

Hot Sounds of Summer



WEEKLY REPORT

MAY 31, 2019

TO: MAYOR SHETTER AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: BRYAN LANGLEY, CITY MANAGER

Burleson
TEXAS

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS
141 W RENFRO, BURLESON, TX 76028 | (817)426-9622

I. Council Schedule

Meetings

- 1. Monday, June 3:** City Council Meeting at Burluson City Hall, Council Chambers, 141 W. Renfro St. Regular session starts at 7:00 p.m.

II. General Information and Status Updates

A. HR Event - Wellness Lunch and Learn – June 5, 2019

The quarterly wellness lunch and learn on “Diabetes Part 2” is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at City Hall Council Chambers from 11:30AM to 1:00PM. Lunch will be served at 11:30AM and the program will begin at 11:45AM.

Remember, there is a raffle for in person attendance, as well as another raffle for those that didn’t win in person plus those that watch the recorded session by the stated deadline. An email will be sent out with how to watch the recording in SGR along with the deadline. We appreciate all our employees and want to provide meaningful education and encourage good habits for a happier, healthier you!

B. PD Victim Assistance position grant progress

Sergeant Tim Mabry submitted a grant application to the North Central Texas Council of Governments to assist with funding the department's Victim Assistance position. Applications are presented to a scoring committee for funding. The previously funded grants get first consideration and all new applications are scored against each other. The final applications are rank-ordered based on their scores and ours scored very well so it was recommended for funding. Provided the Department of Justice doesn’t eliminate funding, PD is hopeful that they will receive the grant. The grant recipients are notified in late summer/early fall.

C. Old Town 4-way Stop Signs for Safety - Update and New Location

The 4-way stops signs on Wilson and Warren at Bufford are now in place and all parking on Warren and Wilson has been made available again (some spaces were blocked off due to the sight distance issue created). A new 4-way Stop will be added in the coming week – at the Ellison/Bransom intersection. This is by the new Lone Star Grill (formerly The Hickory Tree). This is again due to sight distance issues caused when vehicles are parked on Ellison near the restaurant and the bank. The 4-way stop will improve safety.

D. Renfro Median Construction – Striping Change to Improve Traffic Flow

An improved traffic pattern went into place this week on the Renfro Street Median project in Old Town. Eastbound traffic on Renfro may now go straight at IH35W from both available lanes. Previously, the right lane was marked as a Right Lane Must Turn Right lane. This change increases the number of vehicles that can get through the traffic signal at the IH35W access road, and reduces the backup at the signal. Lane markings were also placed at the Renfro intersection with Johnson for westbound traffic, to clearly delineate the left turn and thru lanes. Construction on this project is expected to be complete at the end of July.

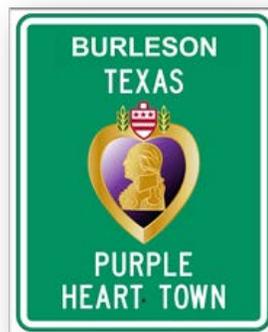
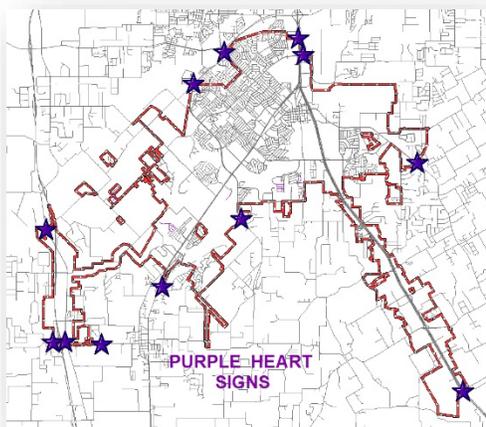
E. New Parking available in Old Town – Bufford Street Lot opens today

More parking is available in Old Town - the new Bufford Street Parking Lot officially opens for use on May 31. The lot is located on Bufford Street between Warren and Wilson, across from The Porch and Moontower Pizza restaurants. To most other Old Town eateries and destinations, it's a pleasant 1 or 2 block walk. A total of 104 new spaces are available – 66 in the parking lot and 38 more as on-street parking added with the project. Some landscaping and sidewalk improvements will be ongoing for the next 3 weeks, but that work will only affect small areas of the available parking during work hours. **See parking map on page 6.**

