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Date:

May 4, 2021

To:

Commissioners Court

From:

Jon Kleinheksel

Re:

E Stone Rd (Binkley & Barfield Feasibility Study)

E Stone Rd is a roughly 2 mile mutual boundary road jointly maintained by Wylie and Collin County. The road is an important urban local road connecting Wylie East High School to surrounding neighborhoods and SH 78. E Stone Rd experiences a significant volume of traffic (almost 5000 daily during the COVID slump in August 2020) resulting in its steady deterioration. In addition, the road is narrow with steep slopes to the ditch in several places, and has some serious drainage issues. Both Public Works and the City of Wylie receive numerous calls regarding the condition and geometric issues with the road.

PW staff has discussed the long-term future of E Stone Rd with Wylie officials and both believe a professional analysis and review of options is necessary to effectively address this dilemma.

Public Works has contracted with Binkley & Barfield for several Engineering projects, including roadway design and analysis, drainage analysis, and bridge analysis in the past. They consistently produce professional, thorough reports and Public Works is quite satisfied with their work. Additionally Binkley & Barfield has successfully completed several studies of a similar nature for other entities in the area. For these reasons, staff feels that Binkley Barfield is the most qualified firm to perform this study. Public Works proposes contracting with Binkley & Barfield to review the roadway and offer options for addressing the issues. The report from Binkley & Barfield will provide an analysis of the effectiveness and costs for three options as follows:

- Reconstruct the road with no change in the geometry
- Acquire necessary right of way, and reconstruct the road to address the geometric and drainage concerns
- Acquire the necessary right of way and reconstruct the road to an urban section of concrete with curb and gutter and the associated underground drainage improvements.

PW staff feels the study's fee of \$69,750 is reasonable for the scope of work. Public Works requests Commissioners Court's consideration and approval to contract Binkley & Barfield for an engineering study of E Stone Rd. Funds are available in the FY21 Road and Bridge budget.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will respond accordingly.