Department/Presenter: Engineering

Presenter:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

Recommended Motion: Move to approve Resolution 2025-10 authorizing the City Manager to submit for and accept, when awarded, funding under the FY24-25 Congressionally Directed Spending, Community Project Funding, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in the amount of $1,000,000 for the N.B. Davidson Wastewater Treatment Plant; and to designate the City Manager as the City's Authorized Representative; and adopt Resolution 2025-10 in support of the same.

Strategic Initiative: Strategic Priority #4, Infrastructure - Develop and maintain a comprehensive and well-planned infrastructure network that prepares for the challenges of the future and provides quality, modern and efficient, water, wastewater, drainage and transportation services.

Discussion: The FY24 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 118-42) was signed into law on March 9, 2024. In this law, Congress continued the practice of funding specifically named community infrastructure projects, referred to by the Senate as Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) and in the House of Representatives as Community Project Funding (CPF) items.

The Community Grants projects are designated for the planning, design, and construction of drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure and for water quality protection.

We have submitted information/documents to the Community Projects Program under the State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG), funded by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), and were notified that we are listed as eligible for the STAG-Clean Water State Revolving Fund $1,000,000 for the N.B Davidson Wastewater Treatment Project. The City Matching amount is $250,000, which is included in the Wastewater Bond Program (Approved by Council on March 4, 2025.

We have received a supporting letter from Congressman Pete Sessions' office, letters from Council Members, and no-objection letters from the Chief Outreach & Government Affairs Officer, Texas Historical Commission Archeology Division, Ecological Branch of US Fish & Wildlife Conservation, Regional Planning Environmental of Corps of Engineers, and Walker County.

N.B. Davidson Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) was originally constructed in 1971 and expanded in 1982 and 1994. The existing facilities are high maintenance and high operating costs, which cause operational challenges at the plant. Many other pieces of equipment in this plant are deteriorated, outdated, and aging and need frequent maintenance, repairs, and replacement.

This major rehabilitation and expansion of the 2-hr peak flow treatment capacity to 6.5 MGD will prevent the collection system from surcharging during wet weather events and will eliminate the increasing annual operation and maintenance costs and also eliminate the risks of catastrophic failure and possible TCEQ violation penalties.

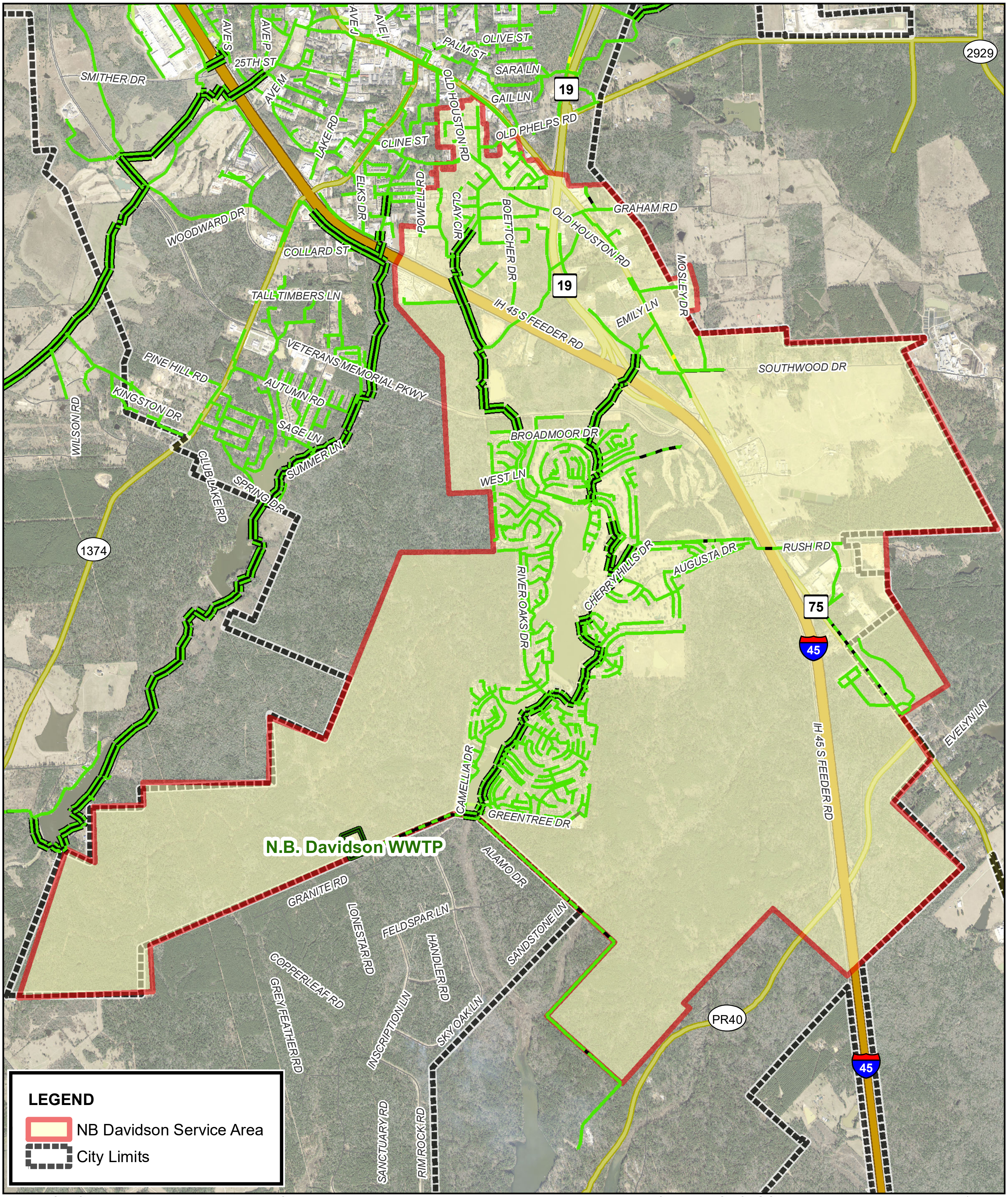
The Council approved Design Phase I on May 16, 2023 ($894,525) and part of Design Phase II on November 19, 2024 ($571,291). The Grant will allow us to finish the second part of Design Phase II.

