

DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

DeSoto City Council Approves a Plan to Offer Credits to Residential and Commercial Utility Customers

At their May 19, 2020 meeting, the DeSoto City Council approved a plan to provide payment relief to City of DeSoto utility customers impacted by the COVID-19 shutdown. The plan has three components:

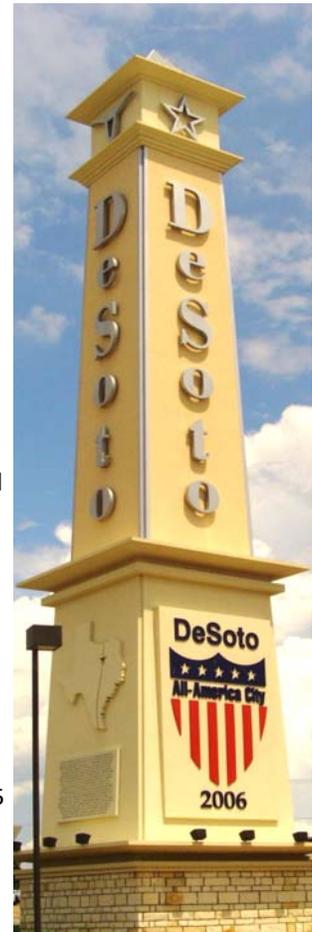
- a free month of water and sewer charges for those receiving the senior discount
- others who don't receive the senior discount can apply to receive a credit of up to \$40 of their deposit which will be applied as a credit to their bill
- a free month of water and sewer charges for businesses who were deemed non-essential

Senior citizens who are registered to receive the 65+ utility bill discount will receive a credit on their statements due in July. This credit will be equal to the amount of their June, 2020 water and sewer charges. Please note, the credit is only for the amount of water and sewer service incurred in June. All utility bills also have charges for refuse and drainage that will appear on the bill in addition to the credit.

Others can have up to \$40 of their utility deposit applied to their account as a credit. In order to receive the \$40 deposit credit, customers will need to apply for it no later than August 31, 2020. Go to <http://www.desototexas.gov/WaterDepRefund> or call the Utility Billing office at 972.230.9627 for more information. This credit will be reflected on the next billing statement immediately following application.

The free month of water and sewer credit also applies to brick and mortar businesses in DeSoto that were deemed nonessential and were not allowed to remain open under the Governor's emergency declaration. Those nonessential businesses are eligible for a credit equal to the water and sewer charges on their June water bill. To see if you qualify for the nonessential businesses credit, please contact the utility billing department at 972.230.9627.

The senior credit for water and sewer charges incurred in June has already been applied to those accounts registered for the program. However, if you are a City of DeSoto utility customer and a senior and have not registered to receive your senior discount, it's not too late to do so, just apply prior to August 31, 2020. You must be 65 years of age or older, and currently reside at the property where service is provided to receive the monthly discount on your water bill and to also receive the one-time free month credit. The form to request this discount and instructions for applying are online at <http://www.desototexas.gov/SeniorCitizenDiscount>. Please make application for your senior citizen discount prior to August 31, 2020 to receive the free month credit. If you have any questions regarding these special credits or your water service, please call the Utility Billing office at 972.230.9627.



The entire DeSoto City Council stood as Council Member Candice Quarles read a resolution from the Mayor on behalf of the Council and the City condemning the murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and many others; affirming the right to peacefully protest and recognizing that BLACK LIVES MATTER. And in a sign of unity Mayor Curtistene McCowan presented her copy of the resolution to Police Chief Joseph Costa while Mayor Pro Tem Kenzie Moore presented his copy to City Manager Brandon Wright.

City Calendar

July

3 City Facilities Closed - Independence Day
6 Arts Commission Mtg. virtual - 6 pm
6 Park Board Mtg. virtual - 6:30 pm
7 City Council Mtg. - virtual - 6 pm
9 Library Board Mtg. virtual - 7 pm
14 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - virtual 6 pm
21 City Council Mtg. - virtual - 7 pm
24 Adrien Butler - virtual concert
27 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall 9 am
28 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - virtual 6 pm

August

3 Arts Commission virtual - 6 pm
3 Park Board Meeting - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
4 City Council Mtg. - City Hall 6 pm
6 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
11 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
18 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 6 pm
24 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am
25 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 7 pm
28 Fourth Friday Virtual Concert - 8 pm



Our annual Household Hazardous Waste Event has been rescheduled. Bring your Household Hazardous Waste to the DeSoto Pump Station located at 620 S. Westmoreland Rd. from 7 am to 11 am on Saturday, August 22, 2020. This event is for DeSoto residents only, proof of residency is required. Only residential household hazardous waste will be accepted, commercial waste or electronics are not allowed. Due to limited space, those who would like to participate must register prior to the event by calling 972.230.9600 or appearing at the Action Center in DeSoto City Hall to request a voucher.

