



SJRA Water Line Construction is Under Way

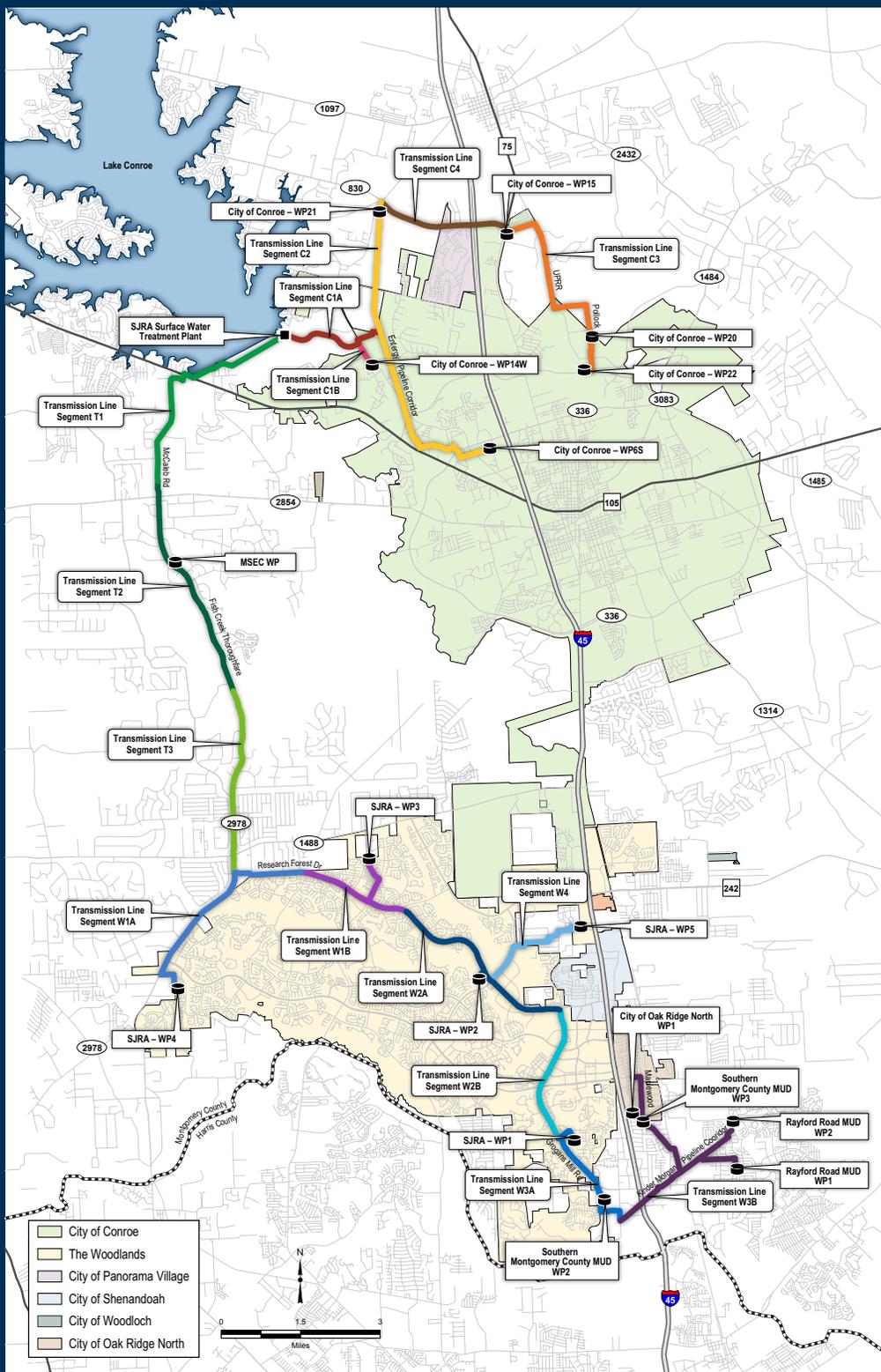
By: Mark Smith, GRP Division Manager

Construction is under way on the San Jacinto River Authority's water transmission lines that will deliver treated surface water to cities and utilities in Montgomery County. To date, six of eighteen construction contracts have been awarded, which are described in detail below the overall transmission lines map.

