

AGENDA ITEM 24

Consider approving contract with Thornhill and Associates for hydrological testing at Southwest Regional Park.

Moved: **Commissioner Hays**

Seconded: **Commissioner Heiligenstein**

Motion: To approve a contract with Thornhill and Associates for hydrological testing at Southwest Regional Park.

Vote: 3 – 1 with Judge Doerfler voting against the motion.

< Attachment >

**THORNHILL & ASSOCIATES**

Professional Hydrogeologists • Water Resources Specialists

December 4, 2001

The Honorable John C. Doerfler, County Judge
Williamson County Commissioners Court
c/o Mr. Paul Linehan, President
Land Strategies, Inc.
1010 Land Creek Cove, Suite 100
Austin, Texas 78746

Re: Ground Water Availability Assessment and Well Siting Program ..
Southwest Williamson County Regional Park

Dear Judge Doerfler:

Per request by Mr. Paul Linehan of Land Strategies, Inc., the following comprises our Proposal including Scope of Services and associated Cost Estimate for Thornhill & Associates to provide consulting services to Williamson County (County) relating to obtaining suitable quantity of acceptable quality ground water for potable and irrigation supplies for the proposed park.

Thornhill & Associates specializes in hydrogeologic and ground-water related projects. The firm has substantial experience in studies involving the occurrence, movement, quality and availability of ground water, and in designing and testing wells and well fields for effective development of ground-water supplies in numerous aquifers across Texas. We have provided siting, design and field-testing services in designing and completing wells and selecting pumping equipment for numerous irrigation and public water system wells with pumping rates ranging from 10 to more than 2,000 gallons per minute (gpm).

Based on information obtained by Mr. John Jansing, P.E. of Gray-Jansing & Associates, Inc. (GJ&A), development of the park will initially require supplies averaging about 720,000 gallons per day (gpd) or more for irrigation, especially during grow-in periods. Based on current plans, public water supplies will be obtained from other municipal sources, and not from wells on the property. Therefore, wells supplying an average of about 500 gpm or more will be needed for the project.

The subject property is located along the western edge of the recharge zone (i.e. outcrop) of the Edwards aquifer. However, the Edwards and associated limestone layers are relatively thin locally, and cannot supply sufficient volumes of water to wells for the project. Therefore, the Trinity aquifer will be tapped to obtain the needed supplies for irrigation and potable uses. Thornhill & Associates has provided similar consulting services for several projects pertaining to