Previous Council Action: No

Financial Implications: $250,000 Budgeted in the CIP Program.

Approvals:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:
1. NB Davidson Service Area map
2. Resolution No 2025-10 NB Davidson 3 18 2025



1 in = 3,500 ft

On 8.5 x 11 inch Print

0 1,700 3,400 6,800 Feet

On Any Print Size

CREATED DATE: 3/1/2023

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TX
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT / GIS DIVISION

NB Davidson Wastewater Service Area

City of Huntsville

Service Layer Credits: The City of Huntsville, TX GIS Division

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE FY24 CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING, COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA); AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACT AS THE CITY'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE FY24 GRANT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS The City desires to ensure the quality of the City Utilities so that the City's core services can be provided effectively and efficiently; and

WHEREAS It is necessary and in the City's best interest to apply for funding under the FY24 Congressionally Directed Spending Community Project Funding under the State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG).

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Texas, that:

SECTION 1: An application is hereby authorized to be filed on behalf of the City and be placed in competition for funding under the FY24 Congressionally Directed Spending Community Project Funding Program.

SECTION 2: The application will be for $1,000,000.00, with the City matching of $250,000 for a total of $1,250,000.

SECTION 3: The Mayor and City Council strongly support this application to ensure the service quality of the City Utilities to all citizens, businesses, and visitors.

SECTION 4: The City Council directs and designates the City Manager as the City's Chief Executive Officer and Authorized Representative to act in all matters concerning this application and the City's participation in the FY24 Congressionally Directed Spending Community Project Funding Program.

SECTION 5: All funds will be used per all applicable federal, state, local, and programmatic requirements, including, but not limited to, procurement, environmental review, labor standards, and civil rights requirements.

PASSED AND APPROVED This 18th day of March 2025.

THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

____
Russell Humphrey, Mayor

ATTEST

____
Kristy Doll, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

____
Leonard Schneider, City Attorney

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 1.d.

Agenda Item: Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Aurora Technical Services for the Professional Engineering Services.

Initiating Department/Presenter: Engineering

Presenter:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

Recommended Motion: Move to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Aurora Technical Services for the Professional Engineering services.

Strategic Initiative: Strategic Priority #4, Infrastructure - Develop and maintain a comprehensive and well-planned infrastructure network that prepares for the challenges of the future and provides quality, modern and efficient, water, wastewater, drainage and transportation services.

Discussion:
Since FY21-22 to FY24-25, the Engineering Department Plan Review Reviewing Work load has been increased from 346(FY21-22) Plans, 543(FY23-24) Plans, to estimated 633 (FY24-25) Plans. There has been no staff increase during this period of time.

The published H.B. No 3492, effective September 2023 stated:

Sec 212.906, Based Fees and Disclosure of Certain Information Prohibited.

- A. Application, Review, Engineering, Inspection, Acceptance -
- B. May not consider the cost of constructing or improving the public infrastructure in determining the amount of a "Fee";
- C. Municipality's actual cost:

1. Charged by a qualified third-party entity for those services,
2. Hourly rate for the estimated actual direct time of the municipality's employees performing those services.
3. The actual costs assessed to the municipality by a third-party entity that provides those services to the municipality.

Prior to September 1, 2023, the collection of Fees was based on 3% of the Total Construction Cost for individual projects, including any Public Improvement, and the total fees collected from October 2021 to September 2023 was approximately $1,098,295.

The Finance Committee approved the proposed Engineering Department Project Review Fees in January 2024 to follow the H.B. requirements. The Finance Committee also required that the

Engineering Department evaluate the Charges (Revenue Received) vs. Expenditure for six months. On July 2, 2024 the New Fees Schedule was presented to the Finance Committee based on the 6-month evaluation, and was approved in the adopted Budget (October 2024).

The total amount of Fees collected from October 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025 is $349,185.

A part of the collected review fees will allow us to contract with Engineering Firms to perform: Drainage Study Review, Traffic Impact Study Review, Utility Capacity Review and/or Subdivision Development Plans Review.

During the different “Request for Qualification (RFQ)” processes, more than 40 applications from Engineering Firms were received. The Evaluation Committee for these RFQs consisted of seven (7) staff members from five (5) Departments. Ten different engineering firms have contracted to provide these services.

This agenda item is pertaining to the Agreement for Engineering Services. The services consist of Engineering, Design, and Consultation, Project Management, Plan Review and Plat Review on a task order basis as required to provide and complete the Scope of Work & Service. Each Task Order will be specifically identified, using the format provided by the Engineering Department.

