

# CITY OF DESOTO

## CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

### WEEKLY UPDATE

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May 1, 2020

## Projects of Community Interest

**BULKY WASTE DROP-OFF EVENT** | The City will be hosting a bulky waste drop-off event for DeSoto residents on Saturday, May 2 and Saturday May 16 from 9AM-1PM located at Grimes Park, at the entrance located at 500 E. Centre Park Blvd. Residents will be required to unload their vehicle to limit exposure to City employees. DeSoto residency is required; therefore a valid driver's license or a utility bill showing current address is required for confirmation.

**ECONOMIC RECOVERY ADVISORY TASK FORCE** | The first meeting of the task force was held on April 28 with all members present. The Mayor and City Manager are finalizing assigning members to one of four subcommittees to assist in the recovery of DeSoto schools, businesses, target populations, and the medical industry. A resolution establishing the task force will be on the May 5 City Council Meeting regular agenda. Once the subcommittees are finalized, future meetings will be scheduled.

**DESOTO COVID-19 TOWN HALL** | Staff is presently working with Judge Jenkins' Chief of Staff Lauren Trimble to coordinate a date, time, and final meeting format for DeSoto's Cyber Town Hall Meeting. Staff recommended May 12, May 13, and May 14 as potential dates. Details will be finalized once Dallas County confirms the date. The meeting will be limited to one hour due to Judge Jenkins' schedule.

# Project Updates

**CITY RESPONSE TO COVID-19** | Ellis Davis and the American Airlines Center are approved to continue testing through the end of May. Testing requirements are as follow: Must have temperature or 99.6 or higher and shortness of breath or cough; or anyone 65 years old or older; or anyone with chronic health issues (diabetes, asthma, heart issues, etc); or anyone classified as a healthcare worker, first responder, transportation employee, or grocery or other essential retail worker. As of today, 708 residents have been tested in DeSoto. Dallas County continues to report that there are no positive cases in DeSoto's long-term adult care facilities; however, 200 tests will be administered at Williamsburg Village long-term adult care facility on May 2 by the Parkland Mobile Testing Team. As of today, there are 79 identified DeSoto addresses with positive cases and 94 individual positive cases.

**DANIELDALE PID** | A few changes to the originally announced timeline are being shared with the City Council.

First, the TIRZ ordinance establishing the TIRZ will be delayed until the May 19 City Council Meeting due to property assessment data not being available from the Dallas Central Appraisal District as a result of COVID-19. The corresponding public hearing will also need to be continued to May 19 to allow for a republishing of the notice.

Second, the City's PID administrator and legal and bond consultants along with the developer continue to refine and make minor modifications to the original development agreement and reimbursement agreement. Therefore, these documents were not ready to be included in the agenda packets but are being shared in their current versions as an attachment to this Weekly Update. The revisions were first expected to be presented on the consent agenda; however, one revision necessitates some discussion as it represents a modification to the original deal points and not just legal cleanup. The original development agreement caps the TIRZ contribution at 18.4 cents on the levy. Because home values will fluctuate and the goal on the TIRZ amount is to nullify the impact of the \$4 million being utilized for the walking trail, the recommendation is to set the TIRZ cap based on percentage of the

levy (26.5%) and not on the 18.4 cents. This modification keeps the original intent of the TIRZ contribution without creating problems when the bonds are issued that the number will not equate to 18.4 cents exactly. The City maintains the same protections from interest rate risk and fluctuations in property values.

Third, the final Service and Assessment Plan (SAP) continues to be refined with minor modifications from the City's PID administrator and legal and bond consultants as well as the developer. A current and updated version is attached to this Weekly Update. These changes are minor cleanup items and do not change the original deal points conveyed to the City Council.

