



## UNIVERSITY PARK CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMO

**Meeting Date:**  
7/21/2026

**Item Type:**  
Discussion Item

**Subject:** Stormwater Improvements Discussion

**Prepared By:** Keegan Littrell, PE, Director of Public Works

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### **Background:**

In May 2018, City Council awarded a contract to consulting engineering firm Huitt-Zollars to develop a Stormwater Master Plan for Upper Turtle Creek Basin-A (UTCB-A), an area that is generally defined as the NE quadrant of the City. This area occupies approximately 507 acres within both University Park and the City of Dallas, and outfalls on the downstream end at Thackery and Lovers Lane, in Curtis Park. The UTCB-A Master Plan report was delivered in February 2019.

This report divides UTCB-A into three Areas of Interest (AOI), AOI-1, AOI-2, and AOI-3, and provides recommended improvements and projected costs for improvements in each AOI. The report recommends constructing the improvements to AOI-1 first, then moving to AOI-2, and finally AOI-3.

Based on these recommendations, City Council approved a design contract with Huitt-Zollars in April 2019 that included design and construction documents for AOI-1, which was divided into three (3) construction Phases. Construction of Phase 1 was completed in Fall of 2020 and included the underground detention in Caruth Park. Phase 2 construction included replacement of the existing storm drain system in Southwestern Blvd. from Turtle Creek to Hillcrest, in Hillcrest from Southwestern to Colgate, and bringing the underground detention system on-line. This project was completed in Spring 2022. Design of Phase 3 improvements was put on hold in 2024 and are 95% complete and includes replacement and upsizing of existing storm drain in Colgate, Marquette, and Airline. AOI-1 Phase 1 and 2 improvements were designed and constructed at a cost of just under \$16 million.

At the March 4, 2025 City Council meeting, staff provided an update to Council on the design efforts for AOI-2 and AOI-3, and presented recommendations regarding the phasing of the construction improvements. This was also presented and approved by the Capital Projects Review Committee (CPRC) at their January meeting. Council agreed with staff and CPRC, and recommended advancing AOI-2 over AOI-3, and dividing the construction phases for AOI-2 into 4 construction packages. Design of AOI-2 Phase 1 improvements is at 95% design and scheduled for revision to address new sidewalk width requirements to be compliant with ADA standards. AOI-2 Phases 2 and 3 are at 30% schematic design and AOI-2 Phase 4 design is 90% complete. AOI-2 improvements have a current OPCC of \$26 million. AOI-3 improvements have a current OPCC of \$50 million.

Funding for these improvements has been discussed on multiple occasions with both the City Council and the Capital Projects Review Committee. It is the recommendation of the CPRC that the improvements be funded by debt issuance to be paid for with stormwater fees. The committee also recommended doubling stormwater fees to provide increased funding for future stormwater projects. This rate increase was adopted for FY26. The FY26 Capital Budget funds the design of all phases of AOI-2 and AOI-3 Phase 1. Funds for construction of stormwater improvements are not currently identified in the CIP.

While UTCB-A is the watershed that has historically experienced the most occurrences of high water and flooding during intense rain events, other watersheds in the City also experience high water events and should be studied for necessary improvements.

**Fiscal Impact:**

- ☒ Not Applicable
- ☐ Budget Amendment Required
- ☐ Proposed Revenue
- ☐ Proposed Expenditure

Funding Source:

**Master Plan Goal:**

Please check the associated Theme and provide the corresponding action item number.



|                                     | Theme                     | Action Item(s) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Affirming Sense of Place  |                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Assuring Connectivity     |                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Innovative Governance     | 4.3            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Technological Integration |                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Preparing for the Future  |                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Not Applicable            |                |

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Council receive a report on the history of stormwater studies and improvements and provide guidance on future efforts to address stormwater needs in the community.

**Committee Review (optional):**

Public Works Advisory Committee  
Capital Projects Review Committee

**Attachments:**

None