

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****April 14, 2015**

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**SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS WITH FORT WORTH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ON RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION FOR POTENTIAL TRAIL DRIVE EXTENSION**

Since the 1990's, the City has engaged in discussions about traffic-flow challenges around the West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, University Drive and West Lancaster Avenue. The challenges have intensified with new development and a corresponding update to the Master Thoroughfare Plan is underway.

There is an opportunity to bring this issue to a successful resolution by combining public assets from Fort Worth Independent School District (FWISD), the City and Tarrant County to improve mobility. This would be accomplished by building a street connecting West Lancaster Avenue to what is now known as Trail Drive (exhibit attached). It is anticipated that this would alleviate traffic flow at the intersections of West Lancaster and University and West 7<sup>th</sup> Street and University. This new road would transverse the Farrington Field parking lot (running north and south), requiring FWISD to grant an easement for a dedicated roadway to the City of Fort Worth.

The City of Fort Worth, Tarrant County and Fort Worth ISD would be the entities negotiating the terms and conditions involved with the granting of the easement, the building and maintenance of the road, other terms and conditions regarding its usage, and other developmental requirements of properties adjacent to Farrington Field. Community input will be sought on the proposed route. Final approval of the negotiated settlement would be required from both the Fort Worth ISD Board and the City Council.

Construction of the proposed road would require relocation of the City's Parks and Community Services maintenance facilities that are currently operating at the north end of Trinity Park. This change would open up additional usable park land and improve access/visibility of the historic Van Zandt Cottage. As negotiations progress, staff will be prepared to describe the cost and operational impact of this plan as well as make a recommendation about its incorporation into the City's capital plan.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

**David Cooke**  
**City Manager**

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