The original agreement with Aurora Technical Services, not to exceed $46,500, was executed on 1/30/2025. We are anticipating the Work Orders to be assigned to the Aurora Technical Services to review Subdivision Plans and Traffic Impact Studies of Private Development projects. The agreement to provide these professional services is $100,000 commencing on March 18, 2025 to September 30, 2025, and is funded by the fees collected to date ($349,185.00).

Previous Council Action:

Financial Implications: In the amount of $100,000.00

Approvals:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:
1. Proposal_Engineering Review Support_Huntsville_March to September

March 7, 2025

Dr. Kathlie S. Jeng-Bulloch, P.E., D.WRE, CFM
Director of Engineering Department
City of Huntsville Huntsville, Texas
448 State Highway 75
Huntsville, TX 77320

Aurora
Technical
Services, LLC
engineering + construction management

Reference: **City of Huntsville – Engineering Department Proposal for Engineering Support**

Dear Dr. Jeng-Bulloch,

Aurora Technical Services, LLC (Aurora) is pleased to submit this proposal to provide professional engineering services on a Work Order basis for the period of March 1st, 2025 to September 30th, 2025 to support the engineering department perform project reviews submitted to the City of Huntsville (the City) for permitting and approvals.

Schedule

The reviews will be accomplished within two to three weeks depending on the extent of documents provided by the requesting party. Aurora will endeavor to perform the reviews in less time.

Scope of Services

Aurora will review the submitted drawings and drainage reports for general compliance with the City's design requirements and generally accepted engineering practices. The review will be limited to the documents submitted by the requesting party provided to the City.

Compensation

Aurora requests the following amounts for each assigned review. Applicable drawings include site plans, plan and profile, details, and traffic control plans. Reviews will include verification the appropriate City's standard details are used, as applicable. Building, landscaping, and architecture drawings are excluded.

1. Base Review for Each – (includes up to 2 applicable drawings) $500.00
2. Plan reviews – per sheet (more than 2 applicable drawings) $ 65.00

2121 Sage Rd, Suite 150
Houston, Texas 77056
281-453-7700
rortega7@auroratechservices.com

3. Drainage Reports – small development (less than 2 acres)	$500.00
4. Drainage Reports – large development (greater than 2 acres)	$1,000.00
5. Resubmittal reviews – hourly rate	$150.00

The cost for each review will include the base charge noted in number 1 above. If the drawing set includes more than two (2) applicable drawings, the review cost will include number 1 above and the added cost per applicable drawings. The resubmittal rate will apply when the documents are reviewed to confirm previous comments have been properly addressed.

The not to exceed amount requested for this Work Order assignment for this work period is $100,000.00.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this proposal and to continue to support the City of Huntsville.

Sincerely,
Aurora Technical Services, LLC

Rafael Ortega, PE
President

2121 Sage Rd, Suite 150
Houston, Texas 77056
281-453-7700
rortega7@auroratechservices.com

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 1.e.

Agenda Item: Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) for the Professional Engineering Services.

Initiating Department/Presenter: Engineering

Presenter:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

Recommended Motion: Move to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) for the Professional Engineering Services Work Order.

Strategic Initiative: Strategic Priority #4, Infrastructure - Develop and maintain a comprehensive and well-planned infrastructure network that prepares for the challenges of the future and provides quality, modern and efficient, water, wastewater, drainage and transportation services.

Discussion:
Since FY21-22 to FY24-25, the Engineering Department Plan Review Reviewing Work load has been increased from 346(FY21-22) Plans, 543(FY23-24) Plans, to estimated 633 (FY24-25) Plans. There has been no staff increase during this period of time.

The published H.B. No 3492, effective September 2023 stated:

Sec 212.906, Based Fees and Disclosure of Certain Information Prohibited.

- A. Application, Review, Engineering, Inspection, Acceptance -
- B. May not consider the cost of constructing or improving the public infrastructure in determining the amount of a "Fee";
- C. Municipality's actual cost:

    1. Charged by a qualified third-party entity for those services,
    2. Hourly rate for the estimated actual direct time of the municipality's employees performing those services.
    3. The actual costs assessed to the municipality by a third-party entity that provides those services to the municipality.

Prior to September 1, 2023, the collection of Fees was based on 3% of the Total Construction Cost for individual projects, including any Public Improvement, and the total fees collected from October 2021 to September 2023 was approximately $1,098,295.

The Finance Committee approved the proposed Engineering Department Project Review Fees in January 2024 to follow the H.B. requirements. The Finance Committee also required that the

Engineering Department evaluate the Charges (Revenue Received) vs. Expenditure in six months. On July 2, 2024 the New Fees Schedule was presented to the Finance Committee based on the 6-month evaluation, and was approved in the adopted Budget (October 2024).

The total amount of Fees collected from October 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025 is $349,185.

A part of the collected review fees will allow us to contract with Engineering Firms to perform: Drainage Study Review, Traffic Impact Study Review, Utility Capacity Review and/or Subdivision Development Plans Review.

During the different "Request for Qualification (RFQ)" processes, more than 40 applications from Engineering Firms were received. The Evaluation Committee for these RFQs consisted of seven (7) staff members from five (5) Departments. Ten different engineering firms have contracted to provide these services.

