



# WEEKLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 24, 2023

TO: MAYOR FLETCHER AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: BRYAN LANGLEY, CITY MANAGER

THE CITY OF  
**BURLESON**  
TEXAS

# Weekly Report | February 24

## I. Council Schedule

### Meetings

**Monday, March 6**, City Council Regular Session, 4:30 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>

### Reports and Presentations

- Receive a report, hold a discussion and provide feedback regarding a demonstration of the city’s new customer relationship management software and 311 customer service call center launch. *(Staff Contact: Jesse Elizondo, Director of Customer Service)*
- Receive a report, hold a discussion and provide feedback to staff regarding EMS Billing best practices and recommendations. *(Staff Presenter: K.T. Freeman, Fire Chief)*

## II. General and Status Updates

### A. Burleson Higher Education Center hosts ribbon cutting

Representatives from Hill College, the city of Burleson and Burleson ISD gathered for the grand opening of the Burleson Higher Education Center on February 23, 2023.



The facility's opening culminates a multi-year project with the Burleson Independent School District (BISD) and the City of Burleson. The renovations were made possible by funds from the BISD Facilities Advisory Committee in a bond package approved in May 2017 and a \$1 million contribution by the city intended for the beautification of the campus and to promote higher education and economic development.

Hill College has also partnered with Texas Tech University, which now has a presence at the campus, offering classes and degree plans for students attending Hill College at the Burleson Higher Education Center as well as the community.

With Texas Tech University's partnership, Burleson students and residents can obtain a bachelor's degree in one of 20 fields without leaving the city limits. [Read more.](#)

## **B. Mayor Fletcher appointed to NTTA Contiguous County Advisory Committee**

During the Johnson County Commissioners Court meeting on February 13, Mayor Chris Fletcher was appointed to the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) Contiguous County Advisory Committee. The NTTA Contiguous County Advisory Committee was created in 2014 to encourage cooperation between the NTTA and Johnson County. Johnson County is primed to experience rapid growth accompanied by likely expansions of the NTTA in the county. This committee advocates the needs of Johnson County's citizens to the NTTA.

## **C. Legislative Update**

On February 16, Texas Governor Greg Abbott laid out his seven priority items of the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session.

1. **Cutting property taxes** - Abbott signaled this would be a top priority during his inauguration last month. When naming property tax relief as emergency item number one, Abbott pointed to the state's record budget surplus.
2. **Ending COVID restrictions forever** - Aim to bring an end to remaining COVID restrictions throughout the state, blocking local governments and school districts from enacting or continuing the use of COVID-related emergency powers or mandates.
3. **Education freedom for all Texans** - Discussed expanding school choice through greater use of Education Savings Accounts.
4. **School safety** - Described as strengthening school safety.

5. **Ending "revolving door" bail** - This item will further [tightening existing bail restrictions](#) to build on those the Legislature [passed](#) in September 2021.
6. **Securing the border** - Item six would build on ongoing efforts to strengthen the border.
7. **Fighting The Fentanyl Crisis** - Finally, item seven would address the fentanyl crisis across the state.

Currently, there are over 4,000 filed House and Senate bills. Committee meetings are scheduled for the week of February 20 – 24. A link to the active committee meetings can be found [here](#).

For questions, comments, or request for additional information, please contact Justin Scharnhorst at [jscharnhorst@burlesontx.com](mailto:jscharnhorst@burlesontx.com).

#### **D. Hemphill Speed Study**

During the February 6, 2023, city council meeting, staff was asked for an update regarding the recent speed limit changes to Hemphill St. Staff requested an updated speed study for the roadway to see if we saw any difference in vehicular traffic. During the latest speed study, which occurred February 13-16, 2023, the speed that 85% of vehicles were traveling was 43MPH, which is exactly the same as the speed study from May 11, 2022. This confirms that the speed limit is posted correctly. Also, since the speed limit change, there has been an accident along Hemphill, but it was due to a distracted driver and not speed-related.