**IMPACT FEE STUDY** | City staff continues to work with the impact fee consultant. A draft copy of their research and recommendations is expected by May 8. This item is scheduled for the Topical Work Session on Monday, May 18 to allow adequate discussion between the City Council, staff, and consultant.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING** | A new timeline was created to accommodate a community dialogue the week of June 8 and the strategic planning sessions in the first half of July. The finalized Strategic Plan is anticipated to be completed the week of August 17. A staff leadership survey was sent to the City Council, managing directors, mid-level supervisors, and commission and board members on April 27 for feedback.

**COMMUNITY SURVEY** | The consultant, City Manager, and Mayor are working to finalize a community-wide survey document and will share the final version with the City Council. Due to current limitations and restrictions on City services, the survey will be held until after stay-at-home orders are lifted. Once the survey vendor is given notice to proceed, the company needs about three weeks to begin mailing documents.

**RENTAL REGISTRATION ORDINANCE** | Staff continues work to finalize a rental registration ordinance that will address landlord responsibility for building and nuisance violations. This item is scheduled for the Topical Work Session on Monday, May 18 to allow adequate discussion between the City Council and staff.

**BROADCASTING EQUIPMENT** | Broadcasting equipment will be installed in the Council Conference Room for recording and broadcasting City Council work

sessions. The video and audio equipment is scheduled to be installed during the week of May 11. Once installed, the City of DeSoto will be able to record and broadcast work sessions held in the Council Conference Room.

**MANTLEBROOK PARK** | Parks staff met on site with concerned residents regarding the project. Neighbors expressed concerns regarding trail improvements that included increased traffic, trail layout, and proximity to residents' homes. Staff consulted TNP and Parks Design Group for trail reconfiguration to be built 50 feet from private property. Another concern was the construction of the fence, so as an alternative; staff will pursue a plan to install buffer plant material. Construction is anticipated to start this upcoming week. An ordinance to restrict street parking along the perimeter will be drafted and presented for review to the City Council before the end of the spring.

## Weekly Events & Meetings

May 2 Bulk waste drop-off event at Grimes Park, 501 E Wintergreen Rd at 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM	May 16 Military Appreciation Day Event. Drive through event featuring free In-N-Out Burgers for DeSoto military families - City Hall south parking lot 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
May 4 CDBG Town Hall Meetings at 1:30 PM and 5:30 PM via Video Conference	May 18 DeSoto Economic Development Corporation Regular Board Meeting – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
May 5 City Council Work Session & Meeting at 6:00 PM via Video Conference	May 18 City Council Topical Work Session at 6:00 PM via Video Conference (Impact Fees & Rental Registration Ordinance)
May 16 Bulk Waste Drop-Off event at Grimes Park, 501 E Wintergreen Rd at 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM	May 19 City Council Work Session & Meeting at 5:30 PM via Video Conference



# New Hires, Promotions & Recognitions

## NEW HIRES

**FIRE DEPARTMENT HIRING UPDATES** | Three Fire Department candidates were given conditional job offers with a start date of June 1. These offers will bring staffing levels at the Fire Department to their full budgeted levels. New policies for firefighter testing process resulted in a successful 50% minority demographic during this round of hiring.

# New Businesses & City Development

**CHATTEY ROAD PROJECT** | This project is scheduled to begin the first half of May. A communication strategy will be developed to ensure that the public and impacted residents are notified of the City's progress.

**SOLAR TURBINES** | Solar Turbines is adding 8,000 square feet to their building located at 215 S. Centre Blvd that is currently under construction.

**FIRE STATION NO.2** | The new fire station and administration building is reaching its final stages and is anticipated to be completed in the first half of June. An open house will be scheduled as soon as the completion date is finalized.

**CHIPOTLE** | Opened April 21 located at 1001 North, Interstate 35E Service Rd Suite 116A offering Mission-style burritos, tacos, and other Mexican grill food items.

**FUZZY'S TACO** | Located at 228 E. Pleasant Run Rd. The restaurant has received their certificate of occupancy and is ready to. Due to current limitations and restrictions from COVID-19, the location has not announced

an opening date as of yet. This restaurant offers Baja tacos, chips and guacamole, and frozen margaritas.

DeSoto



**CITY OF DESOTO**  
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