This agenda item is pertaining to the Agreement for Engineering Services. The services consist of Engineering, Design, and Consultation, Project Management, Utility Capacity Assessment Review on a task order basis as required to provide and complete the Scope of Work & Service. Each Task Order will be specifically identified, using the format provided by the Engineering Department.

The original agreement with Freese & Nichols Inc. not to exceed $45,000, was executed and the balance is $3,000 at this time. We are anticipating the Work Orders to assign to Freese and Nichols, Inc. to perform Modeling of the Water and Wastewater Capacity analysis of any Private Development projects, and the CIP Projects. The agreement to provide these professional services is $100,000 commencing on March 18, 2025 to September 30, 2025, and is funded by the fees collected to date ($349,185.00).

Previous Council Action: No

Financial Implications: In the amount of $100,000

Approvals:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 1.f.

Agenda Item: Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with LJA Engineering for the Professional Engineering Services.

Initiating Department/Presenter: Engineering

Presenter:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

Recommended Motion:
Move to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with LJA Engineering for the Professional Engineering Services Work Order.

Strategic Initiative: Strategic Priority #4, Infrastructure - Develop and maintain a comprehensive and well-planned infrastructure network that prepares for the challenges of the future and provides quality, modern and efficient, water, wastewater, drainage and transportation services.

Discussion:
Since FY21-22 to FY24-25, the Engineering Department Plan Review Reviewing Work load has been increased from 346(FY21-22) Plans, 543(FY23-24) Plans, to the estimated 633 (FY24-25) Plans. There has been no staff increase during this period of time.

The published H.B. No 3492, effective September 2023 stated:

Sec 212.906, Based Fees and Disclosure of Certain Information Prohibited.

- A. Application, Review, Engineering, Inspection, Acceptance -
- B. May not consider the cost of constructing or improving the public infrastructure in determining the amount of a "Fee";
- C. Municipality's actual cost:

  1. Charged by a qualified third-party entity for those services,
  2. Hourly rate for the estimated actual direct time of the municipality's employees performing those services.
  3. The actual costs assessed to the municipality by a third-party entity that provides those services to the municipality.

Prior to September 1, 2023, the collection of Fees was based on 3% of the Total Construction Cost for individual projects, including any Public Improvement, and the total fees collected from October 2021 to September 2023 was approximately $1,098,295.

The Finance Committee approved the proposed Engineering Department Project Review Fees in January 2024 to follow the H.B. requirements. The Finance Committee also required that the Engineering Department evaluate the Charges (Revenue Received) vs. Expenditure for six months. On July 2, 2024 the New Fees Schedule was presented to the Finance Committee based on the 6-month evaluation, and was approved in the adopted Budget (October 2024).

The total amount of Fees collected from October 1, 2024 to March 3, 2025 is $349,185.

A part of the collected review fees will allow us to contract with Engineering Firms to perform: Drainage Study Review, Traffic Impact Study Review, Utility Capacity Review and/or Subdivision Development Plans Review.

During the different "Request for Qualification (RFQ)" processes, more than 40 applications from Engineering Firms were received. The Evaluation Committee for these RFQs consisted of seven (7) staff members from five (5) Departments. Ten different engineering firms have contracted to provide these services.

This agenda item is pertaining to the Agreement for Engineering Services. The services consist of Engineering, Design, and Consultation, Project Management, Drainage Studies Review, Private Subdivision Plans Review, Lift Stations Design Reivew on a task order basis as required to provide and complete the Scope of Work & Service. Each Task Order will be specifically identified, using the format provided by the Engineering Department.

The original agreement with LJA Engineering is not to exceed $49,000, was executed and the balance is $10,000 at this time. We are anticipating the Work Orders to assign to LJA Engineering to perform Drainage Studies Review, Lift Stations Review, Private Development Projects within FloodPlain, and continue to review the Woods at the Elkins Lake plans. The agreement to provide these professional services is $150,000 commencing on March 18, 2025 to September 30, 2025, and is funded by the fees collected to date ($349,185.00).

Previous Council Action: No

Financial Implications: $150,000

Approvals:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:
1. 3 5 2025 work order

713.953.5200
TBPELS F-1386
TBPELS 10110501
www.LJA.com
3600 W Sam Houston Pkwy S, Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77042

February 5, 2025 **PROPOSAL**

Dr. Kathlie S. Jeng-Bulloch, PE, B.C. WRE, CFM
City of Huntsville
448 SH 75 North
Huntsville, Texas 77320

Re: Proposal for Request for Additional Funds
Engineering Work Order Agreement; COH Project No 25-10-06
LJA Proposal No. 25-40997

Dear Dr. Jeng-Bulloch:

LJA submits this proposal for an Engineering Work Order Agreement with the City of Huntsville to perform the scope of work stated in the "Agreement for Engineering Services"; see Attachment A of this proposal. It is our understanding that the initial value of this contract will be set at $150,000.00 and task orders will be assigned by the City which will be funded via this amount.

A copy of our rate schedule is also attached to this proposal, see Attachment B.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this proposal and look forward to working with you on this project. If you have questions, please call me at 713.953.5253.

