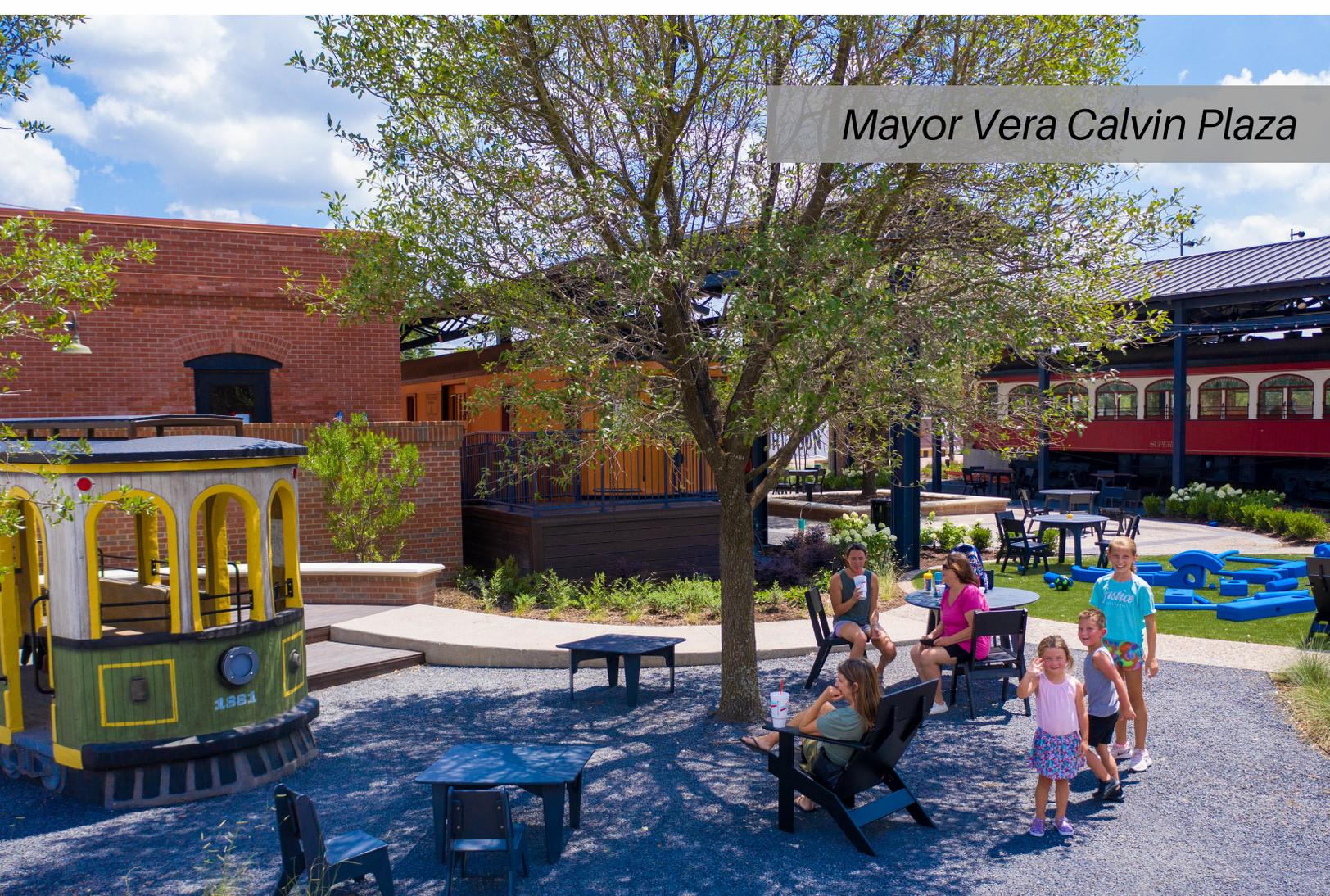


*Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza*



# WEEKLY REPORT

MAY 21, 2021

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

THE CITY OF  
**BURLESON**  
TEXAS

# Weekly Report | May 21, 2021

## I. Council Schedule

### Meetings

**Monday, June 7:** City Council Meeting, City Hall Council Chambers. 141 W. Renfro St., 5 p.m. The meeting will be conducted in the council chambers and is also available via live stream, <https://www.burlesontx.com/watchlive>

### Work Session Items/Report & Discussion Items

#### June 7

- Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide feedback regarding schematic design of future I-35W configuration within Burleson city limits. (Staff Presenter: Aaron Russell, Public Works Director)
- Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide staff feedback regarding the conceptual design of Fire Station 16 Memorial Garden. (Staff Presenter: Jen Basham, Director of Parks & Recreation)

## II. General Information and Status Updates

### A. Runoff Election Early Voting Dates & Times

The runoff Election Day for Place 3 is set for June 5. Early voting dates and times are as follows: May 24 – 28, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 31 – June 1, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Election Day on June 5 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All voting takes place at Burleson City Hall, 141 W Renfro.

All registered voters can vote in the election, you did not need to vote in the May 1 election to vote in this election.