#### **E. Traffic Signal Work Around Town - UPDATE**

- **Hidden Creek Parkway and I35W**  
Traffic signal work is being completed this week and the driveway has been installed. The contractor is planning on opening all lanes this week.
- **SH174 and Lakewood Drive**  
This was originally planned for six (6) weeks ago but was delayed by TxDOT. TxDOT will be completing upgrades to the signal over the next six (6) weeks. This project will include adding an extra left turn lane on Lakewood and signal improvements to allow for the additional turn lane. Intermittent lane closures will be utilized for the improvements.

- **Greenridge and John Jones**

TxDOT is currently installing a traffic signal to help mitigate the traffic at this intersection. This project will include the installation of new poles and mast arms as well as pedestrian crossing improvements. Anticipated completion in the next 6 weeks.

## **F. Warren Park – Tennis Court Resurfacing and Pickleball**

Tennis court resurfacing is scheduled to begin this coming week. As reported in October, pickleball lines will also be added to one of the two tennis courts as part of a two-year pilot program. Signs announcing the upcoming pilot, including contact information for any questions or concerns, have been posted at the park since November. No comments or concerns were received.



The tennis courts will be closed from February 27 through March 5, with a tentative reopening date of March 6, weather permitting.

## **G. Sidewalk Ordinance Update**

As a reminder, a concern has been recently raised in regard to sidewalks being blocked in Burleson neighborhoods. Blocking a sidewalk violates the city of Burleson’s Code of Ordinances, even if it’s your own driveway. Sidewalk obstructions can cause significant risks to pedestrians and adversely impact the flow of vehicle traffic. Code compliance staff and the PD often address this violation to make for a safe pedestrian walkway. Code Compliance staff will leave an educational notice when violations are witnessed or if complaints are received. The notice can be viewed on page 14.

Sidewalk obstructions come in many shapes and sizes - piles of dirt, a trash bag, or a vehicle parked over the sidewalk are a few examples of sidewalk obstructions. Examples of what the city’s code compliance officers have seen include the following:

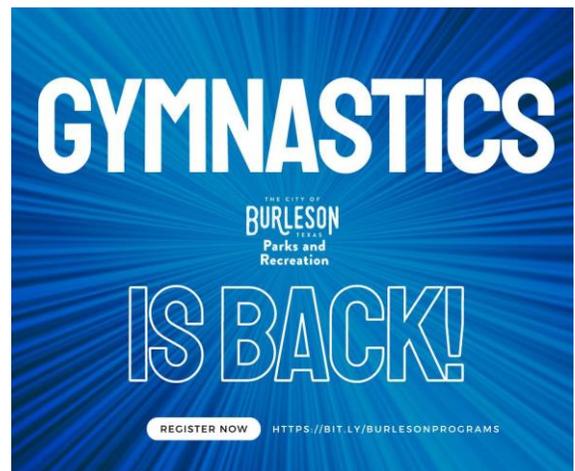
- Portable basketball hoops left in the street or on the sidewalk

- Garbage bags left on the sidewalk
- Recycle bins left on the sidewalk
- Furniture, appliances or other household and personal items left on a sidewalk
- Landscaping debris, construction materials or supplies left in the street or on the sidewalk
- Vehicles, including recreational vehicles, parked on private property which partially overhang or completely block the sidewalk
- Overgrown vegetation blocking sidewalk

## **H. Parks and Recreation Updates – Program and Event News**

**Summer Fun Camp 2023:** Registration for our upcoming Summer Fun Camp program will open on March 6. We are offering three weeks of discounts. Summer Fun Camp is an 11-week program that offers field trips, guest speakers, fun activities, and more. For more information, view [Summer Camp 2023](#).

**Gymnastics and Tumbling program returns:** Gymnastics and tumbling will return to our BRiCK program offerings beginning March 7. Staff has selected Miranda Hanks as the new instructor to replace our previous instructor Pam Tatum who retired after over a decade of service last Fall 2022. Free demos will be offered on February 28 and March 2 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the BRiCK. Pre-register here: <https://bit.ly/BRiCKGymnastics>. Tuesday and Thursday session offerings will begin on March 7 and 9.