Best Regards,

Isaac Muñiz, PE
Sr. Project Manager – Water Resources

IM/pa

Attachments:
-Rate Sheet

Accepted By: City of Huntsville

By:______________________________

Name:____________________________

Title:_____________________________

Date:_____________________________

713.953.5200
TBPELS F-1386
TBPELS 10110501
www.LJA.com
3600 W Sam Houston Pkwy S, Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77042

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE STANDARD RATE SCHEDULE

Staff Personnel Charges

Category	Maximum Hourly Rate
ENGINEERING	
Principal/Vice President	$350.00
Department Manager	$350.00
Chief Engineer/Hydrologist	$310.00
Senior Project Manager	$300.00
Senior Consultant	$270.00
Project Manager	$230.00
Assistant Project Manager	$190.00
Senior Hydrologist	$220.00
Senior Engineer	$200.00
Engineer (Project Engineer)	$175.00
Graduate Engineer (Graduate Engineer, EIT)	$165.00
Natural Channel Design Engineer	$250.00
Structural Engineer	$200.00
Senior Structural Engineer	$275.00
Planner	$145.00
Designer	$150.00
CAD Drafter	$135.00
Senior Designer	$185.00
Project Representative	$150.00
Admin	$ 80.00
Contract Administrator	$140.00
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS	
Senior GIS Developer	$220.00
GIS Developer	$220.00
GIS Analyst	$135.00
GIS Specialist	$180.00
SURVEYING	
Survey Principal RPLS/President	$275.00
Survey Principal RPLS/Vice-President	$235.00
Survey Sr. Project Manager/RPLS	$200.00
Survey Manager	$200.00
Survey Project Manager/RPLS	$160.00
Survey Geospatial Services Manager	$150.00
Survey Assistant Project Manager/RPLS	$140.00
Survey Sr. Project Surveyor	$140.00
Project Surveyor	$125.00
Survey Senior Survey Technician	$120.00
Survey Technician	$120.00
Survey Draftsman	$ 90.00
1-Person Field Survey Crew	$125.00

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 1.g.

Agenda Item: Consider approval of the purchase of hardware and services to replace aging network equipment per the City's IT hardware replacement schedule.

Initiating Department/Presenter: Information Technology

Presenter:
Bill Wavra, IT Director

Recommended Motion: Move to approve the purchase of hardware and services to replace aging network equipment per the City's replacement cycle in the amount of $115,361.64

Strategic Initiative: Strategic Priority #4: Infrastructure - Develop and maintain a comprehensive and well-planned infrastructure network that prepares for the challenges of the future and provides quality, modern and efficient water, wastewater, drainage and transportation services.

Discussion: Core network equipment providing critical services, including internet, access control, security cameras, phones, data connectivity, etc. to Palm Street, Parker Creek, Elkins Lake, Robinson Creek, and Fire Station 2 is scheduled for replacement. Replacement of this hardware will ensure reliability, restore vendor support, and increase staff efficiency by minimizing repair frequency.

FreeIT Data Systems is a member of the State of Texas Cooperative DIR and is in good standing under contract #DIR-TSO-4160. Upon completion of the installation, a 5-year warranty will be issued for all equipment that coincides with the city's replacement schedule.

Previous Council Action:

- Disaster Recovery Servers, Storage, and Network Equipment Replacement - 10/4/2022
- Disaster Recovery Server Hardware Replacement - 10/5/2021

Financial Implications: Item is budgeted account #309-655-69020 in the amount of $115,361.64

Approvals:
Bill Wavra
Steve Ritter
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 2.a.

Agenda Item: Receive presentation from Pattillo, Brown, and Hill, LLP, CPAs concerning the audit and consider acceptance of the audit for FY 23-24.

Initiating Department/Presenter: Finance

Presenter:
Steve Ritter, Finance Director

Recommended Motion: Move to accept the FY 23-24 audit from Pattillo, Brown and Hill, LLP, CPAs.

Strategic Initiative: Goal #6 - Finance - Provide a sustainable, efficient and fiscally sound government through conservative fiscal practices and resource management.

Discussion: By Charter and State Statutes the City is required to have a financial audit annually by a Certified Public Accountant. The Finance Committee received a presentation at its March 4, 2025 meeting.

The CPA firm of Pattillo, Brown and Hill has performed the audits for the 12 previous fiscal years. City Council approved engaging/renewing Pattillo, Brown & Hill as the City's auditors for fiscal years 21-22, 22-23, 23-24, 24-25, and 25-26 at a meeting on June 21, 2022. The audit firm had no findings of concern during this year's audit process.

Previous Council Action: None

Financial Implications: None

Approvals:
Steve Ritter
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 2.b.

Agenda Item: FIRST READING - Consider Adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-11 Suspending the rates proposed by Centerpoint Energy Resources Corp., D/B/A Centerpoint Energy Entex and Centerpoint Energy Texas Gas Company's Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program Filing made with the City on or about February 18, 2025.

Initiating Department/Presenter: City Attorney

Presenter:
Leonard Schneider, City Attorney

Recommended Motion: Move to suspend the two reading requirement and adopt Ordinance No. 2025-11 Suspending the rates proposed by Centerpoint Energy Resources Corp., D/B/A Centerpoint Energy Entex and Centerpoint Energy Texas Gas Company's Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program Filing made with the City on or about February 18, 2025.

