

June 11, 2008

Dear Cypress Ridge/Onion Creek Homeowner:

Thank you for attending the May 29, 2008 meeting at the Onion Creek Club regarding the South I-35 Water/Wastewater Program to discuss plans for a wastewater interceptor tunnel in your vicinity. The project team received valuable input from those attending and we certainly appreciated the opportunity to answer questions and listen to concerns.

This letter also serves as a follow-up on requests for information we received. As mentioned at the meeting, the Program Team is hoping to secure the remaining Right of Entry (ROE) forms so that we can perform the necessary studies to determine the best route for the interceptor tunnel. Some of you had asked to receive information on where the test boring work will be performed. Please visit our website at www.cityofaustin.org/water and click on the program logo, which will link you to a page with a map showing the approximate locations of the boring work, along with the presentation from the meeting, and information about the following:

- Schedule of Program Milestones which provides you with a general idea of when the individual projects will be designed, bid, and going to City Council;
- The City's Standard Construction Contract Documents, including liability insurance requirements, which are listed in Section 00650, Section 00700 (Article 5), and Section 00810 (Articles 5.3 & 5.4).

The program team also wants to make sure residents are aware that we will be proceeding with surveying and test boring work in public areas and in areas where we have already received ROEs. This work may be conducted in the next couple of weeks, again in locations where we have received permission to access property. The geotechnical borings will involve drilling a 3-inch diameter hole using a truck-mounted drilling rig. The borings will be drilled in locations that do not impede traffic or access by emergency vehicles. Some meeting attendees had requested details on how the work will be done. After a boring is taken to determine the characteristics of the underground rock in preparation for tunneling, the excavated hole will be filled one of two ways: 1) with a piezometer (a well into which a water level indicator is inserted to measure the depth to groundwater) or 2) with bentonite (a type of clay) from the bottom of the bored hole up to the pavement, which is then covered with asphalt or concrete to patch the pavement.

If a piezometer is used, the hole will be filled with 2-inch PVC pipe, sand, and bentonite up to 2 feet below the ground surface. A 4-foot by 4-foot concrete pad that is slightly above the ground surface and extends down to the bentonite will be constructed around the top of the piezometer. A removable cap in the pad will provide access for monthly water level readings that will be used to provide guidance for the tunneling process. These readings will take place for about a year to a year and a half.

Our next meeting with members of the Onion Creek and Cypress Ridge HOAs has been scheduled for Thursday, June 26 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Onion Creek Club. We hope you will make plans to attend and encourage you to invite your neighbors. Until then, if you have any program-related questions, please feel free to call the hotline at (512) 314-9000.

Sincerely,
Joe Hoepken, Program Manager
South I-35 Water/Wastewater Program

