

DeSoto News Flash

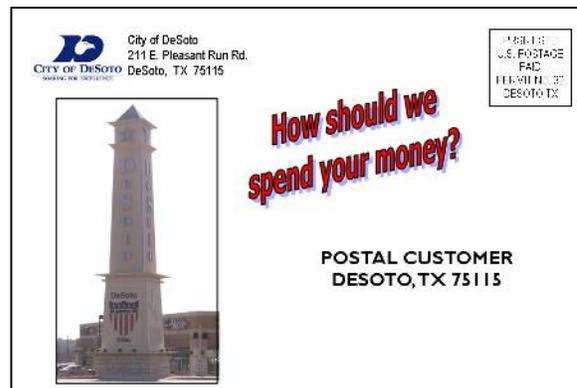
Week of February 25th through the 29th, 2008

Join Us for a Town Hall Meeting On March 3rd - We Need to Hear How You Would Like Your Tax Dollars Spent

Each year, the City of DeSoto begins the planning process for the city’s budget and Capital Improvement Program by asking our citizens for input on how they would like to see their tax dollars spent. This citizen input is gathered in several different ways.

In February, post cards were mailed to all residential and commercial addresses in the city. These post cards ask for suggestions on projects that you would like to see considered for the FY 08-09 operating budget and the city’s five-year Capital Improvement Program. We are looking for input on both immediate needs and long term projects or goals for the city.

Filling out and returning this post card is your opportunity to let us know what projects are important to you. For example, if you would like to see more flowers planted in our medians or you feel we need to increase the number of police officers on the street, these are issues that would be addressed in the operating budget. We are also looking for input on the projects that you would like to see included in the five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). In order to qualify for the CIP, a project must have a value of at least \$100,000 and a useful life of five years or more. For example, if you would like to see the city build an additional Recreation Center or sidewalks near your neighborhood, these are the types of projects that would be considered for the Capital Improvement



DeSoto News Flash

Week of February 25th
through the 29th, 2008

Town Hall Meeting cont. from page 1.

Program.

Another way that you can share your input is by attending a Town Hall Meeting sponsored by the City of DeSoto on Monday, March 3, 2008 at City Hall. From 6 to 7 pm, join us for coffee and browse through exhibits on each of the city departments. The formal meeting begins at 7 pm and will include presentations on the planning process for the city's Capital Improvement Program and the operating budget. The City Secretary will also provide those attending with information on the upcoming City Council Election for Place 2 and Place 4. Following the formal portion of the meeting, city staff will return to their exhibits in the lobby and make themselves available to answer any questions you may have on the budget or Capital Improvement Program as well as any other municipal service or function.

If for some reason you didn't receive your post card and aren't available to attend the Town Hall Meeting on March 3rd, you can go online at www.ci.desoto.tx.us in the News and Events section on the homepage and click on the item titled "How should we spend your money?" By following the prompts, you will be able to provide your input on the FY-2009 budget and Capital Improvement Program.

We need to hear from you to ensure that your city government is doing the things you want done. We encourage you to take an opportunity to let us know what you think by taking a few minutes to fill out the postage paid, postcard and dropping it back in the mail to us, providing your input on-line and/or by attending the Town Hall Meeting. We will take all of your suggestions into consideration as we plan our city's future. For more information, please call the Action Center at 972.230.9600.

