

# Rockport Transcript

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF ROCKPORT

## COVID-19 Testing and Vaccinations

Because there is no dedicated Health District in our county, all free testing and vaccination programs are managed by the Texas Department of State Health Services and Texas Department of Emergency Management. Coordination of these efforts is handled by the County's Emergency Coordinator and Aransas County Emergency Medical Services with public information handled by the City and County through their web sites and social media.

While there may be some private physician practices and pharmacies offering the vaccine to insured patients, all FREE programs will come through the State.



one calls, texts, or emails you promising access to the vaccine for a fee.

If you come across a COVID-19 vaccine scam, report it to the Rockport Police Department or the Federal Trade Commission. And

check out [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for trustworthy information on the COVID-19 vaccine. For information about testing and vaccine locations, please visit the City's web site.

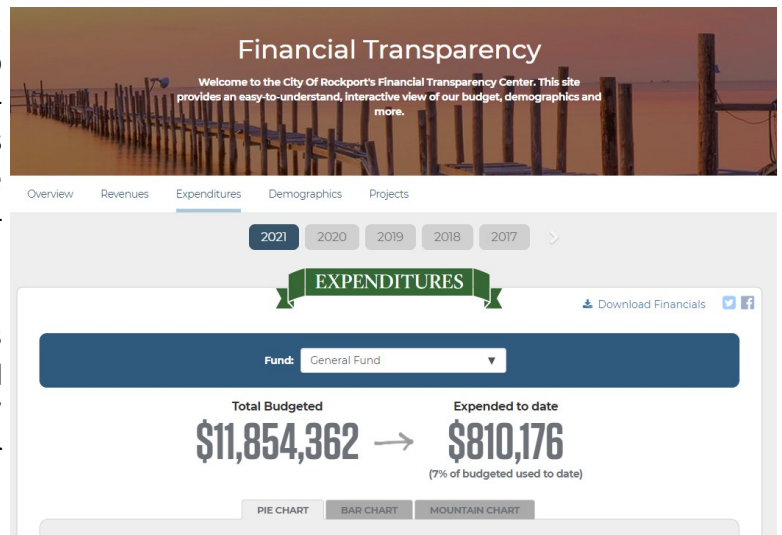
It's important to remember:

- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You can't pay to get early access to a vaccine.
- Don't share your personal or financial information if some-

## New Transparency Tools on City's Web Site

The City of Rockport has partnered with ClearGov, a transparency and benchmarking platform, to launch an infographic-based fiscal and capital projects dashboard. The new tool provides taxpayers an easy-to-understand, visual breakdown of the city's finances, as well as insights into the demographics, projects and more.

The financial page includes three major categories – revenues, expenditures and demographics - and may be found in the "Financial Transparency" button on every page on the City's web site or

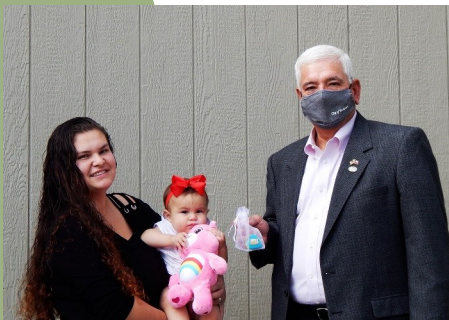


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## City's Sesquicentennial—Part 2 *(Part 1 was in the last issue of the Rockport Transcript)*

Despite the pandemic, recognition of outstanding citizens and organizations representing the "Spirit of Rockport" continued through the year. Additional honorees included the Rockport Volunteer Fire Department, Castaways Thrift Shop, South Rockport Neighbors, Aransas County Children's Coalition, Diane Clark and Good Samaritans, and Bobby Jackson.

Also, members of the City's Advisory Boards: Comprehensive Plan Update - Patricia Albin, Monica Burdette, Nancy Bolting, Elizabeth Brundrett, Sylvia Combs, Ginger Easton-Smith, Christine Hale, John Jackson, and Suzanne Villa; Parks and Leisure Services - Ray A. Garza, David Rodriguez, Jenny Vander Pluym, and Leo Villa; Planning and Zoning - Ruth Davis, Maynard Green, Warren Hassinger, Kim Hesley, Kent Howard, Diana Severino-Saxon, and Ric Young; and Zoning Board of Adjustments - Jeanetta Davis, Carey Dietrich, Warren Hassinger, Leo Villa, and Ric Young.



*First Rockport baby Loreleya Duron*

In addition to recognizing individuals and businesses, whose contributions have brought Rockport to where it is today, the Sesquicentennial Committee also wanted to pay tribute to the first baby of 2020, who will represent us in the future.

That honoree is Loreleya Sylvia Duron, who was born at 9:24 am on February 17 at Bay Area Hospital in Corpus Christi. She is the daughter of Velia Barajas and Jesse Duron and the youngest of four.

