

# CITY OF DESOTO

## CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

### WEEKLY UPDATE

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July 10, 2020

## Projects of Community Interest

**SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM** | Staff is contacting the 52 pre-approved businesses to request final submission of all required documentation in order to provide funding. After these 52 businesses receive funding, the Small Business Grant Program will have a remaining balance of approximately \$157,000, enough to assist another 31 businesses. A second round of applications will be accepted begin July 20 through July 31. Notices will be distributed Monday July 13 on the City's website, social media platforms, email lists, and news release to advise businesses of the second-round grant opportunity.

**WATER/SEWER FEE WAIVER PROGRAM UPDATE** | The City of DeSoto has provided a total of \$277,822.55 in water/sewer fee credits to date for qualifying residents and businesses as a result of the City Council's fee waiver program. A total of 150 businesses and 3,354 residents received a free month's credit on their water/sewer bill due in July.

## Project Updates

**CITY RESPONSE TO COVID-19** | Ellis Davis will be administering up to 1,000 tests daily through the end of July with the collaboration of the DeSoto Fire Department. The American Airline Center mobile testing units were relocated to the University of Dallas. Walmart continues to offer drive-through testing daily from 7:00 AM through 9:00 AM. DC3 Church will remain open for testing every Wednesday from 9:00 AM through 12:00 PM. Methodist Charlton drive through testing is by appointment only Monday through Friday 9:00 AM through 1:00 PM. The Texas National Guard will conduct a second walk-in testing site in DeSoto limited to 500 tests at Meadow Creek Park on Friday, July 17 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. As of today, there are 418 DeSoto addresses with positive cases and 593 individual positive cases. As of the current pay period, four employees are COVID-19 positive with 12 employees in quarantine awaiting test results. Eleven employees returned this week after being in quarantine and testing negative for COVID-19.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING** | Staff has scheduled four strategic planning sessions with the City Council to review the data collection from the dine and dialogue, surveys, environmental plan, and interviews. Meeting invites were sent to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, which includes the City Council and other staff participants for July 14, 16, 18, and 22.

**WORKFORCE HOUSING TOUR** | Members of the City Council are invited to take a tour on Friday, July 17 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM to see three Workforce Housing Projects constructed in the DFW Metroplex by a developer interested in pursuing a similar project on Bolton Boone Road north of Daniieldale Road.

**RENTAL REGISTRATION ORDINANCE** | Due to COVID-19 restrictions, staff cancelled the in-person public rental registration meeting previously scheduled for July 16. In order to accommodate virtual sessions, the Development Services Department will host three virtual meetings for the public on August 6, 13, and 20. Participants will need to register in advance to attend the virtual meetings by sending their names and choice of two virtual meeting dates to [RRProgram@desototexas.gov](mailto:RRProgram@desototexas.gov). The ordinance is anticipated to be considered at a September City Council Meeting with an enforcement date of April 2021.

**2020 RENOVATION AND REPLACEMENT PROJECT** | This annual project replaces aging water and sewer lines and reconstructs street pavements. The project is divided into two phases. Phase one, at \$1.2 million, will replace approximately 7,600 feet of water and sewer lines along Meadow Brook Estates and Mantlebrook Farms subdivisions. This project is scheduled to begin on July 20 and scheduled for completion by December. Phase two of the project will reconstruct the streets portion of the project where the replacements are conducted. The streets included are: Clubbrook Circle, Pebblebrook Drive, Thunderbrook Circle, Windingbrook Drive, Meriweather Place, and Meadowbrook Drive.

**MIRKES PARK NAMING** | The Parks Board voted to name the new park and trail area currently under construction in the Mantlebrook neighborhood Mirkes Park after the family who originally owned the land and donated it to the City of DeSoto. Consistent with City policy on naming parks, the name will come to the City Council for consideration at the July 21 City Council Meeting.

## Weekly Events & Meetings

July 13 Economic Recovery Advisory Task Force Meeting 6:00 PM (Video Conference)	July 24 Fourth Friday Concert – Gospel Review 8:00 PM (Virtual)
July 14 Strategic Planning Sessions 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM (Video Conference)	July 27 DeSoto Economic Development Corporation Regular Board Meeting 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Video Conference)
July 16 Strategic Planning Sessions 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM (Video Conference)	July 28 DeSoto Police & Community Together (PACT) Town Hall 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM (Video Conference)
July 17 Workforce Housing Project Tour 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Meet at City Hall)	August 4 City Council Work Session & Meeting 6:00 PM (TBD)
July 18 Strategic Planning Sessions 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM (Video Conference)	August 07 City Council Summer Retreat 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM (DeSoto ISD Admin Building – ISC Board Room)
July 20 City Council Topical Work Session 6:00 PM (Video Conference) Topics: Women and Minority Owned Business Enterprise Policy, Council Pay & Summer Retreat Preparation	August 8 City Council Summer Retreat 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM (DeSoto ISD Admin Building – ISC Board Room)
July 21 City Council Work Session & Meeting 5:30 PM (Video Conference)	August 17 City Council Topical Work Session 6:00 PM (TBD)
July 22 Strategic Planning Sessions 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM (Video Conference)	August 18 City Council Work Session & Meeting 5:30 PM (TBD)
July 23 City Council Budget Workshop 6:00 PM (Video Conference)	August 22 Household Hazardous Waste Event 7:00 PM to 11:00 AM (Westmoreland Pump Station)
July 24 City Council Budget Workshop 9:00 AM (Video Conference)	August 28 Fourth Friday Concert 8:00 PM (Performer TBA)

# New Hires, Promotions & Recognitions

## NEW HIRES

NAME	START MONTH	DEPARTMENT	POSITION
Lewis, Becky	July	Administration	Executive Assistant to City Manager
Schroeder, Gregory S.	July	Utilities	Utility Billing Clerk - Senior

## PROMOTIONS

NAME	START MONTH	DEPARTMENT	POSITION
Bhandari, Mamata	July	Administration	Environmental Health Specialist

