

MEMORANDUM

TO: Claire Powell, City Manager

FROM: David Salmon, P.E., City Engineer

VIA James Proce, Assistant City Manager

DATE: June 5, 2023

SUBJECT: Public Hearing: Consideration of an Ordinance Renaming West Main Street From the Center Point of the Main Street Bridge Over I-35 East to a Point 220 Feet West of the Center Point of Said Bridge Being the Approximate West Right of Way Line of I-35 East.

BACKGROUND:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is beginning construction of the I-35 East interchange at Main Street in Lewisville. As with the previous interchanges at Garden Ridge, FM 407 and Fox Avenue, the City has designed and paid for aesthetic improvements to be constructed by TxDOT at Main Street. After the aesthetic package for Main Street was designed, the Council directed staff to remove the Fighting Farmers Water Tower and to commemorate the tower and Lewisville High School with murals on each side of I-35 East depicting the water tower and including the words Fighting Farmers. The revised design package was submitted to TxDOT for approval and TxDOT rejected the words Fighting Farmers based on a policy of not allowing words incorporated into aesthetics other than what would be included in an official City logo. The murals were revised a second time to exclude the wording.

ANALYSIS:

To apply the words Fighting Farmers to the new bridge, TxDOT has indicated the street intersecting I-35 East, in this case West Main Street, would need to be officially changed to something that included the words Fighting Farmers. TxDOT indicated the street name change would have to include at least half of the bridge to be able to include the new name on the bridge face as well as include the new name on the directional signs leading up to the interchange. Staff proposed and confirmed with TxDOT that the street name change could be limited to just one half of the I-35 East right-of-way to avoid address changes along West Main Street. The City Council directed Staff at a workshop on May 15, 2023, to move forward with changing the street name for this short street segment. Staff is negotiating a professional services agreement with WSP Inc., the firm that designed the Main Street aesthetic package, to amend the plans to include the lettering on the face of the bridge. Since the workshop where the Council indicated a preference for the embossed and painted lettering option, TxDOT has indicated that option would require the City to assume full maintenance for the bridge rails including repairs in the event of a vehicle collision. The applied letter alternative will not require any additional City maintenance. Staff has directed

the aesthetics consultant to move forward with a three-dimensional applied letter option. Those plans will be prepared and submitted to TxDOT should the Council approve the street name change ordinance. TxDOT will need to review and approve the plans, and once approved, present them to their contractor for pricing as a change order. WSP Inc. has estimated the cost of the added lettering at \$22,000. The subject ordinance, if approved, will officially rename West Main Street to Fighting Farmers Way from the center point of the Main Street Bridge over I-35 East to a point 220 feet to the west of the center point of the bridge.

CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approve the ordinance as set forth in the caption above.