



CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

AUGUST 19, 2016

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City Council Updates: The next work session is Aug. 22, 6 p.m., in the Civic Center. City Council will also have a meeting on Aug. 23, 6 p.m., in Council Chambers. City Council [agendas and supporting documents](#) are available for viewing. Citizens may also view the meeting at <http://leaguecitytx.swagit.com/city-council/> or on Comcast Ch. 16.

2016 Major League Quidditch Championship: Sixteen Quidditch teams from across the nation and Canada will descend upon League City this weekend, Aug. 20 to 21. With broomstick in hand, they will compete at Hometown Heroes Park for the coveted Benepe Cup in the 2016 Major League Quidditch Championship.

Weekend Passes (\$20), Single-Day Passes (\$15), and VIP Passes (\$100) are available. Children age 5 and under receive free admission to the event. Tickets will be available on-site.

Additional details are available at www.visitleaguecity.com or on the city's social media sites.

Water in League City: The City is currently experiencing an above average frequency of water quality (WQ) calls related to earthy/musty odor and taste. The City confirmed that the source of the issue is from the treated water from the City of Houston's (COH) South East Water Purification Plant (SEWPP), which produces 90 percent of League City's surface water supply. An email received from COH, dated August 12th, confirms

that SWEPP is current receiving an influx of raw water from the Trinity River that is creating a nuisance pass-through treatment problem and is contributing to an area wide increase in water quality complaints. Similar increases in WQ calls are occurring in neighboring communities, as well.

Two natural occurring taste and odor compounds, geosmin and MIB, are produced by elevated concentrations of actinomycetes and blue-green algae from abnormally high run-off events and seasonal temperature. Although naturally occurring geosmin and MIB create a displeasing taste and odor, they do not pose a threat to health or safety.

Currently all chemical and biological testing required to ensure the regulatory compliant and safe delivery of drinking water to our customers, meets Federally mandated primary drinking water standards.

Operational responses currently include flushing areas of concern to ensure that proper levels of disinfection residuals are maintained through-out the event. If residents have a concern regarding their water, they should call (281) 554-1041 or email mike.moreno@leaguecity.com.

Pedestrian bridge by Ross Elementary closed: A recent inspection of the pedestrian bridge that crosses Newport Ditch has been determined to be unsafe for pedestrian traffic. The bridge has been closed due to safety concerns. The city understands the concerns of residents as this is a route to school for individuals residing within the Newport Subdivision.

City engineers are working to obtain quotes for the purchase of a new bridge and would like to thank you in advance for your patience as we work to address this safety concern.

New computer system: The city recently procured MUNIS Software from Tyler Technologies, a computer software system focused on enhancing customer service for residents, businesses and city employees. The system replaces IBM Application System/400 (AS/400), a program used by city staff since 1989, to manage vendors, city financials, vendor payments, payroll, utility billing, purchasing, and aspects of code enforcement, building and planning. The new software allowing city staff to operate more efficiently and effectively with self-service functions for vendors, residents and employees goes live Oct. 1, 2016.

Five Corners project update: Transportation has been a major topic of discussion for some time, particularly, the area known as Five Corners where FM 518, FM 270 and FM 2094 intersect. City staff has begun executing plans to alleviate traffic congestion around Five Corners with construction expected to begin in September. The city recently acquired possession of the six properties necessary to begin the project which includes building demolitions within the coming weeks like the old Mattress Firm location. The Five Corners Project was first discussed in 1992.

Downtown Revitalization project update: Downtown revitalization has been a discussion item for more than 40 years amongst council members, the community and city staff with the original concept being advanced in 1974. A proposal to revitalize the city's downtown area and capitalize on the city's rich history was presented to and approved by City Council in May 2016. City Council also approved the creation of a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone and an action plan related to the Community Development Block Grant Program to help move the revitalization project forward.

City representatives and engineering design professionals have been addressing concerns and gaining public input as they further develop the design review standards to bring the project to fruition. The League City community should expect to see utility and asphalt work to reconstruct ailing road and sidewalk areas and the burying of overhead utilities within the near future. The city is currently rehabilitating the wastewater system along Main Street as part of annual wastewater investment and in preparation for these future improvements.

FY 2016-2017 Budget Public Hearing. League City's proposed budget of \$192.2 million for fiscal year 2016 to 2017 was delivered to City Council July 11.

The budget places focus on League City's long-term vision and capital investment needs.

Under this proposal, League City residents would not see any changes to the property tax rate of \$0.5735 per \$100 valuation. Additionally, funding would be provided by increased fees and sales taxes discussed by City Council and staff earlier this year and \$3.7 million in the general fund balance.

Major initiatives from the proposed operating budget are:

- A focus on capital improvement reinvestments for League City's infrastructure and municipal facilities renewal;
- Funding for eight additional full-time positions;
- A new fire pumper;
- Night-time staffing stipend for the League City Volunteer Fire Department;
- A comprehensive salary and job classification study.

A public hearing and first reading of the budget ordinance is set for Aug. 23. The second reading for the budget is scheduled for Sept. 13 and, if approved, will be adopted at that time.

A full copy of the budget, including City Manager Mark Rohr's letter of transmittal to Council, is available for review at the Helen Hall Library and www.leaguecity.com/budget.

Flashers for School zones to be activated: School zone flashers will begin flashing two weekdays prior to the actual start of school at all Clear Creek Independent School District and Dickinson Independent School District campuses. Flashers for private schools will begin the first day of school.