In Place 3, four candidates filed for the seat. Incumbent Katherine Reading garnered 45.21 percent of the vote during the May 1 election. Jimmy Stanford received 44.85 percent. In order to win the seat outright, the person with the highest number of votes would have had to earn 50 percent of the total vote, plus one.

The top two candidates will be the only options on the ballot for council place 3.

During the regularly scheduled city council meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021 Victoria Johnson (Place 1) and Dan McClendon (Place 5) will be sworn in.

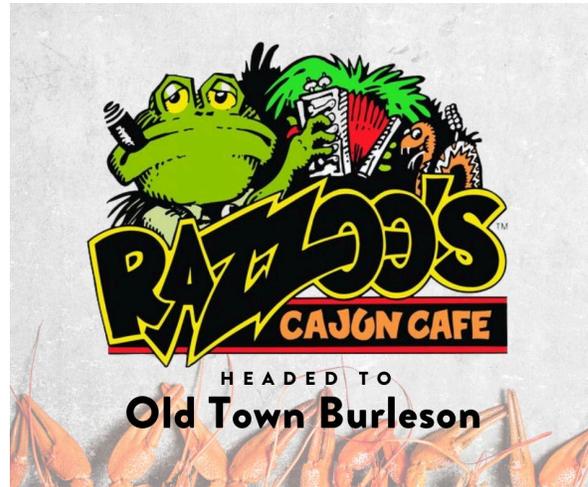
### B. Razzoo's Cajun Café headed to Old Town Burleson

Razzoo's Cajun Café will open its 12th DFW location in Old Town Burleson.

During the regularly scheduled city council meeting on May 17, the Burleson city council approved a Chapter 380 Economic Development and Performance Agreement between the City of Burleson, Burleson Community Service Development Corporation, and Razzoo's, Inc.

Razzoo's will be located across from Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza in the recently approved 50,000 square foot multi-use building at 135 W. Ellison St. Razzoo's Cajun Café will join Heim Barbecue, which was announced in December 2020.

“Razzoo’s is a distinctive brand in the Metroplex”, said Mayor Chris Fletcher. “The addition of Razzoo’s will be a great complement to the other businesses in the area. The patio and walk-up dining features will also enhance the use of the promenade next to the plaza, and will continue building upon the success of adding several restaurants and attractions in Old Town Burleson over the past several years. Also, they have the best creamy jalapeño cheese sauce in the world, so you can be sure I’ll be one of the first people in line when they open their doors.”



The Burleson Razzoo's will feature an outdoor patio facing Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza to complement their 6,000 square foot restaurant. The location will also feature a to-go entrance on Wilson Street and a walk-up window located on the plaza side.

“What appealed to us was to be able to be a part of the community, sharing our food and the Cajun experience with the Burleson residents and guests, and supporting the activities planned for the Plaza. These opportunities are unique and special and we are excited to be a part of Old Town Burleson,” said Jeff Powell, CEO of Razzoo’s.

As part of the project, the city will rebate the general fund portion (1%) and Burleson Community Service Development Corporation portions – 4B (1/2%) of the restaurant's sales tax, not to exceed \$500,000 in 10 years.

Razzoo's obligations include completing construction of the restaurant no later than March 31, 2023, with an approximate capital investment of no less than \$750,000 and an opening date no later than March 31, 2023.

The development agreement with BTX Old Development Group at 135 W Ellison St. was approved by city council in December 2020. The development will consist of seven buildings and will include 29,755 square feet of retail space and 22,050 square feet of office space. There will also be a new parking lot constructed at 140 W. Bufford St. in conjunction with the development that will offer 20 new spaces. Additionally, a new parking lot will be constructed at 225 W Renfro St that will offer over 150 parking spaces.

“We are excited to announce a partnership with Razzoo’s”, said Bryan Langley, City Manager. “With their unique menu and fun atmosphere, they will be an excellent addition to the Old Town Burleson area across from City Hall.”

View more information about the Ellison Street project: [www.burlesontx.com/EllisonStreet](http://www.burlesontx.com/EllisonStreet)

**c. Feel Good Friday**

Recently, United Way of Johnson County (UWJC) donated several bags filled with personal care items to help replenish the Burleson Community Impact program’s storage supplies which were greatly diminished during recent winter storms. The program supplies these bags to Fire, Police, and Code Compliance vehicles for citizens in need.

Pictured here is UWJC President, Aly Engstrom, with Fire, Police, and Code Compliance personnel, and Empire Storage staff members and owner, Velton Ellis. The City of Burleson would like to thank United Way of Johnson County

for their donation and association with the program, and Empire Storage for graciously providing storage space to house the supplies. If you would like to donate personal care items to the Burleson Community Impact Program, you can read about the ongoing donation drive [here](#).



Do you have a Feel Good Friday story you’d like us to share? [Send us an email](#).

**d. City announces 2021 Hot Sounds of Summer concert series lineup**

Burleson Parks and Recreation is excited to announce the 2021 Hot Sounds of Summer concert series music lineup. The annual concert series is the city’s signature summer event and would have served to introduce residents to the newly opened Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza last year, however, the concerts were cancelled due to the pandemic. Now it’s time to celebrate! Bring your blankets and lawn chairs to Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza every Friday night from May 28 - June 25 to enjoy free concerts in Old Town. The series will wrap up with a dual headliner show on July 4 at Chisenhall Fields.