**February Event Recaps:  
Family Valentines Dance – Neon  
Lights Theme, February 4:**

Families had a great time at this year's Family Valentines Dance. Seventy-three (73) participants enjoyed dancing, dinner, photo ops, and more. View additional event photos here:

<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjArfWM>



**Russell Farm Date Night Experience, February 18:** Seventy-four (74) guests attended our second Date Night Experience at Russell Farm Art Center. Guest enjoyed live music, dance instruction, country western dancing, and dinner. The event was an overall success. Our next date night experience event will be held in May 2023.



**Mardi Crow, February 21:** An estimated 250 attendees had a great time celebrating Fat Tuesday at our second annual Mardi Crow event on February 21. Participants enjoyed a mini parade to kick the event off, live entertainment featuring a 7-piece band and street performers, crawfish, and tons of beads. This was an excellent opportunity for the community to get together in a fun and relaxing way.



## **I. Upcoming Event News: Honey Tour Carnival Planning**

As the Honey Tour Race approaches, staff continues to work toward confirming event details for the newly added carnival event portion. Staff will begin reaching out to Old Town merchants very soon to discuss final details.

### **Honey Tour Event and Partnership**

**Background:** Honey Tour is a bike race that the Chamber of Commerce has hosted for over 20 years. The event consists of multiple bike races ranging from 7-67 miles. This will be the first year the race has been held since 2019. The Honey Tour has traditionally brought thousands of racers and their families to Burleson for the event. In 2022, the Chamber of Commerce invited the City of Burleson to partner to create a signature special event that enhances the race. The partnership was approved in 2022, and additions will include a carnival, live music, and vendors.



## **J. Library News**

### **Friends of the Burleson Public Library Craft Fair, March 4**

**9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Senior Activity  
Center**

Everyone is invited to the Friends of the Library Craft Fair, benefitting the Library's Summer Reading Club programming. Shop for one-of-a-kind handmade items from local vendors to help support the cause.



## **K. Senior Center Programming**

### **Fall Prevention Exercise Class, February 28**

**1 p.m.**

Regular exercise that improves strength, balance, and fitness is the most important step seniors can take to reduce the risk of falling. Join us for a free class sponsored by Care N' Care.

The center is open to anyone ages 50 and up.



## **L. Outdoor Warning Test**

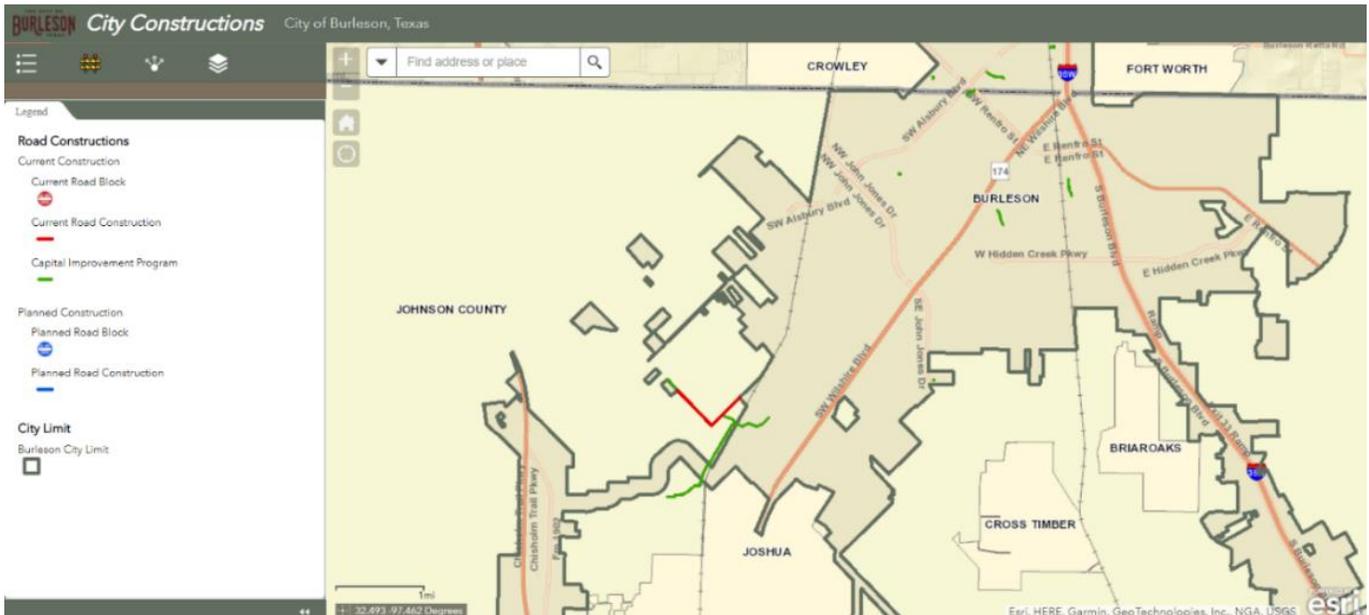
The monthly outdoor warning siren test is scheduled for noon Wednesday, March 1 (tests are held the first Wednesday of every month, if weather permits).

