



City of El Lago CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM FORM

This form should be completed and forwarded to the City Secretary's Office as soon as possible and at least 1 week prior to the meeting that the item is expected to be placed on the El Lago City Council agenda.

Date requested for City Council consideration: NEXT MEETING

Submitted by: Michael O'Brien Date Submitted: OCT 10, 2016

Subject: Parking Area Funding

City Attorney Review: Yes No

Degree of importance: Critical Significant Elective

Expenditure Account: _____	Fiscal Year: _____
Expenditure Required: \$ _____	Amount Budgeted: \$ _____
Budget Appropriation Required: \$ _____	

Date Received

Ann Vernon, City Secretary

SUMMARY / ORIGINATING CAUSE

IMMINENT CONSEQUENCES AND/OR BENEFIT TO COMMUNITY

RECOMMENDED MOTION

*TO APPROVE CONTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TOWARD
STATE CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING AREA AT MASONIC
LODGE IN CONSIDERATION OF PARKING RIGHTS FOR SCHOOL &
CITY EVENTS AS OUTLINED.*

LIST ATTACHMENTS

SEE ATTACHMENT

Proposal for Parking Area Funding for Reduction of Traffic Congestion

The Clear Lake Masonic Lodge #1417 is offering the City of El Lago an opportunity to make a minimal investment and take constructive action on behalf of its citizens to effectively alleviate some of the hazardous traffic congestion around Ed White Elementary School and the Odyssey Academy, provide an emergency staging area for public safety and first responders in an active shooter or catastrophic incident around the schools, and establish an emergency parking location for citizens during heavy rains and flooding. This proposal is supported by Principle Matt Paulson - Ed White Elementary School, Chief Tom Savage - Lakeview Police Department, and Tom Merchant - El Lago Emergency Management Coordinator.

The Clear Lake Masonic Lodge #1417 is considering the installation of an asphalt parking area on our land located adjacent to the Masonic Lodge building (1707 Les Talley), across from the Ed White Elementary School, and is offering a partnership with the City of El Lago in this endeavor. The Masonic Lodge will provide the land, build the parking area, and will be responsible for all maintenance. In consideration of one-time partial funding, the Clear Lake Masonic Lodge will enter into an Memorandum of Understanding - lifetime agreement which provides that the City and citizens may use the parking area as needed for events designated by the City of El Lago, school function parking and traffic management, staging of first responders in emergency situations, and emergency parking during weather related incidents such as flooding of Les Talley intersections (which occurs in any heavy rain).

The parking area will help alleviate traffic congestion around the Ed White Elementary School and the Odyssey Academy Charter School. For many hours each morning and afternoon, the street is blocked with parked or standing vehicles on both sides of the roadway while parents drop or pick up their children. This situation potentially impedes an emergency response of a fire truck, ambulance or police vehicle attempting to commute or pass through. This is especially significant when a child is held after school and the parent is forced to leave their vehicle standing in the roadway obstructing the flow of traffic for extended periods of time. The street becomes similarly congested and gridlocked, and often impassible (especially by a large fire truck), when the schools have an event in the evening. By providing an off-road location for child drop off and pick-up, as well as special event parking, the number of vehicles standing on both sides of the street can be diminished. In the event of standing water on Les Talley and Huntercrest which occurs frequently in harsh weather, the street is also blocked by vehicles waiting for waters to recede. This again hinders the response of an emergency vehicle; especially when people abandon their vehicle in the roadway and walk home until waters recede.

Total cost for the parking area would be approximately \$40,000. We are offering the City of El Lago unlimited access and use of the parking area in exchange for partial funding of the project.

Michael O'Brien
Clear Lake Masonic Lodge #1417
El Lago, Texas