

The City Council is looking for Volunteers to Fill Open Positions on the Planning & Zoning Commission and the DeSoto Economic Development Corporation Board

Serving on a Board or Commission is a great way to become involved in DeSoto. All Board and Commission appointments are made by the City Council through an interview process. Currently openings exist on the following boards:

Planning & Zoning Commission

- Composed of seven members serving three-year terms
- Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at City Hall, special meetings may be called as needed
- Recommends approval or disapproval of changes in the City's Zoning Ordinance, Comprehensive Master Plan, and Major Thoroughfare Plan
- Reviews and updates the City's Comprehensive Plan
- Serves as the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee to the City Council and provides Impact Fee Advisory

DeSoto Economic Development Corporation Board

- Composed of five members serving three-year terms which expire on December 31
- Meets on the fourth Monday of each month at noon at City Hall, special meetings may be called as needed
- Promotes quality development within the City of DeSoto
- Oversees funds earmarked for improving and developing DeSoto's commercial and industrial base and provides a conduit for citizen input on economic development matters
- Eligible candidates should have a minimum of one of the following qualifications: 1. Serve, or have served, as chief executive officer of a company; 2. serve, or have served, in a position of executive management of a company; or 3. serve, or have served, in a professional capacity; or 4. have experience equivalent to any of the above qualifications
- Prospective board members must be bondable

All appointees to a City of DeSoto board must be residents of DeSoto for at least one year prior to their appointment and remain in the city during their tenure. If you meet the above requirements and would be interested in applying for one of these position, please fill out an application and submit it to the City Secretary's office no later than July 31, 2010. Applications are available on the City's website under the City Hall tab on the home page and may be submitted online. You can also request an application by calling the City Secretary's office at 972.230.9664 or by contacting lhallmark@ci.desoto.tx.us.



Third Coast Arts Center & The DeSoto Arts Commission Present

AN EVENING OF JAZZ WITH PAUL ROGERS & Special Guest Host, SHUCKY DUCKY

Saturday, July 17, 2010 6 to 9 p.m.
DeSoto Corner Theatre
211 E. Pleasant Run Road



"Shucky Ducky"



Paul Rogers

Seating is limited. Tickets are \$25 and include light appetizers. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 972.230.9648. The DeSoto Corner Theatre is located in DeSoto Town Center at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road. Free parking is available in the parking garage.



Join Us for a Town Hall Meeting on July 12th to Discuss Mixed-Use Zoning for DeSoto

In 2005 the City of DeSoto engaged the urban planning and architectural firm, RTKL and marketing and economic firm, Leland Consultants to create a redevelopment plan for that portion of Hampton Road from Ten Mile Creek in the north to the Post Office in the south. The study was completed and adopted by the City Council in late 2005.

The study made a number of interesting suggestions about how the community could reinvent this portion of Hampton Road. One such suggestion was the identification of three focus areas along the corridor and within each area they identified a "catalyst project". Such a project would serve as the stimulus for further development in that area. Another suggestion was to create and implement mixed-use urban standards for this section of Hampton Road. These standards would provide the blue print for new and existing structures to follow as new building or remodeling takes place along the corridor.

Shortly after construction began on the first catalyst project at DeSoto Town Center, attention was focused on the task of adopting the urban mixed-use standards reflected in the Town Center project. The City began by communicating with business owners, or operators and interested citizens along the Hampton Road Corridor. Newsletters describing similar projects in other cities provided information and pictures of the type of design standards that might be adopted. Some of these standards included:

- Well landscaped sidewalks that are wide and inviting to pedestrians
- Attractive awnings on buildings
- Decorative benches and trash receptacles
- Attractive street lights
- Parking lots in the rear of businesses

Next, an Advisory Committee made up of representatives from local businesses was formed. This committee met with City staff and planning consultants from Freese and Nichols to review the background of the Hampton Corridor, analyze public input and discuss the elements of mixed-use development that support the vision articulated by the stakeholders. A public meeting was held last summer to conduct a Visual Character Survey. Those attending the meeting were asked their preferences on aspects of mixed-use urban design for intersections, parking, walkways, building facades, and setbacks.

Planning consultants with Freese and Nichols have taken all the information gathered from the Visual Character Study, Advisory Committee meetings and other public meetings and condensed it into a draft Ordinance which would provide a Mixed-Use Zoning District designation for DeSoto. Once this draft ordinance is approved, the City Council can consider applying this zoning district along Hampton Road.

The Mixed-use Zoning draft Ordinance will be introduced to the public at a special Town Hall Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 12, 2010 at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at DeSoto City Hall. This meeting will also be televised on Time Warner Cable Channel 16 and will be available for viewing on the city's website. The general public, as well as Hampton Road businesses, are encouraged to attend this important meeting for the future vision of DeSoto and the Hampton Road Corridor. For more information on the proposed mixed-use zoning ordinance, please call Planning Manager, Edlyn Vathauer at 972.230.9624.



TAKS Programs at the Library

Reservations Required Call 972-230-9666 (Please, No Voicemail Reservations)



- TAKS Writing Camp (Grade 4)
- TAKS Math Camp (Grades 5-6)
- TAKS Reading Camp (Grades 5-6)
- TAKS Science Camp (Grade 5)
- TAKS Writing Camp (Grades 5-8)

Free tutoring in Reading is also offered every Tuesday and Thursday from 11 to 11:45 a.m. at the DeSoto Public Library through July 29, 2010. For more information or to make a reservation, please call 972.230.9666.

Applications for Cultural Arts Grants are Being Accepted thru August 15th

If you enjoyed a performance presented by the African American Repertory Theater in the Corner Theatre, or one of the Juried Visual Arts Shows sponsored by the DeSoto Art League, you enjoyed programs funded by DeSoto's Cultural Arts Grants Program. These are just a few of the arts opportunities made available to DeSoto residents by this program. We are currently accepting applications for projects scheduled for the 2011 calendar year.

The Cultural Arts Grant Program is coordinated by the DeSoto Arts Commission. Each summer, they put out the call for projects seeking funding. To be eligible, you must be an active nonprofit arts organization who can demonstrate sound artistic direction and financial management. Community involvement is also strongly considered. Funded activities must take place within the city limits of DeSoto. Examples of previously funded projects include professional and community theater, art shows, gospel concerts, dance performances and jazz concerts. Applications are accepted from June 15th through August 15th each year. Qualifying nonprofit arts organizations can request funding for their projects as well as an in-kind grant for use of the Corner Theatre.

Application forms are available at DeSoto City Hall, 211 E. Pleasant Run Road, in the Community Relations Department and may also be downloaded from the city's website at www.ci.desoto.tx.us. To request a grant application packet or for more information on the City of DeSoto's Cultural Arts Grant Program, please call Kathy (Maples) Jones at 972.230.9648.

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For the Week of July 6th, 2010 through July 9th, 2010