F. Purple Heart City signs Update

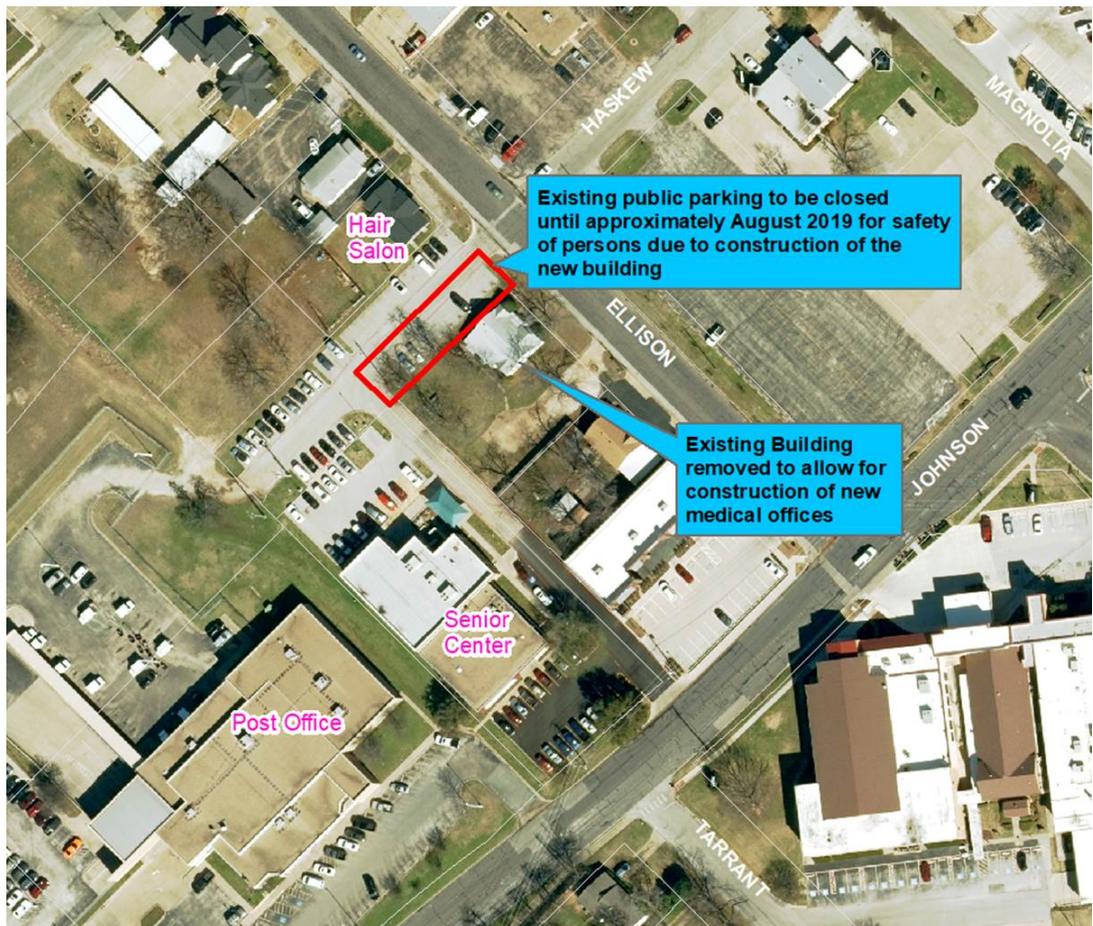
The locations of Purple Heart City signs have been expanded to include locations at the City Limits at FM 1902 and FM 917 near Chisolm Trail Parkway. Staff expects all signs to be installed prior to June 8. An updated map is shown below.

Background: At the April 1 City Council Meeting, a group of veterans spoke at Citizen Appearances and informed council that Burleson was designated as a 'Purple Heart Town'. The group requested that the city place signs that indicate the honor at the city's entry ways. Public works will be installing Purple Heart City signs at the primary city limits location over the next week.