## **M. Feel Good Friday**

To close Kindness Week last week, Taylor Elementary students teamed up with Starbucks on Wilshire and had students write positive things on the bags and sleeves.



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



### IV. Parks Capital Projects

Project	Status	Timeline
<b>Clark Parking Lot</b>	Construction to begin March 2023	Project completion: May 2023
<b>Oak Valley Playground and Parking Lot</b>	Playground on order. Parking lot construction scheduled for City Council award consideration on 3/6/23	Playground equipment is estimated to be shipped on March 3. Parking lot construction to begin mid-March 2023
<b>Cemetery Expansion</b>	Finishes and landscaping remain. Landscape plantings underway	Project completion: end of March 2023
<b>Elk Ridge Playground and Trees</b>	Playground shipment. Planning for tree planting event.	Playground equipment is estimated to be shipped on March 8. Tree planting anticipated for April 2023
<b>Wakefield Playground</b>	PO received and sent to vendor for ordering	Project completion: Spring 2023
<b>Monument Sign</b>	Concept recommendation approved by Parks Board; Going for Council March 2023	Project completion: Spring 2023
<b>Claudia Playground</b>	Under construction	Project completion: March 2023
<b>Bailey Lake/Chisenhall Parking Expansions</b>	Plans and specs complete. Advertising for construction bids March 2023	Construction Summer 2023

<b>Village Creek Trail</b>	90% plans underway - acquiring easements and TXDOT LOSA	Partial construction to begin Summer 2023
<b>Parks Building</b>	Foundation complete. Vertical construction underway.	Project Completion: April 2023
<b>Bark Park Lighting</b>	Installation scheduled to begin week of 2/13/23	COMPLETE
<b>Chisenhall Turf Conversion</b>	Construction to begin March 2023	Project completion: End of April 2023
<b>Shannon Creek</b>	Phase 1 construction plans in process	Begin construction Fall 2023
<b>City Gateway Signage</b>	Initial renderings under review	
<b>Bartlett Soccer Complex Field Renovation</b>	Under construction	Complete construction 4/30/23 with grow-in period thru 6/30/23

## V. Events

- **Dogs and Donuts**  
 March 11, 9:30 – 11 a.m.  
 Burluson Bark Park, 616 Memorial Plaza  
 Free event
- **Burluson PD Open House**  
 March 11, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
 Burluson Police Department, 1161 SW Wilshire Blvd  
 Free event
- **Red Chair Lecture Series**  
 March 17, 7 p.m.  
 Russell Farm Art Center, 405 W CR 714  
 Free event
- **Teen Movie Night in the Plaza**  
 March 24, 6-9 p.m.  
 Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza, 141 W Renfro St  
 Cost: \$10, includes pizza, popcorn and drink
- **Show Me How Festival**  
 March 25, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Russell Farm Art Center, 405 W CR 714  
 Free event

