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News Release

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Mayor, Council to break ground on first bond project *Waters Edge drainage ditches to be filled in and leveled*

MURPHY (September 26, 2018) Less than a year after the latest Capital Project Improvement Bonds were approved by voters, the first project to begin construction is set for its official launch on Saturday, Oct. 6 with a ceremonial ground-breaking.

Mayor Scott Bradley, along with members of the City Council and officials from the construction contractor, will officially initiate the project by turning dirt at the project site at 10:30 a.m.

The location is along Waters Edge Way, just north of the intersection with Creekside Drive. The public is invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

The project, called Waters Edge Drainage Culvert Improvements, will address what are known as bar ditches or swales, grassy indentures that serve as stormwater drainage washes crossing portions of the Waters Edge linear park. These ditches interrupt the park's level surface at seven places. The project will contour six of the seven ditches wide enough to accommodate concrete stormwater drainage pipes and will fill in the remaining depression with soil, resulting in a level and uninterrupted surface.

"This ceremonial event essentially begins the capital improvements that voters approved last year and gives residents a chance to participate in the kickoff," said Public Services Director Tim Rogers.

Once completed, runners, hikers, bikers and walkers on the paved Maxwell Creek Trail will see the hand rails over the ditches disappear, as the dangerous drop-offs where the trail intersects the ditches will no longer be a problem.

Similarly, children and families who use the linear park for playing, tossing balls or discs, and generally enjoying the long sweep of the park will no longer be concerned with the deep dips that currently slice the park into sections.

"In addition to the hazards posed by these ditches, they detract from the beauty of the landscape," said Rogers. "The ditches can pose even greater stumbling risks during dusk or nighttime, and they are not easy to maintain."

This project, while sharing a portion of the same name, is unrelated to the reconstruction and improvements slated for Waters Edge Park Playground. That project is slated to begin in May of next year and be completed by January of 2020.

Construction on the culvert improvements is set to begin shortly after the ground-breaking at a cost of \$285,433. The project is under contract with Affordable Concrete Cutting. Information on this project, along with others covered by the 2017 Capital Improvement Bond issue is available on www.murphytx.org.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 20,010, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income well above the state average. With more than 80 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a family-oriented community with a strong sense of place. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.