

MEMORANDUM

TO: Roger L. Stancil, Town Manager

FROM: Lance Norris Public Works Director
Butch Kisiah, Parks & Recreation Director
Bill Webster, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director
Mike Taylor, Engineering Design Specialist

SUBJECT: Drainage Easements for North Carolina Department of Transportation

DATE: June 8, 2009

PURPOSE

The attached resolution would authorize the Town Manager to execute an agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to grant stormwater drainage easements to the NCDOT on a parcel of land owned by the Town of Chapel Hill. The affected Town property is Jones Park, which is located at the corner of Purefoy Road and Holland Drive. The property is shown on the attached map. (Please see Attachment #1). We recommend adoption of the attached resolution.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation proposes to begin construction on the South Columbia Street improvement project in the fall of 2009. The proposed stormwater drainage easements are connected to this proposed South Columbia Street roadway project. The NCDOT plans to improve South Columbia Street between Purefoy Road and Manning Drive to provide bicycle lanes, bus pull-offs, turn lanes, curb & gutter and sidewalks. Improvements to stormwater drainage facilities within the street right-of-way and adjacent stormwater drainageways are also part of the project.

If the Council grants the drainage easements then enough space would be provided to enable the NCDOT and/or their contractor to install and maintain new drainage pipes and stormwater energy (velocity) dissipation devices at the outlets of the pipes.

The location of the proposed drainage improvements would be in existing drainageways where stormwater now flows from South Columbia Street to the low areas in Jones Park. The NCDOT plans to install drainage pipes and provide stormwater energy dissipation at the pipe outlets in these same areas. There are two areas in Jones Park where the NCDOT desires easements from the Town. Please see the attached map (Attachment #1). At the northernmost area shown on the map only velocity dissipation would be provided on Town property. This installation would handle water released from new a pipe on the abutting private property. At the southernmost location the existing drainage pipe under Holland Drive would be replaced and energy dissipation would also be provided at this pipe outlet. Part of the project would include renovation of the existing road side ditches along Purefoy Road.

The request is for permanent stormwater easements at the location of the pipe outlets, plus an adjacent temporary easement for construction purposes. The temporary easement would expire when the project is complete. The total area within the permanent easements would be approximately 1,290 square feet. The area within the temporary easement would be approximately 560 square feet. The NCDOT would design and maintain the proposed installations within the easements to handle any erosive stormwater velocities and mitigate sedimentation downstream from the pipe outlets.

The attached resolution would authorize the Town Manager to grant stormwater drainage easements to the North Carolina Department of Transportation to install and maintain stormwater drainage infrastructure within a limited area on Town property for the purposes of handling stormwater drainage from South Columbia Street.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute an agreement with North Carolina Department of Transportation to grant drainage easements on a parcel of Town-owned property.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Map.