Early activations of the school zone flashers allow the city time to ensure everything is working correctly and/or make repairs before the first day of school. Testing of the flashers will also occur throughout the next few weeks for testing purposes.

School start dates:

1. St. Mary's Catholic School – Aug. 10
2. Bay Area Christian School – Aug. 16
3. Odyssey Academy – Aug. 16
4. Clear Creek Independent School District – Aug. 22 (Begin Flashing Aug. 18)
5. Dickinson Independent School District – Aug. 24 (Begin Flashing Aug. 22)

Report any problems with school flashers to traffic@leaguecity.com or (281) 554-1199.

2016 Traffic Signal Timing Optimization project: Traffic congestion is one of the challenges we face as League City continues to grow. The city has contracted with Kimley-Horn and Associates to develop and implement optimized signal timing plans along some of the major corridors within the city in an effort to improved traffic mobility and reduce congestion and delays.

A total of 40 intersections along FM 518, FM 646, FM 2094, League City Parkway, and SH 96 will see improved signal operations as a result of these efforts.

League City residents should expect to see the signal timing implementation project start in late August and completed by the end of October.

The implementation of this timing will be completed in phases with the initial focus along FM 518 between Maple Leaf Drive to SH 3. Phase 2 of the project will focus on FM 518 and part of FM 2094; Phase 3 will focus on FM 646 and SH 96. The phases and timing plans are developed based on traffic data collected, existing signal operations, traffic modeling, and operational analysis. New signal timings will be customized to handle the varying traffic demands during the morning, mid-day, off, and evening peak times and weekend traffic.

Once completed, residents will see less delays, shorter travel times and improved traffic flow along the roadways.

Leisure Lane and Orange Grove repairs: The City's Street Department began phase two of major repairs on Leisure Lane and Orange Grove (near the intersection of Leisure Lane and Orange Grove) the week of Aug. 16. Officials expect completion by mid-August; however, the work will necessitate some delays during this time. Delays will be short in duration.

Engineering services and construction inspection fees: League City Director of Engineering, Earl Smith, and City Leaders announce a new ordinance to establish Engineering Services and Construction Inspection Fees.

On July 26, 2016, the League City City Council gave final approval of **Ordinance 2016-23 (Engineering Services and Construction Inspection Fees)** with an effective date of October 1, 2016.

This Ordinance requires Developers of all new public infrastructure improvements to pay an inspection fee calculated as 2% of the cost to construct public improvements. The inspection fee would be determined and collected at the time of approval of public infrastructure plans.

Developments that have submitted a Preliminary Plat prior to October 1, 2016 will not be required to pay the Engineering Services and Inspection fees, provided that the public infrastructure plans have been submitted by April 1, 2017.

A copy of this Ordinance can be found on the Engineering Department's page on the City's website (www.leaguecity.com). Developers and Engineers are encouraged to call the **Engineering Department at (281) 554-1445** with any questions.

Rain barrel sale: The City of League City will host a rain barrel sale in an effort to promote the City's Rainwater Harvesting efforts and promote the conservation of water resources.

Through the Rain Barrel Program, residents of League City may purchase 'Ivy' rain barrels at a discounted price of \$65 until Oct. 16, 2016 at www.rainbarrelprogram.org/leaguecity.

Rain barrels help conserve water resources by harvesting rainwater for use in gardens, lawns and washing cars. The use of barrels also helps protect the City's water quality by capturing rainwater from household downspouts and preventing the water from carrying potential contaminants into the City's storm drains.

The 50-gallon rain barrels are available for purchase through the program's website. The ordered rain barrels will be available for pick-up on Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. to noon at League City Public Works, 1535 Dickinson Ave., League City, TX. A receipt for proof of purchase will be required.

Paws and Claws Adopt-a-thon: The League City Animal Shelter will host Paws and Claws Adopt-A-Thon on Aug. 29 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park.

Adoption fee is \$25 and approved adopters will be able to take their new friend home the same day. Adoption fee includes sterilization, micro-chip, rabies vaccination and other useful items; a package worth hundreds of dollars. These shelters are bursting at the seams with adoptable animals because summer is when intake is the highest and adoptions are the lowest.

The area's legendary Ring of Fire Cooking Team will be serving their award winning smoked meats. Beverages and baked treats will be available. With over 40 pet related and other vendors displaying their wares; there will be something for everyone. Additional activities include face painting, League City Police k-9 demonstrations, League City Fire Department and a mega raffle provided by local businesses where you do not need to be present to win.

Visitors are encouraged to bring donations of dog /cat food, litter, bleach, dawn, paper towels, used towels and any pet supplies.

The City is still looking for volunteers for the day of the event. For more information or to volunteer contact Jasmine.Honore@leaguecity.com, (281) 554-1377 or visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/156648988073767/>.

Candidate filing date: Filing dates for candidates interested in running for Council Member Positions 3, 4 and 5 in the upcoming General Election are July 25, 2016 to Aug. 22, 2016. Additional information to include the Candidate's Packet is available at www.leaguecity.com/electioninformation.

Solid waste service report: The City Council and Republic Waste Services amended the solid waste agreement by including a penalty for missed residential solid waste services on Dec.3, 2014. The solid waste service report generated by Republic Waste Services and the City Staff is available at: July: <http://leaguecity.com/DocumentCenter/View/14244>.