



Department Source: City Utilities - Sewer/Stormwater

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 16, 2017

Re: Authorizing Construction of the El Chaparral Riparian Restoration Project

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance authorizing the construction of the El Chaparral Riparian Restoration project; a Hinkson Collaborative Adaptive Management effort. An IP meeting was held on May 31, 2017 with 9 residents from the adjacent County subdivision attending and a Public Hearing was held on August 21, 2017.

Discussion

The project proposes to restore the former neighborhood sewer treatment facility site, currently owned by the City and located along the south fork of the Grindstone, to a more natural riparian land cover. Riparian areas offer important benefits for the creek that they surround including habitat, water management, and flood management, as well as, providing benefits to the community. This project has been presented to the Collaborative Adaptive Management Stakeholders at both the August 29, 2017 and September 27, 2017 meetings and has received favorable comments.

The work will include grading, installation of approximately 120 linear feet of storm pipe, construction of a storm box, planting approximately 12 trees, restoring approximately 2.4 acres by controlling invasive plants and planting other native vegetation. The project will be carried out over the next two years because the tasks are dependent on the seasons of the year. The layout of the restoration will be coordinated with Columbia Parks and Recreation to avoid conflicts with a future trail. (See attached diagram.)

The project will be constructed by a combination of volunteers, City forces, and an existing term-and-supply contract or by contract bid by the Purchasing Division. Work will begin in December 2017 pending Council authorization.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The project cost is estimated at \$20,000, and will be paid from the Storm Water Utility Funds.

Long-Term Impact: Initial maintenance of the restored land is expected to cost approximately \$2,000 per year. As the site becomes naturalized with the restored vegetation, this annual cost is expected to drop to zero.



Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impacts

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Environmental Management, Secondary Impact: Infrastructure, Tertiary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities

Legislative History

Date	Action
08/21/2017	PH28-17 Public Hearing
07/17/2017	R91-17 Setting a Public Hearing
05/31/2017	Interested Parties meeting held.

Suggested Council Action

Authorize the construction of the El Chaparral Riparian Restoration Project.