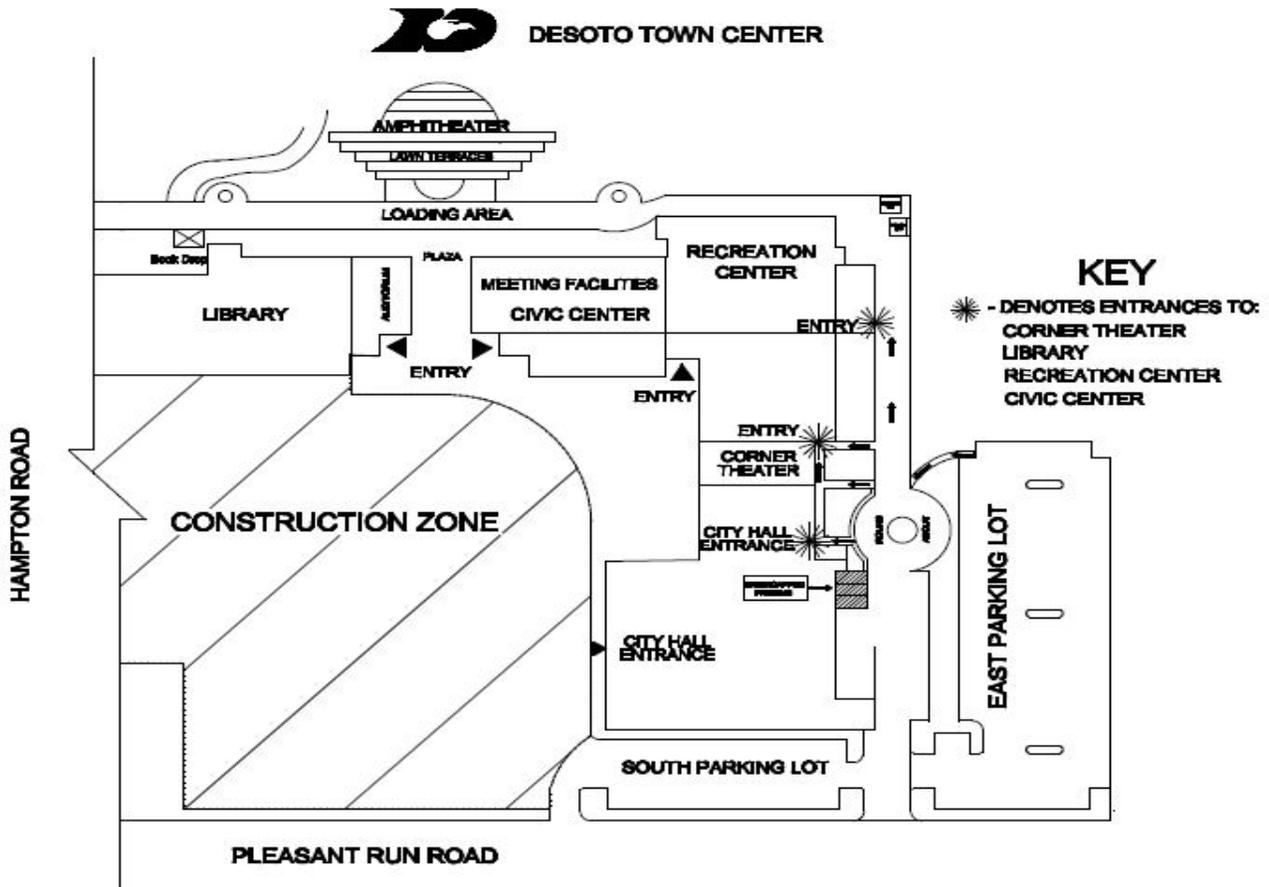


Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday,
March 22, 2008
noon
Zeiger Park
400 Eagle Drive

Join the Easter Bunny and the DeSoto PALS staff for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The egg hunt is separated by the following age groups 3 & under, 4 - 7 and 8 - 10. Free admission, bring your Easter basket. For more information call 972 230-9650.

DeSoto News Flash

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Site preparation is underway and construction will soon begin on the Town Center Project, a mixed-use retail, office, residential facility which is a public/private partnership between the City of DeSoto and developer, Trammell Crow's High Street Residential Division. In anticipation, the city constructed a new parking lot, accessible from Pleasant Run Road on the east side of City Hall that will serve as the main parking area for the entire complex during construction. Here's some information that may be helpful in finding your way around:

- The south parking lot, facing Pleasant Run Road, is still available.
- The west entrances of City Hall, the Corner Theatre, the Recreation Center, the Civic Center and Library are still open.
- The map above indicates the location of the parking areas and how the buildings can now be entered from the east parking lot. Tuck this map into the visor of your car so that you can refer to it when you come to Town Center.
- If you are visiting the Recreation Center, Corner Theatre, Civic Center or Library, please use the east entrance of the Recreation

Center near the racquet ball courts from the east parking lot.

- New signage inside the building will direct you to your destination.
- The Library's book return has been moved to the north side of the Library facing Ten Mile Creek. To reach the new book drop enter the pavestone drive off of Pleasant Run Road and follow it around the building.
- Library staff knows that the walk may be too much for elderly of those with small children. If you call ahead to 972,230.9665, library staff will pull your materials and bring them to their service entrance on the north side of the building for pick-up.
- The utility payment drop box and the U.S. mailbox have been moved to the round-about on the east side of City Hall.

For more information and a construction schedule for the Town Center Project, please check Town Center Redevelopment button on the bottom right corner of the homepage on the city's website.