



CITY OF HEATH UPDATE

★★★★ **SAVE THE DATE**
INDEPENDENCE DAY
IN HEATH
THURSDAY, JULY 4TH | SEE PAGE 3

JULY
2024



Mayor Jeremiah McClure



Councilmember Ryan Moorman

NEWLY-ELECTED MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS TAKE OFFICE

Newly-elected Mayor Jeremiah McClure and Councilmembers Ryan Moorman and Scott Dodson took the Oath of Office at the May 14 City Council meeting with family members by their side.

FIRE FLOW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN ACCELERATED

A Fire Flow Capital Improvement Plan to solve deficient water lines and fire hydrants in numerous areas of the City has been accelerated from a 10-year timeline to a 5-year completion timeline without a tax impact to citizens.

The identified projects are located within service areas that were purchased by the City of Heath and did not have adequate fire flow protection when purchased. Upgrades will ensure a minimum 1500 Gallons Per Minute (GPM) fire flow.

Eleven projects listed below have been compressed into the 5-Year plan. The design for Darr Estates will be completed this fall with construction beginning by winter 2025.

Upgrades have already been completed in Antigua Bay and Cove Ridge. The Rabbit Ridge area has also been connected to the City of Heath system with new water lines to complete its transition from the RCH water system.



Councilmember Scott Dodson

During the annual budget process, which begins in June, Council may vote to re-prioritize the project schedule. The recommended budget for the 11 projects is \$11.5 million.

FIRE FLOW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN TIMELINE 2024-2029

- Darr Estates – Year One (current)
- Candlelite Park – Year Two
- Twin View – Year Three
- Sunny Estates & Halford – Year Three
- Moraine – Year Three
- Myers Road – Year Four
- K&K Subdivision – Year Four
- Las Lomas Loop – Year Five
- Hilltop Estates – Year Five
- Kyser Springs Road – Year Five
- Dwyer Court & Serenity Lane – Year Five



CITY LAUNCHES NEW COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES

The City of Heath is excited to expand communication with citizens through these new initiatives:

- Video shorts including the bi-weekly City Manager City Council Meeting Recap
- A City of Heath Public Information Channel on YouTube
- Easier Access to the Citizen/Contractor portals and Receive Notification sign-up on the front page of the City website with an improved customer experience
- Expanded outreach to Heath businesses and HOA contacts via email updates
- Expanded use of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram social media channels
- A news flash feature on the front page of the City website

Additionally, a Push Notification System to enable the City to quickly reach all Heath utility customers via text/phone/email with emergency alerts and news is in the proposed budget for FY 2024-2025. Also in the proposed budget is a warning siren system.

The budget process begins in June, and citizens are encouraged to attend and participate in the upcoming meetings and public hearings. City meetings, agendas, minutes and recordings are posted at heathtx.com. You can sign up to get notifications when agendas are posted on the City's website. Just look for the "Receive Notification" button on the front page.

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR HOMETOWN!

Would you like to help make a difference in Heath? City Council will be filling openings on the Park Board, Heath Economic Development/Municipal Benefits Corporation Board and the Board of Adjustment this summer. You can find a link to the online application under the Quick Docs section on the City website homepage, or by scanning the QR code. Please submit your application by June 29. Questions: contact City Secretary Norma Duncan at nduncan@heathtx.com.



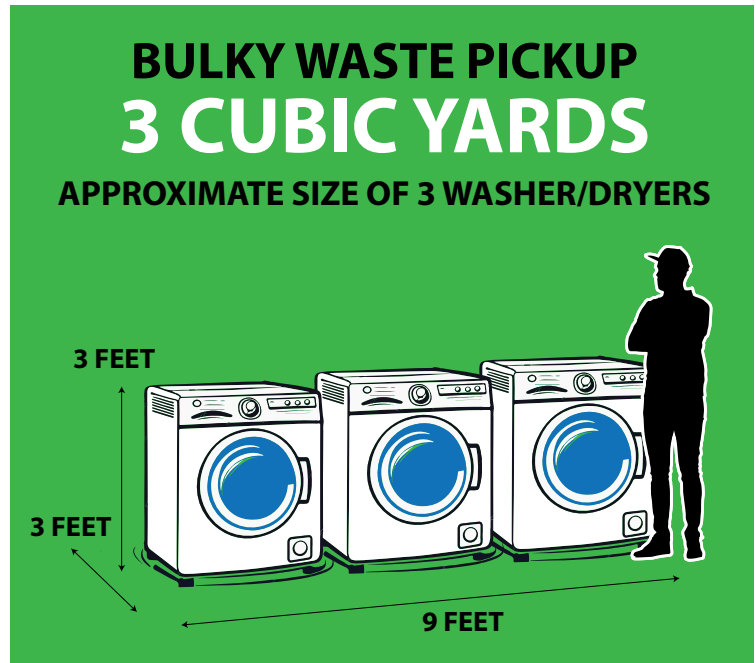
HEATH STORM DEBRIS CLEANUP UPDATE

Waste Connections began picking up the tree limbs and brush from the May 28 storm the week of June 2. To assist citizens in cleaning up after this unforeseen incident, the City is subsidizing 50% of each customer's bulky brush waste pickup fee for anything over the first free 3 cubic yards during the two weeks following the storm. (June 2 - June 15.) If it takes longer for Waste Connections to collect the storm debris, this time frame will be extended.

