

Harris County MUD 132 – FM 1960 Utility Relocations

TxDOT has begun construction on the widening of FM1960 between Twigsworth Lane and the Lake Houston bridge, which includes areas within Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 132 (“the District”). The project involves TxDOT’s acquisition of additional road right-of-way along FM1960, so it is necessary for the District to relocate some of its existing water lines and sanitary sewer lines out of the expanded right-of-way. This process has also required the District to obtain new water line and sanitary sewer line easements for the relocated water and sanitary sewer lines.

TxDOT’s contractor for the roadway widening project, Webber LLC, is also performing the relocation of the District’s utilities. The total amount of Webber LLC’s construction contract with TxDOT is approximately \$70,000,000, out of which the District’s utility relocation work is approximately \$3,000,000. Webber LLC commenced construction on the roadway widening and utility relocation work earlier this year. They expect to complete the relocation of the District’s utilities by this fall, while completion of the overall roadway widening project is expected to be in 2024.

The utility relocation work involves relocation of approximately 6,000 linear feet of water line and approximately 1,700 linear feet of sanitary sewer force main. The majority of the water line being relocated involves an existing 16-inch diameter water line on the north side of FM1960, between Kings Park Way and West Lake Houston Parkway, though the project also includes water line relocations near the intersections of FM1960 and Dinero Drive, Pinehurst Trail Drive, Pine Echo Drive, and Atascocita Shores Drive. The 18-inch diameter sanitary sewer force main being relocated is located on FM1960 between Farmington Road and Pinehurst Trail Drive.

The District obtained 26 new easements (18 water line easements and 8 sanitary sewer easements) from 19 different property owners as part of the project. The District also entered into an agreement with TxDOT under which 85% of all District costs, including engineering, legal and easement acquisition costs, will be reimbursed by TxDOT upon completion of the utility relocation work. Prior to commencement of construction, the District was required to escrow its share (\$511,595) of the utility relocation construction costs.

The total Utility Relocation cost is \$4,725,000 for engineering, easements and construction. Following reimbursement by TxDOT, the District’s unreimbursed costs on the project will be approximately \$750,000. The District is funding this obligation from sales tax revenue generated by the Strategic Partnership Agreement with the City of Houston signed in 2005 to prevent annexation. There will be no increase in the District’s ad valorem property tax rate to meet this financial obligation.

Any questions regarding the FM 1960 Utility Relocations can be referred to the following individuals:

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