

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
February 11, 2021**

The meeting of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee was called to order by Chairman Ed Poole on February 11, 2021 at 3:25 p.m. by Zoom Meeting Telecommunicating to slow the spread of the Coronavirus COVID-19 (also called “social distancing”) due to the COVID-19 virus.

Present at the meeting were: David Johnson, Larry Millican, Andy Aycoth, Peggy Zahler, Evan Watkins, David Person, John Bowen (liaison), Christopher Sims and Donna Ofsanko

Introduction of Committee Members

Dave Johnson welcomed all members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and called to order the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the November 11, 2021 minutes by Peggy Zahler as presented and seconded by Evan Watkins at the February 11, 2021 meeting. Minutes were approved by all members of the committee with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Two new members were welcomed by David Johnson that were appointed to the committee. Andy Aycoth and David Person introduced themselves to the committee and are very excited to be part of the committee.

Introduction of the new liaison to the Transportation Committee was John Bowen and he introduced himself to the committee.

Dave Johnson presented for the election of the Chair and Vice Chairman to the committee:

The members of the committee appointed Evan Watkins, President and David Johnson as Vice Chairman to the Transportation Committee. Peggy Zahler made a motion to elect Evan Watkins and Dave Johnson and seconded by Dave Person and Larry Millican. All members of the committee approved with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Presentation and Discussion of the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Meeting:

Chris Sims presented and discussed the following presentation with Members of the Committee:

Recap of GO Bond Prop A Program Update

- Approved in May of 2019
- Prop A approved \$73 million in drainage projects
- 1 currently under construction - Bay Ridge Phase III
- 15 currently under design
- 4 currently in RFQ for Engineering Services
- 1 scheduled for purchase in 2022-2024

Projects Under Design (near completion and almost ready to bid

- Construction anticipated to begin in 2021
 - Bay Ridge Flood Reduction Phase I & II

Projects Under Design (near completion and almost ready to bid)

- Oaks of Clear Creek Overland Flow
- Bradshaw Ditch
- Countryside
- Rustic Oaks
- Hidden Oaks
- Dove Meadows

Projects Under Design:

- Hughes Ln/W. Deats Road Culvert Crossing Improvements
- Magnolia Creek/Cedar Gully Channel Improvements Phase I & II
- Benson Bayou Watershed Regional Detention Pond
- Bay Ridge Flood Reduction Phase IV
- Magnolia Bayou Diversion Channel and Detention Pond
- Comprehensive Drainage Plan & Flood Early Warning System
- The Meadows Subdivision Drainage Improvements Phase I & II
- Bay Colony Area Detention Modification

Recently Awarded Grant Funds

- Newport and Ellis Landing Subdivision Drainage Improvements (CDBG-DR Grant)
- Brittany Bay Subdivision Drainage Improvements (CDBG-DR & HMGP Grants)
- FM 518 & Wesley Dr. Drainage Improvements (CDBG-DR & HMGP Grants)
- The Landing Subdivision Improvements (CDBG-DR Grant)
- Oaks of Clear Creek North Detention Pond (CDBG-DR & HMGP Grants)
- Scheduled for purchase in 2022-2024
- Trailer Mounted Generator and Bypass Pumps

Timeline

- 2017 – August – Hurricane Harvey
- 2018- HMGP Opens, October, HMGP Closes, October 1st – GO Bond Meeting, December – CDBG-DR Opens, December – Atlas 14 Released (officially)
- 2019 – January Council Finalizes Go Project Lists, May – GO Bond approved, May – HMGP awards MDP, August – CDBG-DR Closes
- 2020 – August – HMGP awards Brittany Bay & FM518/Wesley, October – HMGP awards Oaks of Clear Creek North Detention
- 2021 – January – RFQ for CDBG-DR & HMGP remaining projects issues, January – Received CDBG-DR Infrastructure Contract

Current Estimated City Cost vs. Budget

- Bay Colony Area Detention Modification
- Bay Ridge Flood Reduction Phases, I, II, III & IV
- Benson Bayou Watershed Regional Detention Pond
- Magnolia Bayou Diversion Channel & Detention Pond
- Oaks of Clear Creek Overland Flow
- Rustic Oaks Subdivision Improvements
- Countryside Subdivision Improvements

Project Information

Benson Bayou Watershed Regional Detention Pond Project

- Initial Study showed project would only lower Water Service Elevation by approximately 1” at FM 646 and had some adverse impacts outside the City
- Revised study limits to see what could be done. New study expanded detention locations and resulted in an appropriate 6” water surface elevation at FM 646, but project estimate increased from \$12M (budget) to \$46M

