



Legislation Text

File #: 23-0637, **Version:** 1

Department: County Attorney

Department Head/Elected Official: Christian D. Menefee

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA

Type of Request: Financial Authorization

Project ID (if applicable): N/A

Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Contracted Goal (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Current Participation (if applicable): N/A

Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal: N/A - Goal not applicable to request

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Request for approval of a settlement in connection with Park at West Creek, LP v. Harris County, Texas; Cause No. 2016-32867; In the 80th District Court of Harris County, Texas; CAO File No. 16TRL0181.

Background and Discussion:

The above is a declaratory judgment action filed against Harris County, Texas regarding the existence of a non-exclusive permanent access easement across property owned by Harris County, Texas at 2223 West Loop South off of the northbound frontage road of the west 610 Loop. The property is currently utilized by Harris County for the "RTC" building. The allegation is that in 1973, a non-exclusive access easement was created for the benefit of the interior parcel of land immediately adjacent to the west of the RTC building, currently utilized by the Park at West Creek as an apartment complex. The Park at West Creek sought to have a judicial declaration that the access easement still existed and wanted to use it for access. At present, this area is the driveway for the RTC building and contains some parking spots and a small picnic recreational area. The boundary between the RTC building and the Park at West Creek's land is currently fenced off with a wooden fence. This settlement would ratify the existence of this easement and allow the Park at West Creek to construct the improvements necessary for the creation of a driveway which would allow the residents of the Park at West Creek to access the Park's property via the access easement from the west 610 Loop northbound frontage road. In consideration, the Park at West Creek agrees to pay Harris County \$ 45,000.00. The Real Property Division participated in the settlement negotiations and this settlement is acceptable to them. Resolution of this claim by settlement is in the best interest of Harris County because it resolves with finality the question of whether and to what degree a private entity, Park at West Creek, is authorized continued access across this county-owned property. An order authorizing the settlement of this lawsuit is attached for use by the Court if it decides it would be in the best interest of the County to settle this claim.

Expected Impact: N/A

Alternative Options: N/A

Alignment with Goal(s): N/A

- ☐ Justice and Safety
- ☐ Economic Opportunity
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Governance and Customer Service

Prior Court Action (if any): N/A

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken

Location: N/A

Address (if applicable):

Precinct(s): Choose an item.

Fiscal and Personnel Summary			
Service Name			
	FY 23	FY 24	Next 3 FYs
Incremental Expenditures (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Non-Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Total Incremental Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Funding Sources (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Existing Budget			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Current Budget	\$	\$	\$
Additional Budget Requested			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Requested	\$	\$	\$
Total Funding Sources	\$	\$	\$
Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)			
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-

Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-

Anticipated Court Date: N/A

Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date): N/A

Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note: Not an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, department: Bridget Johnson, Executive Assistant General Counsel, Office of the County Attorney Christian D. Menefee

Attachments (if applicable): Order