G. Construction of new building – 121 NW Ellison

Construction began on the new medical office building the week of May 27, 2019. Approximately nine (9) parking stalls located on Haskew St. adjacent to the new building will be closed until August due to safety concerns during construction. These parking stalls primarily serve the Senior Center and hair salon located nearby. Both representatives for the Senior Center and the hair salon were contacted prior to the start of construction to inform them of the concerns for safety and the plan to close the parking stalls during construction. The aerial below indicates the location of the affected parking stalls.



H. Centennial Park pavilion update

A new pavilion is being added to Centennial Park, and installation begins this week. Plans were released in March of 2011 for construction of Centennial Park, and part of that plan was to install a pavilion. Due to a lack of funding, the pavilion was delayed, but footings were installed for future installation of a pavilion during the initial construction. This project is funded through Park gas funds, and City Council awarded the project to InSite Amenities on December 10, 2018 in the amount of \$59,953.00. The contractor anticipates up to two weeks for completion, and the park will remain open during the installation.

III. Upcoming Road Construction/Closures

Upcoming Road Construction/Closures			
Project & Limits	Current Status	Traffic Affected	Estimated Completion
Renfro Street Medians in Old Town – Johnson to IH35W	Rebuild of water/sewer/outside lane pavement is complete. Medians under construction. Landscape & Irrigation will follow	<i>5/29 UPDATE:</i> Middle lanes closed to traffic, one lane open in each direction. Striping was changed at IH35W intersection.	Contractor is behind schedule 2-3 weeks, but has committed to make up time to complete by original July 29 date.
Old Town Parking Lots - Bufford@Warren and Main@Renfro	<i>5/29 UPDATE:</i> Main St. lot was paved 4/29. Landscape and irrigation ongoing. 104 parking spaces now open at Bufford Lot location.	<i>5/29 UPDATE:</i> 4-way stops are now in place at Bufford/Wilson and Bufford/Warren due to limited sight distance at the intersections. Main Street closed north of Renfro.	<i>5/29 UPDATE:</i> Parking lot is now open for use. 104 total spaces are now available. Minor construction is ongoing and will be complete at the end of June.
Old Town Quiet Zones - RR xings at Commerce, Renfro, Ellison, Eldred	<i>5/29 UPDATE:</i> Preconstruction meeting held 5/29. Work will start after contractor receives UPRR Right-Of-Entry permit, anticipated by mid-June.	<i>5/29 UPDATE:</i> Closures at crossings when work is occurring. First location will be Renfro Street.	Start in June 2019, End in December 2019
NW Renfro Improvements – Wilshire Blvd. To Cindy Lane	<i>5/29 UPDATE:</i> Concrete removal work underway on Renfro at intersections.	Lane closures on SH174 and Renfro started 4/25. Work moved to Renfro first, SH174 lane closure will occur later in the project and be minimized as much as possible.	Early 2020
McNairn 16" Water Line & Sewer Rebuild- SH174 to Turkey Peak Water Facility Site on Jayellen	<i>5/29 UPDATE:</i> Bore under SH174 complete, water line in on McNairn from 174 past Sunnybrook. Bore complete under Hillside. Work is progressing north of Hillside.	Sections of McNairn closed as work progresses. Currently working South of Hillside.	October 2019

IV. Upcoming Community Events and Meetings

A. Events

Friday, May 31: Hot Sounds of Summer Concert in Old Town, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 1: Fishing For Tales at Bailey Lake, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Saturday, June 1: Historic Home Tours and Demonstrations at Russell Farm, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

v. Attachments

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VI. Informal Staff Reports

A.Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza in Old Town Update and FAQ's.....page 10



New Parking on Bufford St

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 86th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature ended on May 27, 2019. Over a thousand bills have been sent to Governor Abbott for his consideration. The goal of this legislative update to highlight some of the key bills from this past session.

BILLS THAT ARE NOW LAW:

These bills were passed by the House and Senate and signed by the Governor.

Annexation. HB 347. Effectively Immediately. Cities cannot unilaterally annex in counties with under 500,000 in population. This law essentially eliminates non-consent annexations by every city in the state. Signed by Governor Abbott on May 24, 2019.

Strangulation Training. SB 971. Effective 9/1/19. The bill amends Section 1701.253 to require peace officer training on recognizing and recording circumstances that indicate strangulation. The new law aims to achieve many of the same goals as the city's effective response to strangulation ordinance. Signed by the Governor on May 20, 2019.

