



P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.twdb.texas.gov
Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

DETERMINATION OF NO EFFECT

TO ALL POTENTIALLY INTERESTED AGENCIES:

Pursuant to the environmental assessment requirements of 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 363.14. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff has determined that proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

Airline Improvement District, Harris County, Texas
TWDB EDAP Project No. 10459
Water and Sanitary Sewer Extensions to Lillja Area
Total Financing Amount: \$3,819,000
Loan No. L1001633 and Grant No. G1001634

The Airline Improvement District (District) is proposing to use \$3,819,000 in financing from the Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP) to install new water and sewer lines. There are no existing lines to be replaced in the project area. Project components include:

- Installation of approximately 9,500 linear feet (LF) of 8- to 12-inch diameter water lines, as well as associated service line connections, tapping sleeves and valves, metering facilities, and fire hydrants;
- decommissioning of private water wells;
- installation of approximately 5,300 LF of 8- to 12-inch sanitary sewer gravity mains, as well as service leads, and manholes; and
- abandonment of the on-site sewage facilities.

Construction of the new water lines will take place within unincorporated Harris County and the City of Houston roadway and/or utility rights-of-way along Lillja Road, Kershaw Street, and Stoneshire Street. The majority of the 12-inch water and sewer lines will be located under existing paved surfaces, while the majority of the 8-inch water and sewer lines will be under cleared roadside right of way. The new systems will connect to the City of Houston's existing systems, including the existing Hawkins Lift Station. The proposed project actions will temporarily impact an area of approximately 10 feet wide by 25 feet long where open trenching will take place. The depth of the 8-inch and 12-inch waterlines is approximately 6 feet, the depth of the 8-inch sewer line is approximately 6 to 14 feet, and the depth of the 12-inch sewer line is approximately 27 to 30 feet below the soil surface. The method of installation will be a combination of open trenching and boring.

There are no previously recorded significant or potentially significant historic or cultural sites within or adjacent to the project footprint, according to the Texas Historical Commission's Archeological Sites Atlas, nor is the project within the protected area surrounding a historic cemetery, structure, or district. Proposed construction within the existing right-of-way (ROW)

Our Mission

Leading the state's efforts
in ensuring a secure
water future for Texas

Board Members

L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman | W. Brady Franks, Board Member | Ashley Morgan, Board Member
Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

and easements is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat. The project appears to be partially within a 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Projects involving construction in the 100-year floodplain, including replacement or borings, require a floodplain development permit from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction in the 100-year floodplain. A Special Condition has been included in this finding requiring compliance with FEMA and local floodplain ordinances.

The project will not adversely impact waters of the United States, including wetlands. A wetland delineation was performed by Cypress Environmental Consulting on May 16, 2025. The review area included approximately 15.6 acres of City rights-of-way along Aldine Mail Route Road, Hawkins Avenue, Lillja Road, Kershaw Street, Stoneshire Street, East Helms Road, and Airline Drive. According to Cypress, no wetlands or potential waters of the United States were identified within the review area. A drainage feature identified as P118-02-00 is located within the project area. The channel is a man-made stormwater drainage ditch that was constructed in approximately 1953 in former uplands south of East Helms Road. The drainage channel was extended north of the road in approximately 1962, when the surrounding area was developed into a residential subdivision. The channel does not exhibit a relatively permanent flow of water and would most likely not be jurisdictional under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The District plans to utilize trenchless construction methods in the vicinity of P118-02-00. Therefore, the drainage feature will not be impacted, regardless of jurisdictional status. Since it is solely under the discretion of the Corps of Engineers to determine jurisdiction status, a Special Condition is included in this finding ensuring construction methods and requiring compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and the associated pre-construction notification (PCN) threshold limits.

The TWDB cannot fund testing, remediation, removal, disposal, or related works for contaminated or potentially contaminated materials. However, the project proponent should ensure that, if found, such materials are tested, removed, and disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

The decision to grant a Determination of No Effect (DNE) is allowed because the specified project elements should not cause significant adverse impacts to the quality of the environment. Documentation supporting this determination is on file at the TWDB.

This determination shall be revoked if it is found that:

- (1) the project no longer meets the requirements for categorical exclusion from full environmental review as a result of changes in the project;
- (2) the project involves extraordinary circumstances as described in 31 TAC § 363.14; or
- (3) the project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The proposed project must comply with the following special and standard environmental conditions:

Special Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004, federal Executive Order 11988 as amended by EO 13690, Texas Water Code Section 16.315, and local floodplain development ordinances, a floodplain development permit will be obtained from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction in, across, or under a Special Flood Hazard Area, and any requirements contained therein will be adhered to.
- To avoid impacts to potential waters of the U.S., including wetlands, line crossings of any potentially jurisdictional waterways and wetlands, specifically P118-02-00 drainage channel, will be performed by a trenchless method (horizontal boring). Should any temporary impacts become necessary during construction to potential waters of the U.S., including wetlands, impacts will remain below thresholds to require a pre-construction notification (PCN) to the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for Nationwide Permit (NWP) 58 as defined by NWP General Condition 32 (impacts must remain below 500 linear feet or 0.10-acre). The project will remain consistent with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and conditions of USACE NWP 58 for Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances.