More information on the concert series is available on the [city’s event page](#).



**e. Governor Abbott issues Executive Order GA-36**

On May 18, 2021, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order prohibiting governmental entities in Texas — including counties, cities, school districts, public health authorities, or government officials — from requiring or mandating mask wearing. Exempt from the Executive Order are state-supported living centers, government-owned or operated hospitals, Texas Department of Criminal Justice facilities, Texas Juvenile Justice Department facilities, and county

and municipal jails. The City of Burleson will be complying with the order immediately. The city's latest operational updates, which went into effect May 18, 2021, are as follows:

- Senior Center
  - No occupancy restrictions
  - Masks optional
  - Popular programs may still require registration
- BRiCK
  - No occupancy restrictions
  - Masks optional throughout entire facility

## **F. Parks Mowing Schedules and the Impact of Rainfall**

Parks love and need rain. However, when continuous heavy rainfall saturates park land, mowing efforts become exacerbated even after the rains cease. Similar to your own personal lawn, rain can put a damper on the Parks and Recreation Department's mowing plans. Saturated turf conditions cannot withstand the weight of the heavy mowing equipment without causing ruts and other damages to the grounds and equipment. As the wet grounds are drying, the turf keeps growing. To further add issue, grass grows faster after receiving abundant rainfall. This means the grass can be very tall by the time mowing crews are able to return to normal operations. Taller, thicker grass requires mowing at a slower rate in addition to having to make multiple passes to prevent clumping.



During normal circumstances, most parks are scheduled for a 7-day average mowing cycle during the growing season months from March thru the end of November.

The Burleson Parks and Recreation Department recognizes park turf conditions may become unsightly or unpleasant after heavy rainfall as mowing crews catch up. We sometimes endeavor to expedite the return to normalcy by scheduling staff to work overtime to get caught up sooner. Diligent strategy is put in place to ensure the best service during these times. Your patience is greatly appreciated as we get parks back into shape for your continued enjoyment.

## **G. BRiCK Landscaping Cleanup**

Over the coming weeks, the Parks and Recreation Department will be removing dead or struggling plant material that was not able to fully recover from the winter storms. The purging of dead materials will give the center a cleaner look as we consider and prepare options for future discussion on landscape upgrades and renovations.

## H. Parks and Recreation Community Engagement

The Parks and Recreation Department is always seeking to improve its performance and better understand what our residents want to see from the city's parks and recreation system. As part of this effort, the Parks and Recreation department will be strategically gathering public input across its various operations (BRiCk, parks, Russell Farm, golf, etc). Our front line staff in parks, recreation, and golf will be reaching out to patrons at various locations to ask them what they love about that space or facility and what they would like to see change. This will allow our staff to better connect with our residents and patrons. It will also provide the department the opportunity to refine its internal mission and goals in a way that aligns with resident feedback. This effort will also help the entire parks and recreation staff have a better understanding of what drives the department's mission – our residents. So if you are approached by a Parks and Recreation employee to talk about what you think of the department, please take a minute to let us know what's on your mind!

## I. Hot Sounds of Summer: Event Layout and Overflow Seating Area

In an effort to provide additional space and social distancing measures for the upcoming Hot Sounds of Summer concert series, staff has opened up and begun maintaining an additional area adjacent from the Plaza for overflow seating. The full event layout is listed below.



### III. Upcoming Road Construction/Closures

UPCOMING ROAD CONSTRUCTION / CLOSURES			
Projects & Limits	Current Status	Traffic Affected	Estimated Completion
Turkey Peak Ground Storage Tank Construction & Brushy Mound Tank Demolition at existing City Facilities	General Contractor is at both Turkey Peak and Brushy Mound Sites.	Intermittent construction traffic to and from both sites. Anticipated Routes include: NW Renfro, SW Brushy Mound Rd, SW Alsbury Blvd, NW Summercrest Blvd, Nicole Dr & NW Jayellen Ave.	Fall 2021
Fire Station #16	Work on building at finish-out stage.	None anticipated	May 2021
Irene/Gardens Safe Routes to School	Construction underway	Outside lanes of Gardens, Irene, Gregory & Johnson Ave will be closed in areas of construction. Closures to move with construction progress	November 2021
SH174 (Wilshire) Landscape Enhancements	Construction underway Flashing message boards are in place.	Construction will require temporary daytime lane closures as necessary. These closures will only affect the inside lanes. Remaining lanes, including left-turn lanes, will always remain open.	July 2021

### IV. Events

- **Family Play Day in the Park**  
May 22, 1 – 4 p.m. at Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza
- **Community Job Fair**  
May 24, 2 - 7 p.m. at Burleson Recreation Center
- **Hot Sounds of Summer – Le Freak**  
May 28, 7:30 p.m. at Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza
- **Hot Sounds of Summer – ZZ Tex**  
June 4, 7:30 p.m. at Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza
- **Texas Heritage Festival**  
June 5, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Russell Farm Art Center