Since construction activity will be increasing soon, we want to make every effort to keep the public informed about what to expect. Construction contracts for the various water line segments will continue to be awarded over the next six months. Actual construction work will begin in phases starting now and continuing over the next two years, but the details of exactly when and where the contractors will start isn't determined until after each contract is awarded and the contractor submits his proposed schedule for approval.

Here's a little insight into how a typical water line construction project proceeds. Shortly after SJRA's Board of Directors awards a contract for a particular segment, staff will issue a "notice to proceed," which allows the contractor to begin work. Once the notice to proceed has been issued, there is a lot of work to be done by the contractor before any construction equipment actually arrives onsite and dirt gets turned over. During this time, the contractor is required to submit a number of items to SJRA for approval, including: materials data, work schedules, traffic procedures, and safety plans. Some field work may begin during this initial phase, including brush clearing and utility confirmations and locates, so residents will probably begin seeing survey crews, construction signs, and safety equipment within a few weeks after a contract is awarded. It is important to note, however, that in some cases, dirt may not get turned for 30 to 60 days after the notice to proceed has been issued to the contractor. Also, with every construction project, dates are subject to change.

Transmission Line Segment T1 runs along the Lake Conroe Dam from the proposed SJRA Surface Water Facilities site to SH 105, along SH 105 from the western end of the dam to Sunshine Drive, along Sunshine Drive from SH 105 to Lake Business Drive, along Lake Business Drive from Sunshine Drive to McCaleb Road,



Overall Water Transmission Line System.



and along McCaleb Road from Lake Business Drive to a point approximately 1,600 feet north of FM 2854. The construction contract for T1 was awarded to S. J. Louis Construction in March. The contractor was given a notice to proceed with construction in April. The project is scheduled to be complete in September 2014.

Transmission Line Segment T2 runs

Construction on T1 has started on SJRA property.

along McCaleb Road from a point approximately 1,600 feet north of FM 2854, across FM 2854 and along Fish Creek Thoroughfare to a point approximately 650 feet south of the Woodforest Golf Club entrance. Segment T2 also ties into MSEC Water Plant along Fish Creek

Thoroughfare near Forest Wind Circle. The construction contract for T2 was awarded to Texas Sterling Construction in March. The contractor was given a notice to proceed with construction in April. The project is scheduled to be complete

Continued on page 22 ➔

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in September 2014.

Transmission Line Segment T3 runs along the Fish Creek Thoroughfare beginning from a point 650 feet south of the Woodforest Golf Club entrance to Research Forest Drive. The route crosses Lake Creek and the FM 1488/FM 2978 roadway intersection. The construction contract for T3 was awarded to S. J. Louis Construction in May. The contractor was given a notice to proceed with construction in June. The project is scheduled to be complete in August 2014.

Transmission Line Segment W1A will begin at the intersection of FM 2978 and Research Forest, where it connects to Segment T3. It will proceed in two directions, east along Research Forest to Branch Crossing, where it connects to Segment W1B, and south along FM 2978 past Woodlands Parkway, where it connects to the SJRA Water Plant No. 4. The construction contract for W1A was awarded to Huff & Mitchell, Inc. in April. The contractor was given a notice to proceed with construction in May. The project is scheduled to be complete in May 2014.

Transmission Line Segment W1B will begin at Branch Crossing, where it connects to Segment W1A. It will proceed east along Research Forest to Greenbridge, where it connects to Segment W2A. It will also branch to the north along Kuykendahl to Alden Branch, and then west along Alden Branch to Alden Bridge, where it connects to the SJRA Water Plant No. 3. The construction contract for W1B was awarded to Texas Sterling Construction in April. The contractor was given a notice to proceed with construction in May. The project is scheduled to be complete in July 2014.

Transmission Line Segment W2A will begin at Greenbridge, where it connects to Segment W1B. It will proceed east along Research Forest to Grogans Mill, where it connects to Segment W2B. The construction contract for W2A was awarded to Texas Sterling Construction in May. The contractor was given a notice to proceed with construction in June. The project is scheduled to be complete in October 2014. There are some schedule restrictions on the portion of Segment W2A. The section between Greenbridge and West Trillium Circle which is in front of The Woodlands High School must be completed between June 2014 and August 2014. In addition, the section west of Shadowbend Place to Grogans Mill Road must be completed between June 2013 and January 2014.

Please visit the GRP website www.sjra.net/grp for the latest construction information. Or contact us at 936-588-1662. ♦