City of Benson
City Council Communication

Regular Meeting **January 25, 2016**

To: Mayor and Council Agenda Item # 2

From: Bradley J. Hamilton, Public Works Director / City Engineer

Subject:

Discussion and possible action regarding the request from All the King's Horses Children's Ranch to access the City's wastewater system

Discussion:

Please See attach letter from Jim Cox. This Item is on the agenda for Mayor and Council approval because the property requesting service is outside the City limits.

Staff Recommendation:

Approval of the request from All the King's Horses Children's Ranch to access the City's wastewater system

543 S Grapevine Loop
Benson, AZ 85602
(520) 586-0267
hisranch@qwestoffice.net
www.atkhchildrensranch.org
EIN 91-1995776

January 12, 2016

Benson City Council
Bill Stephens, City Manager
Bradley Hamilton, Public Works Director

RE: Request to connect to City Wastewater Treatment System

Gentlemen,

The Children's Ranch is a 501(c)(3) Exempt Organization designated by the State of Arizona as a Child Welfare Agency and as a Qualified Charitable Organization. It is supported by a contract with the State and private donations. It is located on 90 acres off Hwy 80 and Country Club Road, along the San Pedro River. About 30 acres of the property are within the City limits.

The Ranch provides refuge, in a traditional family setting with Christian values, for abused and neglected children who need long term care. The property currently has three single family dwellings (estimated to be ten at buildout) and five support buildings. All buildings are located on the County portion of the property.

Ranch engineers have determined that traditional septic/leach field wastewater disposal is not appropriate for any more buildings on our environmentally sensitive property. Our engineers have designed a wastewater collection system appropriate for the Ranch's current and future needs that will connect into the City's main collection line that runs adjacent to Ranch property. ADEQ has issued a permit to proceed, UPRR is near granting an easement for our pipe to pass through about 50 feet of their land (pending City approval of the connection) and necessary environmental studies have been conducted to allow the project to proceed.

We respectfully request that the City allow the Ranch to connect its collection system to the City Wastewater system. This arrangement is a win/win for the City and the Ranch:

- All costs of the project will be borne by the Ranch.
- The City will receive connection fees of about $2,160 initially.
- The City will receive initially about $200/month in wastewater fees from the Ranch.
- Connection and monthly fees will increase as the Ranch builds out.
- The sensitive San Pedro River ecosystem will be protected from the risk of pollution from failed septic/leach field waste disposal systems.
- The Ranch will be able to continue its development in an environmentally sound manner.

- The neglected and abused children of southern Arizona will continue to have a safe refuge to help heal their minds, bodies and hearts.

Respectfully submitted,

All the King's Horses Children's Ranch
James F. Cox, CFO and Chairman