



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: November 25, 2014

Prepared By: Paul Scoggins, Engineering Specialist **Phone #:** (512) 854-7619

Division Director/Manager: Anna Bowlin, Division Director of Development Services Long Range Planning

Paul B. Scoggins
Department Head: Steven M. Manilla, P.E., County Executive-TNR

Sponsoring Court Member: Commissioner Todd, Precinct Two

AGENDA LANGUAGE: Receive comments regarding a request to authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate two portions of a drainage easement located along the north lot line of Lot 49, Block A of River Place, Section 11 – Precinct Two.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

TNR staff has received a request to authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate two portions of a drainage easement (DE) located along the north lot line of Lot 49, Block A of River Place, Section 11. The easement is schematically shown on the plat. The subject property fronts on Big View Drive, a street maintained by Travis County.

Excerpts from the professional engineer I. T. Gonzales' letter dated June 27, 2014 states that:

"1. I found that the drainage easement is essentially being utilized for an underground drainage pipe that drains from the curb inlet at the street and along the north property line of said property within a platted 15 ft Drainage Easement. Toward the rear of the lot the pipe discharges into a stone-lined channel that is contained within a 25 ft Drainage Easement...

4. The existing pipe adequately handles the street runoff that enters the curb inlet...

7. A covered patio encroaches by a few inches on the south edge of the 15 ft Drainage easement on the surface. This encroachment will not in any form or fashion affect the flows in the existing pipe.

8. A small narrow strip of steps approximately 24 inches in width encroaches at the high and top side (also, the south side) of the 25 ft Drainage Easement. This encroachment does not in any manner obstruct the discharge from the storm drain pipe.

9. Furthermore, once again there will never be any surface runoff, from the street, that would be restricted by the small encroachment because the easement will never be used for surface runoff."

Staff foresees no opposition to this request.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The request has been reviewed by TNR staff which finds that the vacation request meets all Travis County standards. As of this memo, staff has not received any inquiries with regards to this request. As such, TNR staff recommends the request.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

According to the request letter about five years ago, the owner made improvements to his backyard which included a swimming pool, a cabana house, and retaining walls. The City of Austin later did an inspection and found the two encroachments needed to be addressed. Vacating the portions of the easement should resolve the encroachment issues and allow the home owner to receive their Certificate of Occupancy from the City.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

None.

ATTACHMENTS/EXHIBITS:

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Cynthia McDonald	Financial Manager	TNR	(512) 854-4239
Steven M. Manilla	County Executive	TNR	(512) 854-9429
Anna Bowlin	Division Director Development Services Long Range Planning	TNR	(512) 854-7561

CC:

Stacey Scheffel	Permit Program Manager	TNR	(512) 854-7565
John Ellis	Engineer	TNR	(512) 854-9805

SM:AB:ps

1101 - Development Services Long Range Planning - River Place, Section 11