Standard Environmental Conditions

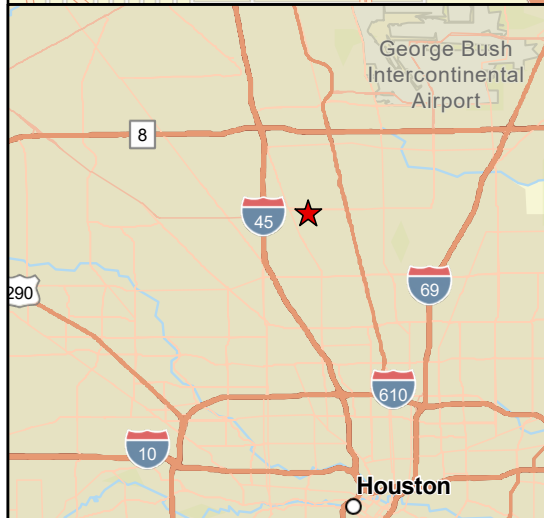
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0552), the Project will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0552), the Project will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Project Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231 or via email at RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

T. Clay Schultz, Ph.D., Director
Regional Water Project Development

Enclosures



Legend

Review Area



1 inch = 3,500 feet

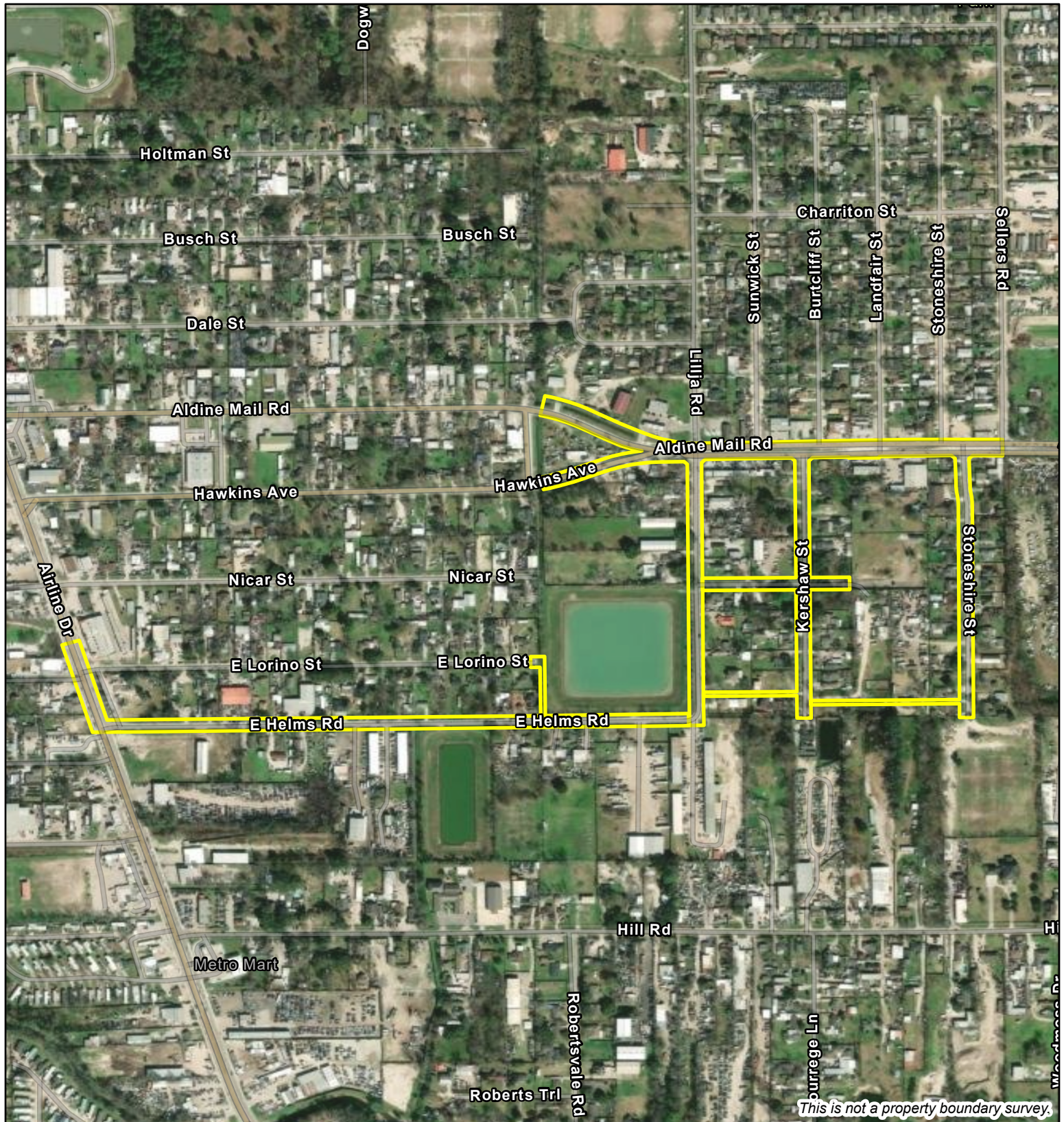
0 1,750 3,500
Feet

FIGURE 1 LOCATION MAP

LILLJA AREA UTILITY
EXTENSION PROJECT
HOUSTON, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS 77037



Prepared By: Cypress Environmental
Consulting LLC
Project Number: 024529
Date: 12/19/2024



Source: ESRI World Imagery (2021)

Legend

Review Area



0 325 650 1,300 1,950
Feet

1 inch = 650 feet

FIGURE 3 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

LILLJA AREA UTILITY
EXTENSION PROJECT
HOUSTON, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS 77037



Prepared By: Cypress Environmental
Consulting LLC
Project Number: 024529
Date: 12/19/2024