Strategic Initiative:

Discussion: On February 18, 2025, CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas ("CenterPoint" or "Company") filed a Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program ("GRIP") adjustment factor. The Company is authorized to make annual GRIP rate change requests pursuant to Texas law passed in 2003. The GRIP Statute authorizes gas utility companies to request annual rate increases associated with year-to-year changes in incremental investment. CenterPoint has determined that its capital investment in the Houston, Texas Coast, South
Texas, and Beaumont/East Texas geographic rate areas has increased by $654,119,475 from October 2023 through December 2024. The carrying cost on this incremental GRIP investment results in the following average monthly customer bill impact for each affected customer class:
Customer Impact Summary

CUSTOMER CLASS	MONTHLY BILL INCREASE
RESIDENTIAL	$2.88
GENERAL SERVICE-SMALL VOL.	$5.14
GENERAL SERVICE-LARGE VOL.	$61.20

This Rate Ordinance will suspend the GRIP rate effective date until **June 3, 2025**. The review process of a GRIP filing is generally a ministerial review limited to ensuring that the GRIP filing complies with the GRIP Statute.

Previous Council Action: The City has previously authorized the Lawton Law Firm to review GRIP filings by Centerpoint.

Financial Implications:

Approvals:
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:
1. ORDINANCE NO. 2025-11 Centerpoint

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-11

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS SUSPENDING THE RATES PROPOSED BY CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a CENTERPOINT ENERGY ENTEX AND CENTERPOINT ENERGY TEXAS GAS COMPANY'S GAS RELIABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM FILING MADE WITH THE CITY ON OR ABOUT FEBRUARY 18, 2025; FINDING THAT THE MEETING COMPLIES WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT, AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, on or about February 18, 2025, CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas ("CenterPoint" or "Company") filed an Annual Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program ("GRIP") adjustment with the City of Huntsville ("City") to increase gas rates in the Beaumont/East Texas geographic rate area pursuant to *Gas Utility Regulatory Act*, TEX. UTIL. CODE ("Gas Utility Regulatory Act") § 104.301; and

WHEREAS, the Company proposed an effective date of April 19, 2025, for the requested increase unless the City suspends the date for a period no longer than forty-five (45) days; and

WHEREAS, the City has exclusive original jurisdiction over the rates, operations and services of a gas utility in areas in the municipality pursuant to Gas Utility Regulatory Act § 103.001; and

WHEREAS, Gas Utility Regulatory Act § 104.301 requires a streamlined process for the recovery of the costs of incremental investment by a gas utility; and

WHEREAS, the City's review of CenterPoint's GRIP filing is limited to a ministerial review of the filing for compliance with the statute; and

WHEREAS, the City finds the need to suspend the effective date of CenterPoint's requested rate increase for 45 days beyond the Company's proposed effective date until June 3, 2025, in order to review the Company's filing for compliance with Gas Utility Regulatory Act § 104.301; and

WHEREAS, the reasonableness of the Company's investment will be reviewed in CenterPoint's future base rate case where all costs included in CenterPoint's GRIP filing will be subject to refund.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS:

<u>Section 1</u>. That the statement and findings set out in the preamble to this ordinance are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

Section 2. The effective date of the Company's proposed GRIP rate increase, and the proposed tariffs related thereto, is hereby suspended until June 3, 2025.

Section 3. To the extent the City finds that the rates proposed by CenterPoint's filing comply with Gas Utility Regulatory Act § 104.301, then the rates will become effective by operation of law on June 3, 2025.

Section 4. The meeting at which the ordinance was approved was in all things conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 18TH DAY OF MARCH.

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS

____

Russell Humphrey, Mayor

ATTEST:

____

Kristy Doll, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

____

Leonard Schneider, City Attorney

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 3.a.

Agenda Item: Consider the appointments to the City of Huntsville Boards and Commissions.

Initiating Department/Presenter: City Council

Presenter:
Russell Humphrey, Mayor

Recommended Motion: Move to appoint the Board and Commission members as presented.

Strategic Initiative: Goal #5, Resource Development - Enhance the quality of lifeStrategic Priority #5, Engagement - Build strong relationships within our organization and community with a focus on our culture of core values as expressed in Service, Trust, Accountability and Respect. Provide a welcoming and collaborative environment that fosters mutual partnership between city government, community organizations and our residents. for citizens, businesses, and visitors by leveraging the human and fiscal resources available to the community.

Discussion:

Previous Council Action:

Financial Implications: There is no financial impact associated with this item.

Approvals:
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:
1. March 18th Board Appointments

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

BOARD NAME	SEAT #	APPOINT/ REAPPOINT	BOARD MEMBER	TERM EXPIRES
Parks and Recreation				
	4	Appoint	Bradley Sherman	8/31/2026
Main Street				
	4	Appoint	Cody Rogers	8/31/2025
Tourism				
	2	Appoint	Megan Buro	8/31/2025

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 3.b.

Agenda Item: Consider directing staff to amend Chapter 46 Utilities of the Huntsville Municipal Code, Article IV Stormwater Utility System, the Division 3 Stormwater Utility Fees.

Initiating Department/Presenter: Engineering

Presenter:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch, City Engineer

Recommended Motion: Move to direct staff to complete required steps to amend Chapter 46 Utilities of the Huntsville Municipal Code, Article IV Stormwater Utility System, the Division 3 Stormwater Utility Fees, to revise rate schedules for school districts, religious organizations and county.

