

Technical Assistance Grant – Demonstration Grant - Final Report
Funding Opportunity Number: DTPH56-09-SN-0001

Award Number: DTPH56-09-G-PHPT01

Project Title: GIS to Manage Expanding Pipeline System within Dallas / Fort Worth Metro Area

Date Submitted: June 1, 2010

Submitted by: Rick Trice, Planning and Development Department, City of Fort Worth, Texas

Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement

Implement a Geographic Information System (GIS) to manage the expanding pipeline systems that are causing development and planning issues within the Dallas and Fort Worth metropolitan area.

Expected Program Outputs

- Develop and process pipeline information into a GIS format that will enable accurate and efficient retrieval.
- Information will be available through a public map viewer to city departments, citizens, developers and private contractors as accurately and efficiently as possible.

Results of Grant Activities

[How did you progress on each of the items/elements provided in the “Specific Objectives” and “Expected Program Outputs”? How did your progress compare with established objectives? Start with an overall description followed by item-by-item detail if relevant.]

The City of Fort Worth retained a GIS Consultant to develop an import process manual for current and backlogged as-built gas pipeline data. The consultant met with the City to determine data requirements and needs of individual departments. Additionally, the consultant and the City met with the gas pipeline operators to ascertain which of the many different data formats are currently being used in submittals to the City. A draft import process manual was then developed and independent testing and review of the import process was conducted for quality assurance. The draft import process manual was finalized and a prototype model was developed to demonstrate functionality of the imported data and how the imported data will be viewed.

Diagram 1 illustrates the City of Fort Worth’s process for review, approval and tracking of gas pipelines. The process includes GIS mapping of pipelines in concept and record drawing phases. One of the key attribute features of the import data includes a hyperlink to as-built plans and agreements between the Pipeline Operators and the City. The hyperlink allows for quick retrieval of data and information relevant to managing the

expanding pipeline systems across the Dallas and Fort Worth metropolitan area, thereby meeting our specific objectives.

The first expected program output was met by developing an import process manual. The manual ensures consistent data entry for accuracy and enables users such as City staff to access as-built plans and agreements geographically for quick and efficient retrieval of information.

The second expected program output is met through the current public map viewer. Pipeline alignment data will be made available to the public as it is imported into the City's GIS database. The City currently does not have staffing resources available to input GIS data and maintain the map viewer. It is expected that the City will outsource the task to a GIS consultant during 2010.

Description of Efforts to Disseminate Technical Findings (see Article V. Dissemination of Technical Findings of your grant agreement)

[Describe any efforts you undertook to make your technical findings available to the relevant pipeline operator(s), community members, and other interested parties in the geographical area relevant to your grant.]

Two separate meetings were conducted to make the findings of this program available to interested parties in the geographical area (pipeline operators and City staff). The first meeting was conducted on March 30, 2010 with City Staff members who are involved with gas pipelines through permitting, inspection and field location. The meeting was considered a brainstorming session to determine the specific needs of each department and to identify potential functionality of a future GIS database.

A second meeting was conducted May 10, 2010 with a committee of gas pipeline operators to discuss the expected objectives and program outputs. The meeting included discussions regarding common attribute information currently available and required by other reviewing agencies during the permitting process.

In addition to meeting with pipeline stakeholders, the information will be made publically available on the public map viewer via the internet. City departments, citizens, developers and private contractors will be able to access the geographic alignment and limited attribute information.

Issues, Problems or Challenges

There are no issues, problems or challenges to report.

Final Financial Status Report

The final financial report has been sent as a separate attachment to the AA.

City of Fort Worth Gas Pipeline Permit Process

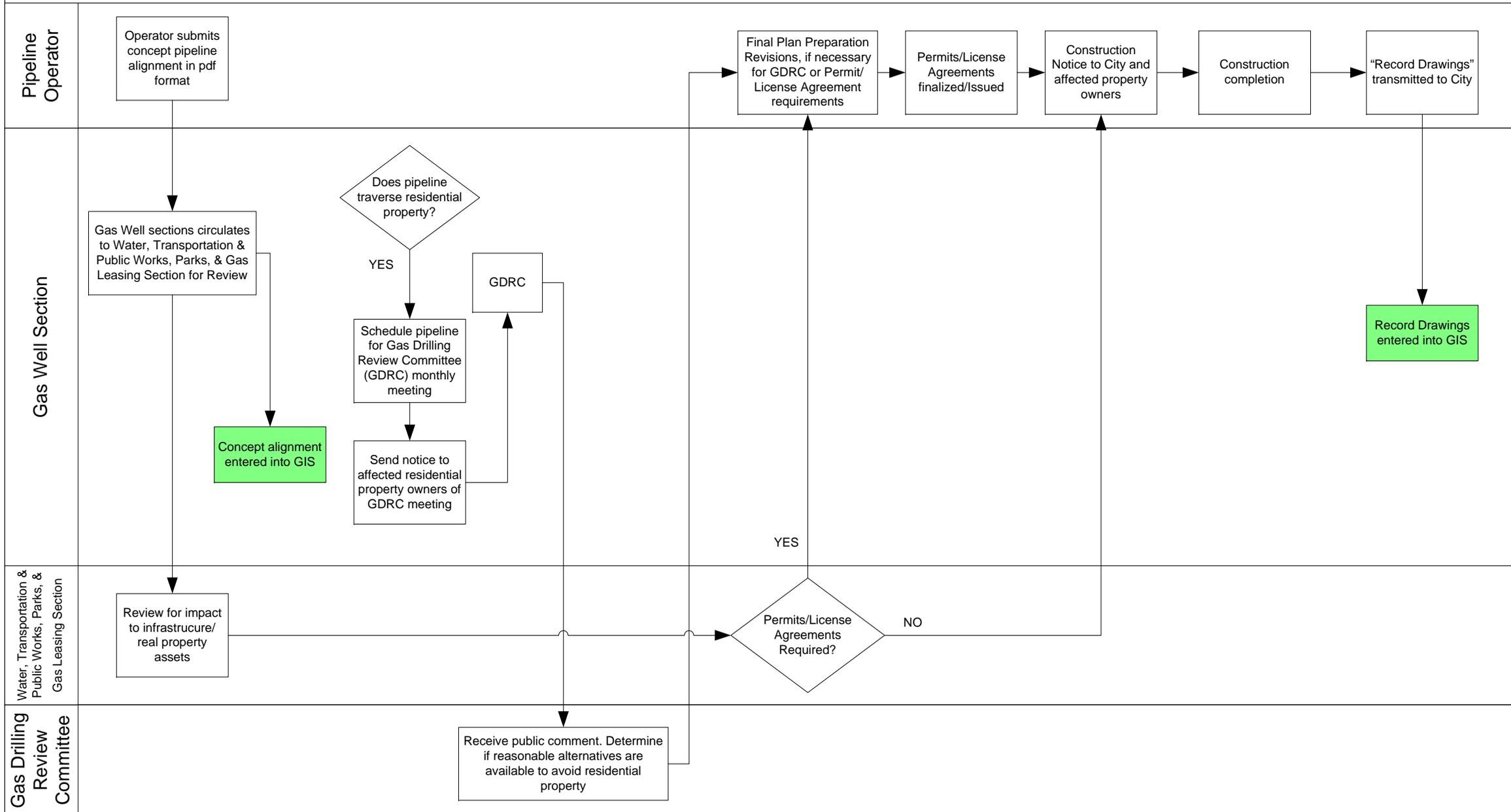


Diagram 1