- **Vietnam Veterans Celebration**  
March 25, 2 p.m.  
Veterans Memorial Plaza, 298 E Renfro St.  
Free event

**VI. Attachments**

- Spring Special Events.....page 13
- Sidewalk Ordinance Educational Notice.....page 14

# Spring 2023 Events

## March



### DOGS & DONUTS

March 11 • 9:30 AM  
Burleson Bark Park



### BPD OPEN HOUSE

March 11 • 10 AM-2 PM  
Burleson Police Station



### TEEN MOVIE NIGHT

March 24 • 6 PM  
Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza



### SHOW ME HOW FESTIVAL

March 25 • 11 AM-4 PM  
Russell Farm Art Center



### VIETNAM VETERANS CELEBRATION

March 25 • 2 PM  
Veterans Memorial Plaza



### TRASH BASH

April 1 • 8 AM-12 PM  
City-wide cleanup  
Warren Park meetup

## April



### RUSSELL FARM EGG HUNT

April 1 • 9 AM  
Russell Farm Art Center



### BUNNY DAZE

April 1 • 12 - 3 PM  
Chisenhall Sports Complex



### AQUA EGG HUNT

April 8 • 9 AM  
BRiCK Indoor Pool



### COYOTE LOOP CLEANUP

April 15 • 9 - 11 AM  
Coyote Loop



### EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

April 22 • 10 AM - 12 PM  
Russell Farm Art Center



### ARBOR DAY

April 28 • 10 AM  
Centennial Park



### DARE TO BE SQUARE

April 29 • 6 - 8 PM  
Russell Farm Art Center



### FAR OUT FAMILY CAMPOUT

April 29 - 30  
Bailey Lake Park



### RESOURCE & HEALTH FAIR

May 5 • 12 - 2 PM  
Senior Center



### CINCO DE MAYO

May 5 • 7:30 PM  
Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza



### DATE NIGHT EXPERIENCE

May 6 • 6 - 8 PM  
Russell Farm Art Center



### PARKS MAINTENANCE RODEO

May 11 • 6 - 7:30 PM  
Chisenhall Sports  
Complex

## May



### MOTHER'S DAY OUTING

May 13 • 6 - 8 PM  
Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza



### TEXAS HERITAGE FESTIVAL: MUSIC NIGHT

May 19 • 6:30 PM  
Russell Farm Art Center



### SUPER SAFETY SATURDAY

May 20 • 8 - 11 AM  
Texas Health Burleson



### TEXAS HERITAGE FESTIVAL

May 20 • 4 - 8 PM  
Russell Farm Art Center



### HOT SOUNDS OF SUMMER CONCERT

May 26 • 7:30 PM  
Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza



### POPS AT THE POOL & SPLASH DAY

May 29 • 1 PM - All Day  
BRiCK Outdoor Pool

# THE CITY OF BURLESON TEXAS

## Citizen Awareness Notice



Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you know that blocking a sidewalk is a violation of the City of Burleson's Code of Ordinances?**

**Examples of violations:**

- Garbage bags left on sidewalk
- Recycle bins left on the sidewalk
- Furniture, appliances or other household trash and personal items left on a sidewalk
- Overgrown vegetation blocking sidewalk
- Vehicles, trailers, and recreational vehicles, parked on private property which partially overhang or completely block the sidewalk
- Portable basketball goals on the sidewalk

*This is not a citation. This is a courtesy awareness notice.*

Please help to keep pedestrians safe by keeping the sidewalk clear from obstructions.

City of Burleson

Code Compliance

725 SE John Jones Dr.

Burleson, TX 76028

Email:

code@burlesontx.com

Phone:

817-426-9600

# THE CITY OF BURLESON TEXAS

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