Memorandum

DATE  6 December 2013

to  The Honorable Members of the Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee:
Vonciel Jones Hill (Chair), Lee Kleinman (Vice Chair), Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica
Alonzo, Mayor Pro Tem Tennell Atkins, Sandy Greyson, Sheffie Kadane

SUBJECT  Big Springs Update

On Monday, 9 December 2013 the Transportation and Trinity River Project Council
Committee will be briefed on the Big Springs Update. The material is attached for your
review.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information.

Jill A. Jordan, P.E.
Assistant City Manager

Attachment

c:  A.C. Gonzalez, Interim City Manager
    Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
    Judge Daniel Solis, Administrative Judge
    Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
    Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
    Ryan S. Evans, Interim First Assistant City Manager
    Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
    Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
    Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager
    Theresa O'Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
    Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
    Frank Librio, Public Information Officer
    Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor and City Council

"Dallas, the City that works.  diverse, vibrant, and progressive"
Big Spring Update

Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee
9 December 2013
Purpose of Briefing

• Provide brief history of Big Spring
• Initiative to protect and preserve Big Spring
• Next Steps
Big Spring Area
Big Spring History

- Natural spring
- Rich with stories of ancient civilizations, pioneers, Dallas founders and farming communities
- Acquired by City June 15, 2004
- Located adjacent to Texas Horse Park
Big Spring

Credit: Ben Sandifer
Big Spring Initiative

- Preserve and protect Big Spring as a natural area
- Develop a plan to restore Big Spring to a more native state
- Engage public and private groups to assist with efforts
Big Spring Initiative

• Stakeholders began regular meetings with City staff Summer 2013

• Comprised of approximately 15-20 individuals with varying interests
  – Environmental
  – Conservation
  – Education
  – Historic preservation

Credit: Ben Sandifer
Big Spring meadow in May
Stakeholders have provided:

- Plant Listings
- Water Quality Samples
- Input for Boundaries
- Input for Historical Context

Credit: Ben Sandifer
Big Spring Initiative

• City staff is:
  – Incorporating stakeholder information to assist with individual components of historical and environmental initiatives
  – Finalizing boundary survey
  – Finalizing plat with development restrictions
  – Finalizing contracts with University of North Texas [“UNT”] and the Lewisville Aquatic Ecosystem Research Facility [“LAERF”] to develop and implement management plan
Big Spring Initiative

– Finalizing a job co-op for college students to be managed by UNT and LAERF
  
  • Partnering with local Universities
  
  • Teaches plant identification, management practices, and planting procedures

Credit: Ben Sandifer
Next Steps

• Submit application for Big Spring for Historic Overlay District by end of December
• Enter contracts with UNT and LEARF
• Develop a quarterly stakeholder meeting schedule