

City Council Meeting

Agenda Item

Data Sheet

Meeting Date: August 4, 2025

Topic:

Workshop Discussion Only – Approve a Professional Services Agreement with Freese & Nichols, Inc. for the design of drainage improvements for North Star Estates Erosion Repair – Bearing Star Lane (Project No. 2025-10018), for a not-to-exceed amount of \$48,337, authorize the expenditure of funds therefor, and authorize the City Manager to execute any and all documents. The expenditure is to be paid from the Capital Improvement Project budget for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Background:

In 2020, the City of Tomball completed a project for drainage improvements in North Star Estates near Rigel Court that included the construction of a retaining wall and drainage channel stabilization to aid with erosion along the drainage channel. In November 2023, staff was made aware the erosion issues were occurring adjacent to the site where the retaining wall was constructed and staff began working with Freese & Nichols, the original design consultant, to conduct a site investigation. The site investigation included observing and documenting existing conditions and comparing what was designed versus what was constructed to determine the cause and solution.

Phase II of the North Star Estate drainage improvements were completed between Rigel Court and Bearing Star Lane and included removing sub-optimal fill and replacing it with acceptable fill, keying/benching and compacting imported select fill, and flattening the slope to a more gradual slope and armor with rock riprap. The project was included in the FY 2023-2024 budget and was completed in April 2025.

Freese & Nichols met with staff and discussed the potential path forward to make the additional repairs needed to the drainage channel at the properties along Bearing Star Lane (at the cul-de-sac). The work area is adjacent to the drainage channel and spans approximately 350 linear feet along the top of the embankment. The proposed work will consist of design of the erosion repairs including regrading and rock-armoring two (2) ditches/gullies, establish erosion control measures to avoid further erosion, and removal of random sub-optimal fill to a stable subgrade.

The proposed Professional Services Agreement with Freese & Nichols for engineering services to design the needed improvements is for a not-to-exceed amount of \$48,337.

This project was not included in the approved FY 2024-2025 budget, but funding has been allocated for the design in the CIP budget with a transfer from General Fund Unobligated remaining in the CIP budget from excess funds remaining from projects completed under budget.