Republic Waste Has Resumed Bulk Waste Collection

City of DeSoto waste hauler, Republic Services, resumed limited bulky waste collection service of up to 4-cubic yards per residence per week in mid-June. Given the anticipated backlog of bulky materials to be collected, Republic implemented a weekly limit of 4-cubic yards per household. Four-cubic yards of bulky waste is equal to four (4) washing machines, a very large couch plus, two refrigerators, etc. Placing a limit on bulky waste enables Republic to collect a small amount of bulky materials from each household, while allowing crews to complete their routes without negatively impacting the collection of standard household waste.

Acceptable Bulky Waste items: furniture, mattresses, refrigerators which have had CFC's removed by a certified technician, water tanks, washing machines, stoves, water tanks, and washing machines. Unacceptable Bulky Waste Items: Construction debris, bricks, concrete, dead animals, tires, Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) such as batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, solvents, paint, pesticides, herbicides, automotive fluids, cleaning chemicals, Electronic Waste (E-Waste) such as computers, printers, copiers, televisions, stereos, etc. For greater details on Bulky Waste items visit: <http://www.ci.desoto.tx.us/552/TrashRecycling-Information>.

Virtual Town Hall Meetings To Discuss A Proposed Rental Registration Ordinance

The DeSoto City Council is considering the adoption of a Rental Registration Ordinance that will be applicable to all single family and duplex rental properties located within DeSoto. The proposed effective date of this ordinance is January 1, 2021.

There will be three opportunities to attend a virtual public information meeting regarding the proposed ordinance and the implementation process. The public is encouraged to attend one of these meetings in order to receive detailed information on the proposed ordinance and how it may affect properties in DeSoto. This is also your opportunity to ask questions and provide input.

Due to the pandemic, several virtual public meetings will be held in order to give everyone, who is interested, the opportunity to participate. Virtual meetings are limited to 135 participants so you must register for your preferred meeting in order to be guaranteed a spot. Here is a list of the virtual meeting dates:

- Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 6:30 pm (Register by Monday, August 3, 2020)
- Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 6:30 pm (Register by Monday, August 10, 2020)
- Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 6:30 pm (Register by Monday, August 17, 2020)

To register to attend one of these meetings, please send an email to RRProgram@desototexas.gov including your full name and two (2) meeting date choices (a primary and secondary choice). A meeting link will be emailed to you directly. If you have a specific question, please include it with your email registration so that we can be sure to address it in the presentation.



The DeSoto Arts Commission will soon embark on a project to commission public art that emphasizes our community's commitment to the Black Lives Matter movement. Watch this newsletter for updates on the process as they become available. For more information, call Kathy Jones at 972.230.9648 or send an email to kathy.jones@desototexas.gov.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Project to Replace Aging Water and Sewer Lines and Reconstruct Streets Will Begin in July

Phase 1 of the 2020 Renovation and Replacement (R&R) project is scheduled to begin in July 2020. This is an annual project that replaces aging water and sewer lines and reconstructs street pavement (see map below). This project will be constructed in two phases. Phase 1, valued at \$1.2 million, will replace approximately 7,600 feet of water and sewer lines along select streets in the Meadow Brook Estates and Mantlebrook Farms subdivisions. The utility lines will be installed using a construction method that will minimize disturbance. Phase 2 of the project will

