

CITY OF DESOTO

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

WEEKLY UPDATE

July 17, 2020

Projects of Community Interest

VIRTUAL MEETINGS | As the City continues to work through the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, City Council Meetings will continue to be held virtually through the month of August. Virtual meetings will help provide for safety and peace of mind for the public to engage in the City business.

MEADOWBROOK ESTATES PROJECT | The construction of the trail is now complete with some upgrades that will start the first part of August. These improvements will include an irrigation system, flowers, and signage.

DESOTO NATURE TRAIL | This project is 90% complete and will be finalized by the end of next week. The grand opening will be tentatively scheduled for the last week in July or the first week in August.

2020 RENOVATION AND REPLACEMENT PROJECT | This annual project replaces aging water and sewer lines and reconstructs street pavements. The project is divided into two phases. Phase

one, at \$1.2 million, will replace approximately 7,600 feet of water and sewer lines along Meadow Brook Estates and Mantlebrook Farms subdivisions. This project is scheduled to begin on July 20 and scheduled for completion by December. Phase two of the project will reconstruct the streets portion of the project where the replacements are conducted. The streets included are: Clubbrook Circle, Pebblebrook Drive, Thunderbrook Circle, Windingbrook Drive, Meriweather Place, and Meadowbrook Drive.

SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM | Staff is contacting the 52 pre-approved businesses to request final submission of all required documentation in order to provide funding. A second round of applications will be accepted July 20 through July 31. Notices were posted on the City's website, social media platforms, email lists, and news release to advise businesses of the second-round grant opportunity. The City has funding for approximately 31 additional businesses in this program.

Project Updates

CITY RESPONSE TO COVID-19 | The American Airline Center mobile testing units were relocated to the University of Dallas. Walmart continues to offer drive-through testing daily from 7:00 AM through 9:00 AM. DC3 Church will remain open for testing every Wednesday from 9:00 AM through 12:00 PM. Methodist Charlton drive through testing is by appointment only Monday through Friday 9:00 AM through 1:00 PM. Ellis Davis is no longer federally funded. Dallas County will be administering testing as of July 14. Chief Duffield is the Incident Commander of the site and Battalion Marcus Jennings

is the site Branch Director. DeSoto Police is coordinating personnel for scene security and safety. As of today, there are 504 DeSoto addresses with positive cases and 711 individual positive cases.

STRATEGIC PLANNING | The Strategic Planning Steering Committee, which includes the City Council and other staff participants, are half way through the required planning sessions. The remaining sessions will be conducted on July 18 and 22. Once the sessions are completed, the consultant will prepare the final strategic plan.

RENTAL REGISTRATION ORDINANCE | Due to COVID-19 restrictions, staff cancelled the in-person public rental registration meeting previously scheduled for July 16. In order to accommodate virtual sessions, the Development Services Department will host three virtual meetings for the public on August 6, 13, and 20. Participants will need to register in advance to attend the virtual meetings by sending their names and choice of two virtual meeting dates to RRProgram@desototexas.gov. The ordinance is anticipated to be considered at a September City Council Meeting with an enforcement date of April 2021.

MIRKES PARK NAMING | The Parks Board voted to name the new park and trail area currently under construction in the Mantlebrook neighborhood Mirkes Park after the family who originally owned the land and donated it to the City of DeSoto. Consistent with City policy on naming parks, the name will come to the City Council for consideration at the July 21 City Council Meeting.

Weekly Events & Meetings

July 18 Strategic Planning Sessions 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM (Video Conference)	August 4 City Council Work Session & Meeting 6:00 PM (Video Conference)
July 20 City Council Topical Work Session 6:00 PM (Video Conference) Topics: Women and Minority Owned Business Enterprise Policy, Council Pay & Summer Retreat Preparation	July 24 Fourth Friday Concert – Gospel Review 8:00 PM (Virtual)
July 21 City Council Work Session & Meeting 5:30 PM (Video Conference)	August 7 City Council Summer Retreat 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM (Virtual Conference)
July 22 Strategic Planning Sessions 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM (Video Conference)	August 8 City Council Summer Retreat 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM (Virtual Conference)
July 23 City Council Budget Workshop 6:00 PM (Video Conference)	August 17 City Council Topical Work Session 6:00 PM (Virtual Conference)
July 24 City Council Budget Workshop 9:00 AM (Video Conference)	August 18 City Council Work Session & Meeting 5:30 PM (Virtual Conference)
July 27 DeSoto Economic Development Corporation Regular Board Meeting 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Video Conference)	August 22 Household Hazardous Waste Event 7:00 PM to 11:00 AM (Westmoreland Pump Station)
July 28 DeSoto Police & Community Together (PACT) Town Hall 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM (Video Conference)	August 28 Fourth Friday Concert 8:00 PM (Performer TBA)

New Hires, Promotions & Recognitions

NEW HIRES

NAME	START MONTH	DEPARTMENT	POSITION
Lewis, Becky	July	Administration	Executive Assistant to City Manager
Schroeder, Gregory S.	July	Utilities	Utility Billing Clerk - Senior
Hunt, Brian O.	July	Development Services	Building Official
Aguilera, Christopher A.	July	Parks & Recreation	Senior Maintenance Worker - Parks

