

# CITY OF DESOTO CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

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April 24, 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 2nd and Saturday May 16th from 9AM-1PM located at Grimes Park, 501 E Wintergreen Rd. Residents will be required to unload their vehicle to limit exposure to City employees. DeSoto residency is required; therefore a valid driver's license and a utility bill showing current address is required for confirmation.

**ECONOMIC RECOVERY ADVISORY TASK FORCE** | The final list of task force members is being compiled, and communication to all of the task force members will be going out today. The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28 at 6:00 pm via video conference. A resolution is being finalized for City Council consideration at the May 5 City Council meeting.

## Project Updates

**CITY RESPONSE TO COVID-19** | Ellis Davis and the American Airlines Center testing capabilities remain at 500 tests per site daily. 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 be classified as a healthcare workers, first responders, transportation employee or grocery or other essential retail workers. Over the last week, COVID 911 calls for services have reduced significantly. Due to the reduction of service need, a paramedic is no longer assigned to screen calls at the dispatch center, and the use of a designated COVID-19 response squad unit has been discontinued. If COVID-19 calls for service increase, these items will be evaluated for reinstatement. Dallas County continues to report that there are no positive cases in DeSoto's long-term adult care facilities; these facilities continue to be monitored and supported by City staff. As of today, there are 69 identified DeSoto addresses with positive cases and 81 individual positive cases.

**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 will be sent internally on April 27 for employee feedback and staff will compile the data of the survey in early May.

**COMMUNITY SURVEY** | Staff is working to finalize a community-wide survey document. A draft was reviewed this week and, once finalized, will be shared 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.

**MANTLEBROOK PARK** | Parks staff met via conference call this week with concerned residents regarding the project. Improvements are scheduled at this park with construction anticipated to start this spring. Neighbors expressed concerns regarding trail improvements that included increased traffic, trail layout, and proximity to residents' homes. Park staff is reviewing these concerns, discussing opportunities, and developing solutions in partnership with the neighborhood feedback. Updates will be available this upcoming week.

## Weekly Events & Meetings

April 27 DEDC Regular Board Meeting at 9:00 am via Teleconference	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 am to 1 pm.
May 2 Bulk waste drop-off event at Grimes Park, 501 E Wintergreen Rd at 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.	May 16 Bulk Waste Drop-Off event at Grimes Park, 501 E Wintergreen Rd at 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
May 4 CDBG Town Hall Meetings at 1:30 pm and 5:30 pm via Video Conference	May 18 City Council Topical Work Session at 6:00 pm via Video Conference (Impact Fees & Rental Registration Ordinance)
May 5 City Council Work Session & Meeting at 6:00 pm via Video Conference	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.

NAME	START MONTH	DEPARTMENT	POSITION
Thomas, Teresa	April	SWRCC	Emergency Dispatcher
Gilbert, Joseph B	April	SWRCC	Emergency Dispatcher
McCowan, Caren	April	Finance	Payroll Administrator
Long, Clinton W.	April	Development-Services	Construction Manager

## 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.

**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.

