

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 30, 2011

TO Trinity River Corridor Project Committee Members: Vonciel Jones Hill (Chair)
Linda Koop (Vice-Chair), Monica Alonzo, Scott Griggs, Angela Hunt, Delia Jasso

SUBJECT **Sylvan Avenue Bridge Update**

The proposed Sylvan Avenue Bridge project will replace the existing two lane roadway and three bridges crossing the east levee, river channel and west levee of the Dallas Floodway with one continuous six-lane 3500-foot long bridge over the Trinity River. On July 7, 2011, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) received nine construction bids for the Sylvan Avenue Bridge project. The total construction cost, including the lowest bid and TxDOT's construction management fee, is now estimated at approximately \$48 million dollars. The project is fully funded through a combination of City, Federal, and Regional Toll Revenue sources.

Start of construction was anticipated in October of this year. However, utility relocations are yet to be completed, which caused TxDOT to activate a 180 day delay in the start of construction in the Sylvan Avenue Bridge construction contract. Oncor distribution is currently coordinating with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to relocate existing poles along the landside toe of both the east and west levee slopes. Oncor estimates their relocations will be completed by December 30, 2011. Time Warner, located on the Oncor distribution poles, will require an additional month to complete their relocations. Consequently, the start of construction will likely be delayed to February or March 2012. The 180 day delay period has been initiated with the written notice to proceed from TxDOT to the Contractor, which was provided on September 27, 2011. Because TxDOT included this provision in the contract at the time of letting, this delay will not increase the cost of construction above the bid amount. If TxDOT had elected to begin construction before utility relocations were complete, the City would have been at risk for 100% of any additional costs due to the utility delays. According to TxDOT, construction may begin before the end of the 180 day period if utility relocations are complete.

Once construction commences, the Contractor will have approximately 27 months to complete the project. Working days will be charged regardless of weather conditions. However, once the Contractor physically closes Sylvan Avenue to traffic, the new bridge's structural components must be completed and the roadway reopened to traffic in 15 months or less. The contractor may use the remaining 12 months for the work items with no impact to the roadway, such as the foundations in the floodway and the aesthetic treatments. If Sylvan Avenue is closed to traffic for more than 15 months

(excluding time lost for out of bank flooding within the Dallas Floodway), the Contractor will pay a \$10,000 per day penalty. The Contractor must give the City a minimum 45 day advance written notice before closing Sylvan Avenue to traffic. This will allow the City sufficient time to notify the public of the pending roadway closure.

Please contact me if you have questions.



Jill A. Jordan, P.E.
Assistant City Manager



THE TRINITY
DALLAS

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
A. C. Gonzalez, First Assistant City Manager
Ryan S. Evans, Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Interim Assistant City Manager

Kelly High, Director, Trinity Watershed Management
Rebecca Rasor, P.E., Managing Director, Trinity River Corridor Project
Paul D. Dyer, Director, Park and Recreation
Theresa O'Donnell, Director, Sustainable Development & Construction
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Rosa A. Rios, Interim City Secretary
Rick Galceran, P.E., Director, Public Works & Transportation