From:	Travis & Abbie Wilson on behalf of traviswilson@alumni.utexas.net
To:	Kelly Schmidt
Subject:	Possible trail connection between Springlake neighborhood and DS Ranch Park
Date:	Sunday, September 13, 2020 5:20:47 PM
Attachments:	Springlake - DS Ranch Park (possible trail connection).kmz

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Kelly:

I live at 1807 Spring Valley Drive just north of Dripping Springs. My residence is not in the City limits; however, we are frequent users of the trails at the Dripping Springs Ranch Park. To access the park, we have to utilize a vehicle. I'd like to discuss possibilities for a trail connection between the DS Ranch Park and the Springlake neighborhood. I see there is a connection shown on the 2017 Trail Master Plan, but I don't know what the timeline is for that connection or what steps are required (land acquisition, etc.).

I also wanted to pitch another possible alignment for the City to consider: using an easement following the alignment of the existing gas pipeline between the Springlake neighborhood and the DS Ranch Park as shown in the attached GoogleEarth kmz file. Has this idea been explored? The existing pipeline runs through the ranch park and crosses a public street within the Springlake neighborhood. I know that there are a couple of property owners that would need to be approached (including the gas company), but I'd like to know your thoughts on this possibility. The gas pipeline runs through the existing ranch park, and indeed, part of the mountain bike trail overlaps the gas line alignment, so I think the gas company would not have any significant objection to a trail easement (my speculation, of course). I would propose only a trail easement with a "soft-scape" trail (i.e., not a hardscape improvement at this time).

Could you let me know if this idea has been explored and/or could you offer any feedback on this idea. My family loves the trails at the Ranch Park, and we'd love to have access to the park without having to get in the car. I appreciate your feedback. Thanks for your time.

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