



WEEKLY REPORT

DECEMBER 16, 2022

TO: MAYOR FLETCHER AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: BRYAN LANGLEY, CITY MANAGER

THE CITY OF
BURLESON
TEXAS

Weekly Report | December 16, 2022

I. Council Schedule

Meetings

Monday, January 9, City Council Regular Session, 3:30 p.m.*

All meetings will be held at City Hall Council Chambers, 141 W. Renfro St. The meeting will be conducted in the council chambers and is also available via live stream, <https://www.burlesontx.com/watchlive>

*The City Council will not discuss or take action on any public hearings, or items listed under “Public Presentations”, “Citizens Appearances”, or “Development Applications” prior to 5:30 p.m.

Reports and Presentations

January 9, 2023

- Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding regional transportation updates. (Staff Presenter, Eric Oscarson – Director of Public Works)

II. General and Status Updates

A. City hires new Emergency Operations Manager

We would like to welcome Joe Laster to the team. Joe has been selected as the new Emergency Operations Manager. His start date is January 9.

Joe has served in public safety for approximately fifteen years, most recently as the Emergency Management Coordinator for the cities of Lake Worth and Saginaw. Prior to that, Joe served as a Peace Officer for the City of Kennedale. He is also a US Army Veteran having completed two overseas tours.

Joe’s formal education includes a Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Science in University Studies from the University of Texas at Arlington, and a Bachelor of Science in Emergency Planning and Administration from the University of North Texas.

He has several certifications including Master Peace Officer, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Basic Instructor, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program Manager, and an Infrastructure Disaster Management Certificate from the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service.

Joe is the current sitting chair for the Tarrant County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Joe and his wife Amber have three boys, Hunter (10), Gabriel (6), and Cason (1). The Laster family enjoys being outdoors and taking the occasional trip to the Rocky Mountains.

B. Library News

Say hello to our newest team member, Wendy Lastovica-Alvey! We are very excited to have another Youth Services Librarian on board to help expand support, outreach, and programs to families in Burleson.

Wendy earned her Master of Library Science degree from the University of North Texas. She comes to us from Burleson ISD, where she was the Library Media Specialist at Kerr Middle School. Her unique combination of skills, experience and creativity make her a valuable addition to our library staff.



C. Senior Center Programming

The Senior Activity Center Christmas Craft Fair held on Saturday, December 10, 2022 was a huge success with over 500 people enjoying all the different and unique crafts that local vendors created.



D. Dead Tree Removal

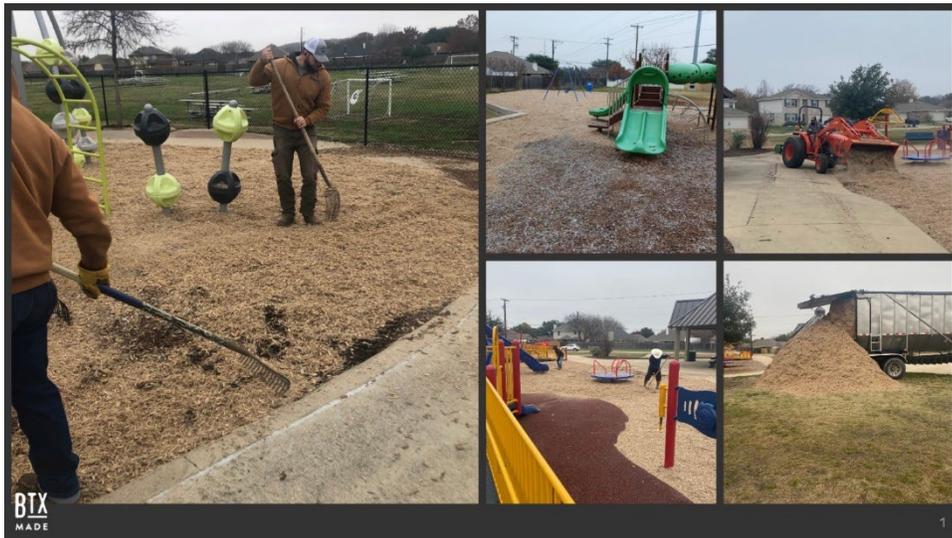
Contractors will be removing a total of dead four trees in the coming weeks at two locations. Two hackberry trees and one American elm will be removed from Bailey Lake Park. One post oak tree adjacent to the parking lot will be removed from Fire Station 16. The trees which suffered from disease and other environmental stress factors were being closely monitored by staff until they became too great of a safety risk. Bureson Parks and Recreation is on schedule to plant 40 trees with irrigation this fiscal year to mitigate trees that have been removed per the mitigation inventory.



E. Engineered Wood Fiber Install

Parks and Athletics staff installed 340 cubic yards of engineered wood fiber at Cedar Ridge, Bartlett, Chisenhall, Clark, Heberle, Centennial, and

Mistletoe Parks. Engineered wood fiber is important for playground safety. Having adequate depths of fiber in playgrounds greatly reduces the risk of major head injuries if a child falls while playing on a play equipment. Our staff takes great pride in making sure our playgrounds are safe for our community, and this is just one step in the process to ensure our citizens have a safe place to play.



F. Centennial Park storm damage

A lacebark elm tree at Centennial Park fell due to high winds from a storm that occurred on Tuesday, December 13. After the storm, staff removed all fallen debris from the park.



G. Feel Good Friday

On December 15, City Hall employees were treated to two very special holiday performances by BISD choir students. Centennial High School Chamber Choir and Hajek Elementary choir students stopped by to sing Christmas carols and share the joy of the season. Other stops on the tour included Fire Station 1, First Baptist Burleson, Heritage Place, and Mustang Creek Estates, to name a few. Stribling Elementary also participated in the BISD holiday choir tour and met up with Hajek to enjoy lunch and games in the plaza. [See more photos.](#)



III. Upcoming Road Construction/Closures ([click to view map](#))



IV. Parks Capital Projects

ESTIMATED TIMELINE				
Projects & Limits	Current Status	Reason for Delay	Original projected completion	Adjusted expected Completion
Claudia Park Improvements (New playground, furnishings, fitness area, and shade structures)	Awaiting delivery of components to begin installation	Supply chain lead time changes	Summer 2022	Winter 2022
Cemetery Expansion	Construction Underway	Columbarium, memorial books, infrastructure complete. Shelter 90% complete. Landscaping, electrical connection and finishes remain.	May 2022	February 2023

V. Events

- **Nights of Lights**
6 - 8:00 p.m. December 17 at Russell Farm Art Center, 405 W CR 714
 Admission: Free
[For more information](#)
- **Strolling Characters in the Plaza**
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. December 17, Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza, 141 W Renfro St
 Cost: Free
- **Christmas on the Farm**
12 - 8 p.m. December 17 at Russell Farm Art Center, 405 W CR 714
[For more information](#)
- **Carriage Rides in Old Town**
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. December 17, Old Town Burleson
 Admission: Free