Special materials retrieved from the time capsule were presented to designated recipients or family members throughout the year. Photos and information on these items may be viewed in the Sesquicentennial Section on the City's web site: <https://cityofrockport.com/788/Voices-from-the-Past---The-Time-Capsule> or <https://tinyurl.com/y5rohjx8>



We now have four Facebook pages: Rockport, Texas – Charm of the Texas Coast; Memorial Park, Rockport Community Aquatics and Skatepark, and the Rockport Police Department. Like and follow us for the latest news, information and special events.

## Transparency

*(continued from front page)*

<https://rockport-tx.cleargov.com/>. The Revenue section covers a 10-year period starting in 2010 with comprehensive graphics and breakouts by funds. The Expenditures section also offers a breakout by funds and the ability to personalize the experience by inserting one's own property tax numbers. Financial information in these sections may be downloaded for viewing at a later date.

The Demographics section provides an overview of population data developed by ClearGov through Census figures and the American Community Home Survey. The data currently runs through 2018 and will be automatically updated when the newest numbers are available.

Also added is a "Capital Improvements Program" page to the City Government tab. The first component is for the construction of the Key Allegro Bridge. Each program will have an overview, timetable, funding sources, and expenditures. Individuals may sign up for email updates.

"This enables individuals to access specific fund information without having to read through the full budget document and allows them to compare apples to apples from one year to another," noted City Manager Kevin Caruth. "We're pleased to share with our citizens and demonstrate the City's continued leadership in government transparency."

## Kudos to City Departments

**Police Department** has once again been awarded the “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” status from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Recognition Program. Begun in 2006, the Recognition Program evaluates a Police Department’s compliance with over 166 Best Business Practices for Texas Law Enforcement. RPD is one of 171 agencies out of 2,786 in Texas to be recognized and one of only 93 to be recertified.

**Gas Department** received a “95 % performance rating” from the Texas Municipal League’s Inter-governmental Risk Pool’s (TMLIRP) Gas Utility Survey. This program is intended to assist TMLIRP members with risk management and operations issues and to address potential risks associated with the gas distribution system prior to inspections by regulatory agencies. According to TMLIRP, the City’s rating demonstrates its commitment to safety and efficiency. Only 27 cities in Texas have received a score of 95% or more for ten or more years in a row.

**Building and Development** was selected by the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association for its 2020 Richard R. Lillie, FAICP Planning Excellence Pro-

gram, which recognizes planning excellence in municipalities throughout the State. Rockport was one of 30 government entities to receive the recognition and the only municipality in the Coastal Bend. This is the second year in a row the Department has received the award.

**Finance** has received its 17th consecutive Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United State and Canada (GFOA). According to GFOA, the award represents a significant achievement in that it reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. Rockport joins 1,673 governments nationwide who have receive the award and one of only 188 in Texas (including 151 cities). Additionally, for the 16th year in a row, Rockport has been awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United State and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). Rockport is one of only 433 public entities in Texas to receive the award and one of just 329 U.S. cities with a population under 10,000.



*Pipeline is laid out along Fulton Beach Road in preparation for the relocation of utilities to Key Allegro.*

## May Elections

Ward 1 and Ward 3 positions are up for election on May 1. Filing dates are January 13 – February 12, 2021. Elections packets may be downloaded from the web site (<https://cityofrockport.com/362/Elections>) or picked up by contacting the City Secretary via phone or email.

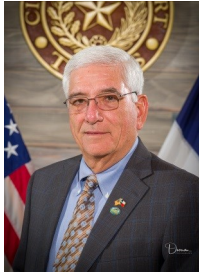


**Shop Rockport—  
Keep your retail  
sales taxes working  
at home**

**2021 calendars for residents’ trash and recycling services** are posted on the City’s web site (<https://cityofrockport.com/Archive.aspx?AMID=149>). Individuals who are unsure of their exact pickup dates may refer to the map, which is located with the calendars, to determine the day of the week they receive service. For additional questions, please contact Utility Billing Customer Service at 361-729- 2213, extension 234

## Rockport City Council

Mayor



Pat Rios

Ward 1



Michael Saski

Ward 2



J.D. Villa

Ward 3



Bob Cunningham

Ward 4



Andrea Hattman

**Remember — The City web site offers the latest news and information. Also, you can pay your utility and municipal court bills online through the City's website.**

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## Who Do I Call If ...

Illegal Dumping in Progress	729-1111
Illegal Dumping After the Fact	790-1125
Emergency	911
Non-Emergency Public Safety	729-1111
Utility Bill/Trash Questions/Concerns	729-2213 x 234
Street Issues and Repairs	790-1160
Sewer, Water and Gas Issues	790-1160
After-Hours	729-1111
City Administrative Offices	729-2213 x 253
Building and Development Dept.	790-1125



2751 State Hwy 35 Bypass  
Rockport, Texas 78382  
Phone: (361) 729-2213  
[www.cityofrockport.com](http://www.cityofrockport.com)

For additional questions or concerns, visit the "FAQs" or "Fix It" sections on the City's web site ([www.cityofrockport.com](http://www.cityofrockport.com)) or call City Hall at (361) 729-2213.