Strategic Initiative: Strategic Priority #4, Infrastructure - Develop and maintain a comprehensive and well-planned infrastructure network that prepares for the challenges of the future and provides quality, modern and efficient, water, wastewater, drainage and transportation services.

Discussion: The Finance Committee recommends bringing this item to the Council in changing the Fee Schedule of the Stormwater Utility to properties owned by the School District, Religious Organization, and County as below:

From
Fee = Allocated Impervious Area on the Parcel(s) in square feet (SF) X $0.00076/SF/month.
(equal to $2.5 per 3,300 sq ft)
To
Fee = Allocated Impervious Area on the Parcel(s) in square feet (SF) X $0.00152/SF/month.
(equal to $5.0 per 3,300 sq ft)

The Texas Local Government Code, (the “Act”), Provisions of Subchapter C of Chapter 552 – the Municipal Drainage Utility Systems Act, creates and establishes a “Stormwater Utility System” to serve the City.

The City Council adopted the City of Huntsville Strategic Plan on February 7, 2023, which includes seven Goals. Goal #4, Infrastructure, includes “Continue Implementation of the Preliminary Drainage Master Plan by Completing the Drainage Fee Study and Considering Identified Projects.”

On May 7, 2024, the Drainage Utility Fee Program was presented to the Finance Committee; the supplement information pertaining to the proposed charges, including examples, was provided to the Finance Committee on May 21, 2024. During the Council Meeting of July 16, 2024, a Workshop was held to discuss the details of the Drainage Utility Fee Program and Fees.

According to Section 552.045. Adoption of System; Rules.

(c) Before adopting the ordinance, the governing body must publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality stating the time and place of a public hearing to consider the proposed ordinance.   The proposed ordinance must be published in full in the notice. The proposed ordinance must be published in full in the notice, which shall be published three times before the date of the hearing. The first publication must occur on or before the 30th day before the hearing.

The Stormwater Utility Program Ordinance was published in the Items on 8/1/2024, 8/15/2024, and 8/29/2024, with the Public Hearing on 9/3/2024; while the Stormwater Utility Fees Ordinance was published in the Items on 8/15/2024, 8/29/2024, and 9/12/2024, with the Public Hearing on 9/17/2024.

Previous Council Action: September 17, 2024

Financial Implications:

Approvals:
Kathlie Jeng-Bulloch
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 3.c.

Agenda Item: Consider Opposing Senate Bill 924 and House Bill 2479

Initiating Department/Presenter: City Manager

Presenter:
Sam Masiel, Interim City Manager

Recommended Motion: Authorize City Manager to send opposition letter to Senator Charles Schwertner opposing Senate Bill 924 and House Bill 2479.

Strategic Initiative: Strategic Priority #4, Infrastructure - Develop and maintain a comprehensive and well-planned infrastructure network that prepares for the challenges of the future and provides quality, modern and efficient, water, wastewater, drainage and transportation services.

Discussion: SB 924 and HB 2479 propose to amend the definition of "video service" to exempt streaming companies from paying the 5% franchise fee when using public rights-of-way. This change undermines Texas municipalities that have long relied on these fees to maintain critical infrastructure. Since 2005, Texas law has required any provider using wireline facilities in public ROW to contribute to these costs, yet companies like Netflix, Hulu, and Disney have never complied. Instead of enforcing existing laws, this legislation would grant them an unfair exemption, violating the Texas Constitution's requirement that private entities pay for the use of public property.
Cities across Texas have taken legal action to hold these corporations accountable, and the case is currently on appeal in the Dallas 5th Court of Appeals. Passing SB 924/HB 2479 would set a harmful precedent by allowing large corporations to benefit from public infrastructure without contributing to its upkeep. This shift would ultimately burden local taxpayers, depriving cities of much-needed revenue for essential services. Lawmakers should reject this bill to protect municipal authority and ensure fair compensation for public resource usage.

Previous Council Action:

Financial Implications:

Approvals:
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:
1. SB924_Huntsville_Opposition_Letter

Dear Senator Charles Schwertner,

The City of Huntsville is writing to express our strong opposition to SB 924 and its companion bill HB 2479, which seek to amend the definition of “video service” to exclude streaming companies from paying the 5% franchise fee when they use public rights-of-way (ROW). This proposed legislation undermines the long-standing principle that private entities must compensate municipalities for the use of public infrastructure.

Since 2005, Chapter 66 of the Public Utility Regulatory Act has required providers of video programming services delivered through wireline facilities located in public rights-of-way to pay a 5% franchise fee. Companies such as Netflix, Hulu, and Disney have been benefiting from these public resources without ever applying for a franchise or contributing to the associated costs of maintaining the infrastructure.

The lawsuit filed by 31 Texas cities against these companies highlights the necessity of enforcing existing laws. SB 924 and HB 2479 violate the Texas Constitution (Art. XI Sec. 3 and Art. III Sec. 52(a)), which mandates that private entities pay for the use of public property. Historically, cities have collected franchise fees to ensure fairness and financial sustainability in maintaining essential infrastructure and services.

Passing SB 924/HB 2479 would set a dangerous precedent, allowing corporations to profit while shifting the financial burden to municipalities that rely on these fees to maintain critical infrastructure and services. I urge you to oppose this legislation and support the enforcement of existing franchise fee requirements.

