



APRIL 2025

WATER WISE



MARCH IS TEXAS
SMARTSCAPE MONTH

To celebrate, the City is providing a new idea each day for a beautiful yard that is more tolerant to our North Texas climate.

Follow along on the City's
Facebook and Instagram accounts.
All 31 tips will be posted after
March 31 at heathtx.com/waterwise. You can also get more ideas
at txsmartscape.com, just scan the
OR code.



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

HAPPY SPRING!



With warm, sunny days ahead, my family looks forward to enjoying the activities our premier outdoor lifestyle lakeside community offers - sailing, boating, fishing, golf, tennis, biking, horseback riding - or just taking time to watch a sunset at Terry Park.

The Great Outdoors is a big part of what makes Heath special, and this month I want to share actions taken recently to nurture our semi-rural, lakeside atmosphere.

At the February 25 meeting, the City Council approved acquiring 21.3962 acres of land located in the Town Center Overlay District at 305 Laurence Dr.

Funded by the Heath Economic Development and Municipal Benefits Corporations (HEDC/HMBC) with local sales tax revenue, the purchase preserves open space within the heart of our community and protects it from undesirable development (this is why it's important to spend in Heath whenever possible).

With the State Legislature considering bills that may take away our City's zoning and property rights, this is a significant investment in the long-term best interests of Heath. Fondly known as the "goat house" and owned by the Jackson family since 1990, this property is a part of our history that embodies the farming roots we treasure.

We thank the amazing HEDC/HMBC Board for this investment; you can learn more on page 3.

Another group of citizens worked many months to update the 2018 Comprehensive Plan, a document that guides future growth through a stated vision and goals that are translated into City ordinances and regulations.

It is a best practice to update the City's Comprehensive Plan every five to 10 years, but I assure you the original intention for maintaining a low-density, beautiful community through "rural by design" principals is unwavering. The final draft of the plan will be posted for citizen input in April prior to consideration and action by the City Council. *Continued Page 3...*

ELECTIONS

GENERAL ELECTION: MAY 3

On the Ballot: City Council Places 1, 2, 4 & 6 Deadline to Register: April 3

Early Voting: April 22 - 29 (No voting on April 21 or April 27)

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Heath Preserves
Over 21 Acres of Open Space



The Heath City Council approved the acquisition of just over 21 acres of land located within the Town Center Overlay District at 305 Laurence at its February 25 meeting.

Directed by the Heath Economic Development and Municipal Benefits Corporation (HEDC/HMBC), the purchase is funded by sales tax to preserve open space within the heart of the community and to protect the property from undesirable development.

"This property is a Heath landmark that has been owned by long-time beloved residents since 1990," said Mayor Jermiah McClure, who serves as Ex Officio on the HEDC/ HMBC Board. "We are pleased to preserve this treasure that is a part of our community fabric."

"While our mission is to expand the sales tax base for Heath's economic vitality, it is to do so without altering the distinctive culture of our semi-rural community that we all love," said Justin Saunders, President of the HEDC/HMBC.

"This project falls within our mission, and with Austin encroaching on our local rights, City ownership protects the long-term interests of our community."



The HEDC/HMBC Board will be exploring the highest and best uses for the property. Citizen input is welcome.

ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY

Protecting Property and People



For the safety of property and residents - including our pets and livestock - the Heath Department of Public Safety has issued a reminder that fireworks are strictly prohibited within City limits.

- Violations are subject to up to \$2,000 in fines.
- To report the use of fireworks, call 972-771-7724.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

The Finance Department is updating and improving the utility billing system this spring.

The ability to pay your monthly bill by credit or debit card draft will be restored, and the process for paying online will be improved.

Watch for announcements in the next newsletter, or call 972-771-6228, Option 2, if you have questions.



The City now offers locally controlled emergency alert and notification systems.:

Heath NIXLE: To receive emergency alert messages from the City, text "75032" to 888777 and register.

TextMyGov: To receive non-emergency messages from the City text "HEATH" to 91896. Reply "YES" to confirm opt-in. For customer service, text one or two keywords to 972-961-1997.





MAYOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

I thank Richard Anderson, Thomas Bishop, Katie Dyer, Wayne Gordon, Jason Thompson, Mike Zilinskas; and Councilmembers Scott Dodson and Brent Weaver for working with myself and City staff on this important project.

As an example of how the Comprehensive Plan guides actions, the City Council unanimously passed new City ordinances that aggressively sustain open spaces and high-quality residential development on January 14, 2025.

An Open Space definition was added to the Subdivision regulations and includes the requirement that the residential lots in a neighborhood be within 800 feet of a dedicated trail, park or open space.

Other additions respond to citizen concerns about repetitive housing styles. To encourage distinctive



design, the City will not issue a building permit for any new home that is similar in appearance to any home within 5,280 feet - one mile - from the nearest property line in any direction. Previously, the non-repeat distance included in the 2005 ordinance was 400 feet.

It's rewarding to volunteer with so many fellow citizens who share a passion for ensuring that Heath is what the Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement evokes:

"A lakeside community of premier neighborhoods with open green spaces, parks and trails, cultural amenities, an exemplary educational system, and distinctive economic development in order to provide the highest level of public services - a place to call home for a lifetime."

I hope to see you outside at the Heart of Heath 5k/Family Run on April 19!

Jeremiah McClure, Mayor, City of Heath



There will also be coffee and healthy refreshments, giant family games, music and some friendly competition like the annual tug of war rematch!

This event benefits Heath's parks and trails system.

2025 EVENT SERIES SPONSORS



Attorneys & Counselors









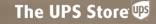


















HEATH TOWN CENTER
BY YOUNGER PARTNERS

Blue Ribbon News | Keeper's Press | Oncor | Karen Wydra/Ebby Halliday, Realtors

QUESTIONS