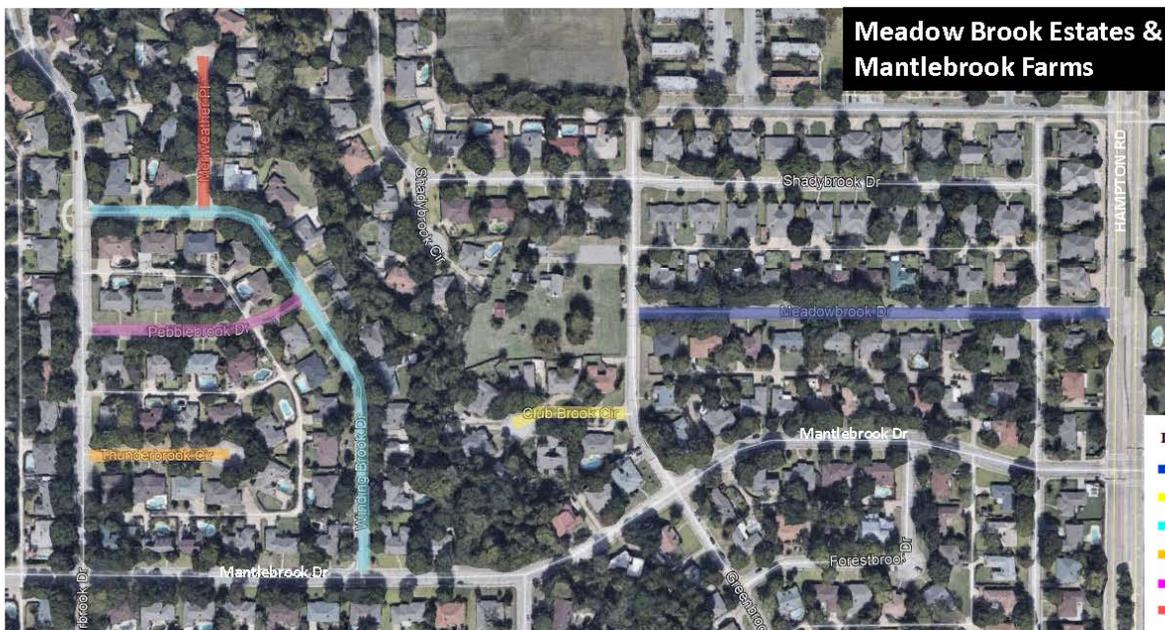
reconstruct the streets where the utility lines were replaced. The streets included in the 2020 R&R project are: Clubbrook Circle, Pebblebrook Drive, Thunderbrook Circle, Windingbrook Drive, Meriweather Place and Meadowbrook Drive. The City awarded the Phase 1 construction contract to No-DigTec, LLC. Phase 1 construction is expected to be substantially complete by December 2020. The City will bid and award a separate contract for Phase 2 construction. For more information please call (972) 230-7309.

A Message From Code Enforcement

DeSoto City Ordinance states that It is unlawful for any person who owns, possesses, keeps or harbors any animal other than a domestic cat, to permit such animal to run at large within the corporate limits of the city. The local animal control authority, any peace officer or any animal control officer is authorized to impound any animal running at large.

(Ordinance 1400-01 adopted 07/17/07) The first conviction of this article for running at large shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$100 but not more than \$2,000. The second conviction of this article for running at large shall be subject to a fine of not less \$200 and not more than \$2,000. The third conviction of this article for running at large shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$2,000. The fourth and subsequent convictions of this article for running at large shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$2,000. To report a code violation, please call the Code Enforcement office at 469.658.3075.

2020 RENOVATION & REPLACEMENT PROJECT



LEGEND

█	MEADOWBROOK DRIVE
█	CLUBBROOK CIRCLE
█	WINDINGBROOK DRIVE
█	THUNDERBROOK CIRCLE
█	PEBBLEBROOK DRIVE
█	MERIWEATHER PLACE

DESOTO ARTS COMMISSION PRESENTS:

FOURTH FRIDAY MUSIC SERIES LIVESTREAM

7.24
8:00 PM

Gospel Concert
ADRION BUTLER+
KIM WASHINGTON • CARDELL BOOKER • CHRIS WESLEY

artsdesoto.com

DESOTO ARTS COMMISSION
FOURTH Fridays

FITNESS CENTER REOPENING | MAY 26

BOOK YOUR VISIT

CONTACT US AT
972.230.9655
WWW.DESOTOTEXAS.GOV/PARKS

NOW ENROLLING FOR THE 20-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Looking for an educational advantage for YOUR CHILD?

DeSoto ISD's **Selective Enrollment** option is an admissions-based opportunity for academically-dedicated students (K-12) who reside outside of DeSoto ISD.

DESOTO ISD ENCOURAGES EARLY COLLEGE AND CAREER EXPLORATION THROUGH OUR STRATEGICALLY DESIGNED CURRICULUM.

YOUR CHILD WILL EXPERIENCE...

- COLLEGE AND CAREER EXPLORATION STARTING IN GRADES K-2
- ACADEMIC AND CAREER EXPOSURE IN GRADES 3-5
- ACADEMIC PATHWAY SELECTION BY 6th GRADE
- GRADUATION ENDORSEMENT SELECTION BY 8th GRADE



Let DeSoto ISD provide your family the educational experience YOUR child deserves.

APPLY TODAY AT DeSotoISD.org/Enrollment

Selective Enrollment Applications Will Close - July 29, 2020.

200 E. Belt Line Rd. | 972.223.6666 | www.DeSotoISD.org

A Message from DeSoto's Veterans Affairs Committee:

DeSoto's monthly in-person Benefit Forums are currently suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. But we will continue



providing information to our Veterans **VIRTUALLY** so please watch for our Virtual Veterans Benefit Forums on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10 am on the City of DeSoto Facebook Page @desototx, on the city's website at www.desototexas.gov and on Government Channel 16 for Spectrum Cable subscribers and 99 for AT&T Uverse subscribers. We also have access to knowledgeable professionals and would be happy to assist you in connecting with them for assistance. Just give us a call at 972.230.9648 and we will do our best to connect you to someone who can help.