

Rockport Transcript

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF ROCKPORT

After the Flood – and Moving Ahead City of Rockport Undertaking Major Repairs

Measurements from the major rain event in July range from 19 to 28 inches (nearly a year's worth!) and caused considerable damage to roadways, businesses and neighborhoods throughout the city. Once emergency repairs were completed and the area began to dry out, the City's Public Works Department launched a documentation process and developed a plan for restoration.

The three major components included drainage, potholes and sinkholes. Each was assessed for safety issues, severity, size, and potential causes, including the steps necessary to alleviate the issue.

Due to staffing and equipment restraints, as well as the need to



provide normal, daily service, the City contracted with outside vendors to speed up the process. A contract of \$124,000 has been let to fix sinkholes within the City. The contractor for street sweeping, who was selected earlier in the year, began work in mid-August to remove the silt and sediment that remain on the roadways throughout the city. Estimated cost for street sweeping is \$47,250.

Approximately \$93,000 has been allocated to an outside contractor, that has brought in track-hoes, bulldozers, and other equipment to dredge and clear out drainage ditches, swales, and other stormwater runoff paths.



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Budget and Tax Rate

In September, City Council approved a revised budget and a tax rate of \$0.392720 for fiscal year 2021-2022, which began on October 1, 2021. This should bring in approximately \$200,000 more than the previous year with much of the money coming from new property added to the tax rolls in 2021.

Individuals with a residence valued at \$250,000 will pay \$981.80 in property taxes to the City for FY 21-22. This is lower than the previous year (\$1053.22) at the same valuation. Additionally, Council has earmarked \$975,000 from the Community Disaster Loan (CDL) for

drainage and storm water management projects throughout the City. The CDL is a \$5 million loan from the federal government that was taken out after Hurricane Harvey. It is a very, low interest loan with the possibility of forgiveness and ends in FY 2022-2023.

After the Flood

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According to Public Works Director Mike Donoho, one of the biggest surprises coming out of the flooding disaster was the appearance of sinkholes. More than 30 sinkholes have been identified so far with the causes ranging from broken pipes to groundwater and oversaturation to dissolving materials. Repair on these issues may require additional time as repairs are completed and fill material is added, compacted, and allowed to settle to ensure stability before being topped with the proper material.



CodeRED™

The City, County and Town of Fulton all participate in an Emergency Notification System called Code RED. During an emergency, the system will send a message to those who are in the database. To be included, residents **must** register

Visit us on the Web
@ www.cityofrockport.com

Future Capital Improvement Projects

1. Concho Street Drainage – A \$2,139,989 bid was approved September 14 and is expected to be given the notice to proceed around the week of October 11. This is part of the 2017 Master Drainage Plan and is funded from the 2020 Tax Notes.

2. CDBG-DR (Disaster Recovery) Drainage Projects –Currently under review by Texas General Land Office. Projects include Traylor - Tule (\$1,189,172), South Ann & East Hackberry (\$661,621), Market & Church (\$377,824), and Sabinal, Ann, & Orleans (\$3,775,120). All four projects are on the 2017 Master Drainage Plan. The remaining two projects are (1) Drainage Basin 39 to clear debris and install larger drainage crossing under Loop 1781 and demolish, regrade, and install erosion controls, and (2) replace the bulkhead on City-owned property on Nassau Drive.

3. Hazard Mitigation Drainage Projects – Two grant funded projects go out for bids in mid- 2022. Both projects are on the 2017 Master Drainage Plan and include SH 35 Business at Enterprise and Maple and Enterprise at Live Oak, Omohondro, and Stadium

4. Doughty & Mathis Colonia Grant Projects – Working jointly with Aransas County as the grant recipient, the project will provide first-time sewer service to the Doughty & Mathis Colonia in the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction in two areas. This includes the 600 and 800 blocks of South Kossuth and on Doughty, Kossuth, Verne, and Fuqua Streets from about the Ruby Allen Ditch to Eighth.

For more information on these and other Capital Improvement Projects, please visit the City's Web site.

SAVE THE DATE



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

with the system. You can choose to enter up to a combined total of five different phone numbers (landline and cell) or email addresses. To sign up, please go to the City's web site for a direct link, visit <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/C3F2FDDE07FB> or text ARANSAS to 99411 to enroll.

P.D. Expands Marine Capabilities



Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Operation Stonegarden, the Rockport Police Department was able to replace its 20-year-old boat with a first-in-class law enforcement patrol vessel. Named "Invictus," the vessel was built by Shallow Sport Boats of Los Fresnos, Texas. The Police Department worked with Shallow Sport for over a year on the design and the vessel is the first in a new law enforcement line for the company.

Able to operate in shallow and deep water at speeds up to 55 knots, the vessel is 28' in length and is powered by twin 300HP Suzuki dual-prop outboard motors. It replaces a 22', 200 hp Trans Sport boat and will dramatically reduce response time—from Cove Harbor Marina to Copano Bay will now be 10 minutes vs one hour with the

previous vessel.

According to Police Chief Greg Stevens, the acquisition is part of the Department's desire to provide additional services that complement the City's marine environment. "We'll be enhancing our marine patrol activities and adding extra protection and training for officers, including flotation/rescue devices in all vehicles; mandatory swimming and search and rescue protocols; and operation of the vessel and fire-fighting equipment," Stevens noted. "We're very appreciative of the 100 Club providing additional funds to fulfill our mission."

The new vessel will enable the Police Department to better assist other law enforcement and safety organizations including the volunteer fire departments, Coast Guard, and Texas Parks and Wildlife," he added.



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

Fall Yard Waste Pickup

Hand pick up of **bagged** leaves and grass clippings begins on November 3 and continue for four weeks. Each household may put out up to 12 bags per week of grass clippings; leaves; thatch; tree trimmings (limbs less than 4" in diameter); and garden waste, including plants, flowers, landscape vegetation, vegetative garden waste, windfall fruit and brush

Residents with Monday or Tuesday trash days, will have their yard debris picked up on Wednesdays (3rd, 10th, 17th and 22th). Those with Wednesday or Friday collection, will have their bags picked up on Saturdays (6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th).

Please note: Waste bags should be no greater than 35 gallons; Trash cans will not be serviced; and no stumps, dirt or large limbs are allowed.



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

Rockport City Council

Mayor



Pat Rios

Ward 1



Katy Jackson

Ward 2



J.D. Villa

Ward 3



Brad Brundrett

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

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