Sincerely,

City of Huntsville

1212 Avenue M • Huntsville, TX 77340

Our vision for the City of Huntsville is a community that is beautiful, historic, culturally diverse, affordable, safe, and well planned with great opportunity for our citizens.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
3/18/2025

Agenda Item Number: 3.d.

Agenda Item: Consider Resolution No. 2025-11 Opposing legislation that eliminates the Countywide Polling Place Program, Electronic Poll Books, and Electronic Ballot Marking Devices.

Initiating Department/Presenter: City Secretary

Presenter:
Kristy Doll, City Secretary

Recommended Motion: Move to adopt Resolution No. 2025-11 Opposing the Elimination of Countywide Polling Place Program, Electronic Poll Books, and Electronic Ballot Marking Devices.

Strategic Initiative:

Discussion: This resolution formally opposes pending Texas legislation (HB 1001, SB 76, SB 77, and SB 148) that seeks to eliminate:
Countywide Polling Place Programs, Electronic Poll Books, and Electronic Ballot Marking Devices.

The City of Huntsville has contracted with Walker County for joint election services since 2009. Walker County has successfully participated in the Countywide Election Day Polling Place Program since 2020. These systems have increased voter turnout and reduced provisional ballots. Many constituents, especially those who work outside the city, rely on countywide polling for convenience.

Some of the key concerns with these bills are that reverting to precinct-based voting would reduce voter turnout and potentially disenfranchise voters, Walker County lacks public buildings in every voting precinct, and private facilities are increasingly unwilling to serve as polling sites. Implementation would impose significant financial burdens on both the City and Walker County.

Resolution No. 2025-11 formally opposes the Texas Legislature's elimination of any legislation, including but not limited to HB 1001, SB 76, SB 77, and SB 148, that seeks to eliminate countywide polling places, electronic poll books, and electronic ballot marking devices in Texas.

Previous Council Action:

Financial Implications:

Approvals:
Leonard Schneider
Sam Masiel
Kristy Doll

Associated Information:

1. Resolution No. 2025-11 Opposing the Elimination of Countywide Polling Places

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-11

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS, OPPOSING LEGISLATION THAT ELIMINATES COUNTYWIDE POLLING PLACE PROGRAM, ELECTRONIC POLL BOOKS, AND ELECTRONIC BALLOT MARKING DEVICES.

WHEREAS The City of Huntsville has contracted with Walker County since 2009 to provide a Joint Election with Election Services.

WHEREAS House Bill 2194, enacted by the 82nd Texas Legislature, created a new process for counties that had used the countywide election precinct method of voting.

WHEREAS Walker County was approved for and has participated in the Countywide Election Day Polling Place Program since 2020.

WHEREAS Walker County is one of the 96 Counties that has applied for and met the Secretary of State's requirements for the "successful" Countywide Precinct Polling Place Designation.

WHEREAS The City of Huntsville is a growing city in the state yet remains somewhat rural. As a rural city, many of our constituents take advantage of their ability to vote on Election Day in a polling location of their choice through the Countywide Polling Place Program; and

WHEREAS as a rural city, many of our constituents work outside the city and use the Countywide Polling Place Program as a necessary convenience to vote without having to adjust their work schedules; and

WHEREAS the use of the Countywide Polling Place Program has increased voter turnout and reduced the number of provisional ballots in Walker County; and

WHEREAS the requirement to have precinct-based voting locations in Walker County, where there are no public buildings for use as polling locations in every voting precinct and private facilities are no longer willing to allow the use of their buildings as a polling site, will create a significant expense and hardship on the City of Huntsville and its constituents; and

WHEREAS at the time of this resolution, there are at least four pending bills in the 89th Legislative Session which seek to eliminate electronic poll books, eliminate electronic ballot marking devices, and eliminate countywide polling places (HB 1001, SB 76, SB 77, and SB 148 respectively); and

WHEREAS the use of electronic poll books was authorized by the Texas Legislature through the Texas Election Code Section 31.014 and such poll books allow voters to sign in electronically while confirming identity through official identification and confirming voters have not already voted via absentee ballot or at another polling location thus dramatically reducing voter fraud and improving wait times for voters; and

WHEREAS the use of electronic ballot marking devices permits voters to cast their ballot with the aid of electronics on a physical ballot, the device neither stores nor tabulates ballots but allows the voter to record the vote which provides voters an additional opportunity to review their votes prior to casting and reassures the voter their ballot is recorded accurately; and

WHEREAS any Texas county using electronic poll books and electronic ballot marking devices are required, by statute, to obtain approval and certification from the Secretary of State to use such equipment and such certification must be obtained annually which confirms the security of the voting process for the public; and

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Huntsville is of the opinion that regression into precinct-based voting would be a disservice to the voting community, reduce voter turnout, and could disenfranchise a large number of voters; and

WHEREAS implementing new requirements would impose significant financial burdens on Walker County and the City of Huntsville to purchase new equipment, train election workers, and secure additional polling locations; and

WHEREAS these legislative proposals contradict the goal of making voting accessible to all eligible citizens while maintaining election integrity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS THAT:

The City of Huntsville strongly opposes the Texas Legislature's elimination of any legislation, including but not limited to HB 1001, SB 76, SB 77, and SB 148, that seeks to eliminate countywide polling places, electronic poll books, and electronic ballot marking devices in Texas.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 18th day of March 2025.

THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

Russell Humphrey, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kristy Doll, City Secretary

Leonard Schneider, City Attorney