



**STAFF REPORT**  
**City of Dripping Springs**  
**PO Box 384**  
**511 Mercer Street**  
**Dripping Springs, TX 78602**

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**Submitted By:** Aaron Reed, Public Works Director

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**Council Meeting Date:** 01/04/2022

**Agenda Item Wording:** Staff Report Mercer St. Drainage Improvements

**Agenda Item Requestor:**

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**Summary/Background:** There has been an issue with the drainage between the triangle and Mercer St. which continues to worsen. The issue is compounded with Farmer's Market vendors and other vehicles parking in the right-of-way and in the roadside ditch which has not been a designated parking area. Since the water does not drain in the ditch, it is almost always wet and the drainage problem and the usability of the ditch continues to get worse. In addition to the drainage issues caused by improper parking, many of the cars also drive over the concrete monuments in place for the Veterans Memorial flags and the VFW requested that something be done about this issue as well. The VFW has had to replace or repair several of the monuments due to this parking. Initially, the City placed cones along the Mercer ROW to keep cars from parking there but the cones are easily and frequently moved. I also received requests from elected officials to create a more permanent and aesthetically pleasing solution. The idea of using large rocks from DSRP was discussed between Public Works and Parks Departments and the elected officials agreed that it would be a good permanent solution. There were further discussions between Public Works, the City Engineer, and the Parks Department to develop a plan. Because the work being done was in the right-of way, Public Works worked with the City Engineer to come up with a plan and hired a contractor to do the work.

Here is the scope of work developed with the City Engineer:

Regrade the drainage ditch from the East entrance to the triangle along the Mercer ROW and continuing along the 290 ROW to positively drain to the box culverts under Hwy 290.

Place large rocks along the Mercer St. ROW to prevent parking in the roadside ditch and prevent the problem from recurring.

Hydromulch the disturbed ground to revegetate the ditch.

The work will not impact the vendor area or parking in the designated parking area for Farmer's Market. The work will not impact the Veterans Memorial.

All work being done is a drainage and ROW project and funded through the ROW maintenance budget.

**Commission  
Recommendations:**

**Recommended  
Council Actions:**

**Attachments:**

**Next Steps/Schedule:**