Memorandum

DATE April 17, 2009

TO Trinity River Committee Members:
David A. Neumann (Chair), Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Elba Garcia (Vice-Chair),
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine Caraway, Pauline Medrano, Mitchell Rasansky
Carolyn R. Davis, Steve Salazar, Linda Koop

SUBJECT Sylvan Avenue Bridge Update (Briefing Memo Only)

When the Trinity River Committee was last briefed on this project in October 2008, the purpose was to provide information regarding the project and planned construction, discuss possible full closure of the roadway during construction, and consider additional funding sources in order to continue development of the entire project rather than a phased construction project. The information in this briefing memo is intended to update you on these issues and provide the current estimated schedule for the project.

With full closure of Sylvan Avenue during construction, the construction budget was reduced by approximately $5 million, and it was estimated that construction time will be reduced such that the new bridge can be constructed in approximately one year. With the committee’s agreement on this recommendation, staff directed the design consultant to move forward with design of the estimated $48 million project. Agreement to full closure was also predicated on the Hampton Bridge construction being completed and open to traffic by the end of 2009, prior to the Sylvan Avenue closure.

In the October 2008 briefing, a funding shortfall of approximately $20 million to $25 million was discussed. Since that time, an additional $15.5 million in federal funds and an additional $10.56 million in Regional Tollway Revenue funds were received as a result of appropriations received through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. With this additional funding, the project is now fully funded and will not require phasing.

The current estimated schedule for implementation is:

- Complete design and construction drawings: February 2010
- Construction letting by the Texas Dept. of Transportation: August 2010
- Start construction: October 2010
- Complete construction: December 2011

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This schedule is contingent upon review, processing, and approval of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). It is possible the construction schedule may be impacted due to ongoing review and scrutiny of the City's levee system by the USACE.

If you have questions or need additional information, please let me know.

Ramon F. Miguez, P.E.
Assistant City Manager

Cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Deborah A. Watkins, City Secretary
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Judge C. Victor Lander, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
A. C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Interim Assistant City Manager
David K. Cook, Chief Financial Officer
Jeanne Chipherfield, Director, Budget and Management Services
Edward Scott, Director, Controller's Office
Helena Stevens-Thompson, Asst. to the City Manager
Rick Galceran, P.E., Director, Public Works and Transportation
Frank Librio, Director, Public Information Office

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