Magnolia Bay Diversion Channel & Detention Pond Project

- Initial Study showed Dickinson Bayou is out of bank during a 100-year event which would use up all of the capacity in the proposed pond
- Atlas 14 changes the size of the diversion channel and detention pond. Using this criteria, the proposed cost for this project increased from the \$15M (budget) to \$29M

Additional Information for Decision Points

Staff recommends the following 2 modifications be made to the Prop A Drainage Program:

1. Benson Watershed Regional Detention Pond
 - a. Identify the most efficient & effective use of detention using the original budget (\$12M) as a not to exceed amount; would not receive full benefit as presented in bond
2. Magnolia Bayou Diversion Channel and Detention Pond
 - a. Cancel/Postpone Project – as the Dickinson Bayou Regional study evolves, it seems that it would absorb this proposed project

Project Information

Bay Ridge Flood Reduction, Phase IV

- Atlas 14 changes the width of Gum Bayou and the size of the detention pond. Completed Geotechnical Report notes side slopes should be a minimum 4:1 (existing varies)
- 3 options in Engineering Report - All show over 1’ water surface elevation reduction at Pedestrian Bridge and 2 options show over 0.4’ of water surface elevation reduction at FM 646 (in 100-yr storm events)
- Cost is estimated at \$16.32M vs \$2.73M budget
- Staff recommends moving this project forward based on a not to exceed an amount of \$11M

Bay Ridge Flood Reduction, Phase 1

- Option 1: construct the full levee and remove the neighborhood from the 100-yr Flood Plan, the cost is estimated at \$1.9M over budget
- Option 2: elevate Bay Ridge Drive along SH96 only. This will not allow neighborhood to be removed from 100-yr Flood Plain, but will reduce Flood Risk and keep the project on budget.
- Based on availability of funding through the Prop A Bond Program, staff recommends Option 2

Additional Information for Decision Points

Clear Creek Tributaries Clearing & Desnagging Project

- Not part of Prop A
- Clearing & Desnagging work for 4 Clear Creek Tributaries between FM 518 and Clear Creek: Magnolia Creek, Cedar Gully, Landing Ditch, and Newport Ditch
- Geotechnical Report found existing are unstable and notes 4:1 slopes for long-term stability

Additional Information for Decision Points

- Sections of the Tributaries will become more channelized and lose some of the natural beauty the areas are known for
- This is different than what was presented at the public meeting

Decision Points

1. Preference on Staff Recommendations:
 - a. Limiting scope for Benson Regional Pond - \$12M Max
 - b. Removing Magnolia Bayou Diversion Channel & Pond
 - c. Move forward with Bay Ridge, Phase 4 - \$11M Max
 - d. Move forward with Bay Ridge, Phase 1 – Options 2
2. Preference on changes with Clearing & Desnagging
3. If preferred, Staff can schedule separate workshops on any of these projects for additional information

Committee Member Comments:

- Discussion of the overflow swell with Evan Watkins and Chris Sims, regarding the specifications of the swell.
- Larry Millican discussed the ROW issues discussed with Chris Sims with Countryside and Rustic Oaks and the progression going forward. The City is currently in the process of a resolution.
- Dave Person made a comment regarding FM646 and work may be needed. What degree would TxDOT expand the road from two to four-lanes. Chris Sims said that will be part of the project.
- Discussion of the 3D modeling with members of the committee the process and options.
- Discussed with members of the committee the CIP projects on the City's website for review.
- Peggy Zaher discussed the Mission/Purpose of the committee and if the committee are in agreement going forward. Over the last year, there has not been a great deal of discussion for a strategic plan being visionary for the next 10-years and could be a goal for the committee.
- Discussion of the main street beautification left hand turn lane and feedback was against the addition of medians to that area due to business being impacted.
- Discussion of future meetings for the meetings going forward. Schedule will be finalized at the next transportation committee meeting.

Action Item

- Members of the committee will review, discuss and finalize the Mission/Purpose and the Goals and the Initiatives for the committee going forward at the next committee meeting in March.

Public Comments:

- No public comments

Discuss Purpose and Direction to Staff:

A motion was made by Evan Watkins and seconded by Larry Millican and all members of the committee to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m. A motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

The next Transportation Committee meeting will be scheduled on March 25, 2021, by a Zoom Meeting due to the COVID-19 virus).

Minutes were approved by Peggy Zahler and seconded by Annette Ramirez with an unanimous vote of 7-0.