Legalization of Brass Knuckles and Clubs. HB 446. Effective 9/1/19. The bill amends the Penal Code to remove 1) the prohibition on carrying a club under Section 46.02, and 2) the prohibition on carrying brass knuckles under Section 46.05. This bill does not directly affect the municipalities, but city council meetings across the state may become more interesting. I kid, of course. Signed by the Governor on May 25, 2019.

ON THE GOVERNOR'S DESK:

Bills passed by both the House and Senate are then sent to the Governor. The Governor has four options when he receives a bill passed by both chambers of the Legislature: sign it, veto it, line-item veto an appropriation, or do nothing. If the Governor does nothing for twenty days after receiving the bill and the legislative session has ended, the bill becomes law without the Governor's signature.

Property Tax Reform. SB 2. Sent to the Governor on 5/28/19. Senate Bill 2 is a massive bill that contains a myriad of changes to the existing ad valorem tax structure. Under the Texas Property Tax Reform and Transparency Act, cities must receive voter approval before levying a tax rate that produces 3.5% more in property tax revenue than the previous year. The revenue growth calculation does not include property taxes levied on new developments. Staff is currently working with our attorneys to assess and appraise the affect Senate Bill 2 will have on city operations.

Building Materials and Methods. HB 2439. Sent to the Governor on 5/29/19. The bill would add Chapter 3000 to the Government Code to provide that: (1) a governmental entity may not adopt or enforce a rule, charter provision, ordinance, order, or other regulation that prohibits, directly or indirectly, the use of a building product, material, or method in the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential or commercial structure if the building

product, material, or method is approved for use by a national model code that: (a) is adopted by the governmental entity; and (b) governs the construction, renovation, use, or maintenance of buildings and building systems; (2) a rule, charter provision, ordinance, order, or other regulation adopted by a governmental entity that conflicts with the bill is void; (3) the attorney general may bring an action in the name of the state to enjoin a violation of the bill; and (4) the attorney general may recover reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in bringing an action under the bill. If Governor Abbott signs the bill, the law would become effective September 1, 2019. In essence, House Bill 2439 will negate the City's masonry construction standards and void many of our building design standards. Staff is currently evaluating the details of how these changes will affect our ordinances and will be meeting with our attorneys to address the issues. Staff will soon follow up with a report to City Council to discuss the city's various options.

Red Light Cameras. HB 1631. *Sent to the Governor on 5/21/19.* The bill would: (1) prohibit local authorities from implementing or operating a photographic traffic signal enforcement system with respect to a highway or street under the jurisdiction of the authority; (2) give the attorney general authorization to enforce the prohibition; (3) prohibit a local authority from issuing a civil or criminal charge or citation for an offense or violation based on a recorded image produced by a photographic traffic signal enforcement system; and (4) repeal the laws authorizing the use of photographic signal enforcement systems. House Bill 1631 would become law and effective immediately if signed by Governor Abbott. Staff is currently looking at how House Bill 1631 would affect our current red light camera contract. Staff will follow up with a report to City Council to discuss the matter.

DID NOT PASS:

Bills that are not passed by both chambers of the Legislature at the end of the session die and do not become law.

Prohibition on Lobbying by Cities. SB 29. *Did not Pass.* Senate Bill 29 would have prevented municipalities, or any associations to which they may belong, from lobbying on the issues of tax, debt, or ethics.

PD Open House – May 25



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May 29, 2019

Construction starts for Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza starts in Old Town

The main city hall parking lot and portion of Ellison Street will be closed.

Beginning Wednesday, May 29, the main city hall parking lot, 141 W Renfro St, will be closed along with a portion of Ellison Street from South Warren to South Wilson Streets as construction begins for Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza in Old Town.

Visitor parking for city hall will be in the west parking lot until construction is complete. After the opening of the Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza, visitor parking will be moved to the east side of City Hall. The required number of ADA parking spaces will still be available to the public. Staff is looking at options to expand the number beyond the requirement temporarily during construction.



