

City Council Workshop



SAWS Emergency Interconnect Project

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Project Summary





- Project constructs an emergency interconnect with SAWS to provide a backup water source for Pressure Zone C
- Improves resiliency in the event of extended power outage or other event where FORU is unable to provide adequate flow or pressure
- Initial planned location was near intersection of Fair
 Oaks Parkway and IH-10 Access Rd (found unfeasible)
- Revised alignment now along Leslie Pfeiffer Drive within existing easements
- Currently in design phase with construction anticipated to start in Spring 2026
- Staff seeks Council direction regarding the new location, revised scope, and estimated costs

Current Status



- Feb. 26, 2025 Agreement executed with K-Friese for design phase engineering only for \$49,995
- During preliminary investigations, KFA discovered that the SAWS water line for the intended connection was in a steel casing, making this location unfeasible, and required additional easements from Frost Bank
- Alternative location was suggested by staff and engineering to utilize existing easements and connect where SAWS already has infrastructure in place
- Additional engineering cost, including new survey, bid and construction phase services, is \$40,695. Estimated construction cost is \$352,340 (includes 20% contingency).
- Cinco De Mayo has verbally agreed to contribute \$50,000 to the project to meet their fire flow requirements

Revised Project Scope



- Interconnect now located near Leslie Pfieffer Drive
- Approximately 700 LF of existing 3-inch and 6-inch mains replaced and upsized to 12-inch
 - Interconnect capable of delivering up to 1,000 GPM (25 acrefeet / 8.1 million gallons)
 - Designed to maintain 42 psi (TCEQ minimum is 35 psi) in Pressure Zone C for 5–6 days under peak demand

Project Benefits



- Enhances system reliability and operational flexibility
- Provides a sustainable backup source of water during emergencies
- Reduces vulnerability during extended power outages
- Supports Strategic Priority 3.1: Reliable Water Resources
- Supports economic development along IH-10 frontage road and ensures adequate fire flow for commercial customers
- Positions the City for wholesale water purchase agreement with SAWS in the event future anticipated GBRA water supply does not materialize

Financial Overview



- Total engineering cost: \$90,690
- Estimated construction cost: \$352,340 (includes 20% contingency)
- Developer contribution: \$50,000
- Net city cost: \$393,030
- Current budget: \$382,340

Way Forward



- Staff seeks Council direction regarding the revised project scope and relocation of the 12-inch interconnect to Leslie Pfeiffer Drive
- Pending Council direction, staff will:
 - Nov 2025 Execute design contract amendment and continue coordination with SAWS
 - Dec 2025 Present the SAWS Interconnect Agreement and resolution to accept restaurant donation for approval
 - Feb 2026 Publish bid opportunity
 - March 2026 Award of construction agreement
 - May 2026 Construction start
 - June 2026 Construction complete



Questions?