The graphic below shows what 3 cubic yards looks like. The reduced bulky brush pickup for the storm cleanup response will be included on the July utility bills.

The sum earmarked for this subsidy is significant, due to the large lots with many beautiful mature trees that were damaged or lost. Staff estimates the total cost could reach \$35,000 or more. These funds will come from the Solid Waste fund balance, which through conservative practices, has the capacity to provide emergency relief.

If you have questions, please contact Waste Connections at 972-289-6714 or the City at 972-771-6228.



WHAT ABOUT THE ROCKWALL COUNTY DISASTER DECLARATION?

The main purpose of such a declaration is to accelerate the ability to request emergency assistance from the State, such as calling in the Reserves, and bypassing standard (but lengthy) purchasing procedures to quickly obtain things such as fuel, generators, food for workers - and then later try to recover some of those emergency response expenses.



INDEPENDENCE DAY IN HEATH PARADE IS THURSDAY, JULY 4

The City of Heath will celebrate freedom on July 4 with its annual parade and an opening ceremony honoring our veterans and active military.

The ceremony will take place at 9 a.m. in front of City Hall and feature a live barbershop quartet. Complimentary popsicles and cold drinks will be served.

All Heath Veterans and active military are invited to be recognized during the short ceremony and then ride or walk with the Veterans' Float in the parade immediately afterwards. If you have questions or need assistance getting to City Hall on July 4, please contact Suzanne Brooke at sbrooke@heathtx.com. Please encourage the veterans and military members in your life to come be honored during this patriotic tradition.

There is no entrance fee for the parade, but registration is required. Scan QR code above.

GET YOUR HEATH PATRIOTIC SWAG!

Order the 2024 spirit swag online by June 23 to pick up in time to wear to the parade! Scan the QR code above.

SCHEDULE STAGING & AWARD JUDGING: 8 A.M.

Amy Parks-Heath Elementary School, 330 Laurence Drive
Entrance to staging areas will close at 8:45 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONY: 9 A.M.

City Hall/Fire Bay, 200 Laurence Dr.

PARADE: 9:10 A.M.

Please plan ahead for traffic delays on July 4. The intersection of Laurence Drive and FM 740/FM 1140 will be closed during the parade from approximately 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PARADE | OPENS JUNE 1, CLOSES JUNE 27

Scan QR code above.

2024 SPECIAL EVENT SPONSORS



NEW PATH INITIATIVE: SOW HEATH IS AUGUST 19

A new PATH initiative to SOW Heath with Texas native, drought tolerant wildflowers is underway! The first planting is scheduled for August 19 in three sites and will be done by volunteers and staff under the direction of 38-year Heath resident and wildflower expert, Jerry Shipe.

BENEFITS TO "SOW HEATH"

- Economical Beautification Project
- A "Texas Heritage" Project that Supports Heath's Semi-Rural Image
- Year 1 of Sowing Reaps 2 Additional Years of Expanded Growth before Established
- Year 1 = 30-40% Bloom; Balance of Blooms over Year 2 and Year 3
- All Blooms are Perennial to Provide Years of Beauty
- No Watering Needed; Ever
- No Maintenance Needed; Ever

PILOT PROJECT SITES

- City-owned land at Heath Crossing & FM 549 entry (not in flood plain area)
- The Reserve - 20 acres owned by the HMBC along Chris Cuny/Hawk Drive
- If the pilot project is successful, future sites to include City trails

HOW CITIZENS CAN PARTICIPATE:

- You are invited to the first sowing on August 19 at 6 p.m. to learn first-hand from Mr. Shipe how to sow seeds at your property. Meet at the round-a-bout on Chris Cuny and Hawk Drive.
- You can order seeds from the same vendor to be used for the PATH planting:
Wildseed Farms, wildseedfarms.com, 830-990-8080
- How much coverage you are seeking will determine how much seed to purchase. Prices range from \$60 per pound of bluebonnet seeds that will cover an acre, to a few dollars for a small packet of seeds to cover 10 sq. feet.



TIPS AND REMINDERS FOR YOUR HOME THIS SUMMER

Summer is a popular time to start residential improvement projects, but many require City permits including:

- Fences
- Storage Sheds over 120 square feet
- Retaining Walls 2 feet or higher
- Swimming Pools/Irrigation Systems
- Interior Remodels/Additions
- Outdoor Kitchens/Fireplaces
- Septic System Replacements/Repairs
- Cabanas/Guest Houses
- Sea Wall Repairs/Replacements/Boat Houses
- Roofing
- Window Replacements
- Foundation Repair
- Miscellaneous Plumbing, Electrical or Mechanical Work

You can apply for a permit via the Citizen's Portal on the front page of the City's website. If you have questions, contact Community Development at 972-961-4883.

CALL EMERGENCY: 911 | NON-EMERGENCY UTILITY/AFTER HOURS: 972.771.7724