The public is encouraged to utilize one of two new parking lots in Old Town. In addition to the 107 recently constructed parking lots on Bufford St. and N. Main St., this phase of the project will add another 55 to offset 117 removed spaces for the plaza site. Another 21 parking spaces are planned to be added in the Warren St. right-of-way, making a total of 66 more parking spaces added to Old Town than exist before the project began.

The total duration of the project is just under one year.

Beginning July 1, the Utility Billing drive on the East side of City Hall will be closed permanently. Customers still have numerous options to pay their water bill:

- Pay by phone
- Pay online
- Mail in payment
- Night drop
- Auto-draft
- Walk in to Utility Billing

(Please contact Utility Billing at 817-426-9601 to set up a new payment type)

Weekly project updates can be viewed at www.OldTownBurleson.com or via the City's E-Newsletter. Sign up for the newsletter at: www.burlesontx.com/enewsletter

Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza in Old Town Frequently Asked Questions

Where will Hot Sounds of Summer be this year?

This year Hot Sounds of Summer will be relocated to the public parking lot just West of City Hall. The free concerts will begin at 7:30pm each evening.

Plaza

Where will the plaza be?

The plaza is set to be constructed on the area between the new building and City Hall framed by Warren St. and Wilson St.

What will be in the plaza?

Formal planning for the plaza design began in March of 2017. Processing public input gathered via online surveys, on-site pop-up plaza events, a three-day design charrette and Facebook town hall events, TBG Partners, the City's contracted landscape architect, a final design was presented and approved by City Council on January 22, 2018. The design includes:

- Great lawn consisting of real hybrid Bermuda grass
- Shade pavilions with seating, ping pong and foosball
- Permanent performance stage with lighting and audio/visual capabilities
- Red 411 "Parlor Car" trolley backdrop and viewing platform
- Children's play area with small scale play trolley
- Activity area for lawn games
- Courtyard
- Public restrooms
- ADA access to both trolley cars
- Movable seating and tables

Will Ellison Street permanently closed?

Yes, Ellison Street, between Warren and Wilson streets will be permanently closed. Traffic flow further into Old Town through Ellison will be redirected to Bufford or Renfro. The redesign of Ellison St. converts the area into a pedestrian promenade. Using removable bollards, the street can still be opened for emergencies, service, parades etc. The promenade has been designed in a way that would allow periodic or permanent vehicular traffic in the future, if needed.

How long will construction last?

Hill & Wilkinson is the City's Construction Manager at-Risk for the project. The allowed number of days for construction in the contract is 350. Hill & Wilkinson is incentivized to complete the project early.

Funding

How will this project be funded?

The plaza project, additional parking, storm sewer extension and other streetscape improvements will be paid for with a combination of TIF funds and 4B funds.

What is a TIF fund?

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a tool local government uses to put the money made in a certain district back into that same district through new development. Tax increment can be used to publicly finance needed improvements to infrastructure and buildings within a designated area known as a reinvestment zone. The cost of improvements to the reinvestment zone is repaid by the future tax revenues of each taxing unit that levies taxes against the property. Each taxing unit can choose to dedicate all, a portion of, or none of the tax revenue gained as a result of improvements within the reinvestment zone.

What are 4B funds?

The sales and use tax for the city is 8.25%. The State of Texas receives 6.25% and the City receives 2% of this tax. The proceeds from the City's portion of this tax are used to support quality of life project and economic development. Specifically, .5% is governed by a private non-profit economic development corporation (established pursuant to Section 4A of the Texas Development Corporation Act of 1979). The sales tax authorized by Section 4B, provides cities with a wide range of uses. It is intended to give communities an opportunity to undertake projects that improve the quality of life for the community. Section 4B tax can be used to fund projects that are considered community development initiatives such as purchase of land, buildings, equipment and expenditures to improve facilities, parks and entertainment venues.

Will my taxes go up as a result of this project?

No, the project's primary funding source will be the TIF. The new value generated by this project will actually pay money back into the TIF for future development projects. The use of 4B funds used on the project are generated through sales tax.

Future Development

What is going where 'Wood Shopping Center' is today?

Wood Shopping Center will be demolished as part of the plaza project. For the short term, the area will be used for construction staging, worker parking, etc. The City is evaluating the highest and best use for the property adjacent to the plaza and will issue a Request for Proposals as a means to select a developer.

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