

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE November 27, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 26, 2019**

## Updated Items

### [Encampment Resolution Schedule – November 26, 2019 & December 3, 2019](#)

The Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) has scheduled the following sites for homeless encampment resolution:

November 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	December 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3387 East R L Thornton Freeway West Bound (District 2)</li><li>• 2600 Taylor Street. (District 2)</li><li>• 2300 South Harwood Street (District 2)</li><li>• 1200 West Mockingbird Land (District 2)</li><li>• 7920 North Stemmons Service Road, North Bound (District 2)</li><li>• 7903 Brookriver Drive (District 2)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• John West Carpenter at Regal Row (District 6)</li><li>• 1529 North Edgefield Avenue (District 6)</li><li>• Shiloh Road at East Northwest Highway (District 9)</li></ul>

OHS Street Outreach team will continue to engage with homeless individuals to provide notice of clean-up and connect to resources and shelter. OHS Community Mobilization staff are meeting with stakeholders to determine long-term sustainability of encampment sites and will provide periodic updates. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager, and Monica Hardman, Director of Office of Homeless Solutions.

## New items

### [Road Closure & City Hall Power Interruption](#)

There will be a road closure ahead of a planned power interruption. The road will be temporarily used to house a power generator during the power interruption. The U-turn lane from the east parking garage exit to S. Ervay Street will be closed on Monday, November 25, 2019 through Sunday, December 1, 2019. The lane is expected to reopen on Monday, December 2. During this time, Browder Street will remain open as well as the main exit on Young Street.

Please note the removal and replacement of the main power distribution panels at Dallas City Hall will begin after hours on Wednesday, November 27 to Sunday, December 1, 2019. No power will be available for daily operations at City Hall. If you are scheduled to

DATE November 27, 2019  
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 26, 2019**

work, your supervisor will have additional instructions. Critical Infrastructure including 911 (Dallas Police Department), Dallas Fire Rescue, Dallas 311, Office of Emergency Management and IT Services will not be affected. Should you have any questions, please contact Ted Giovi, Project Manager, Office of the Bond at 214-670-4006.

### Deck the Plaza

As previously communicated, we are excited for the return of Deck the Plaza: City Hall Lights, a free holiday celebration on Friday, December 6, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. The festive, family-friendly event will include a Texas-sized tree lighting, a Winter Wonderland experience, and a special arrival from the big man himself...Santa Claus.

Deck the Plaza is a free event open to the public that kicks off a weekend of special holiday events across the City. To reserve seating for you and your special guests, please submit your RSVP to Carrie Prysock no later than December 4, 2019. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff.

### Bulk and Brush Collection Update

As of Tuesday, November 26th, all Bulk and Brush Collections have returned to "on schedule" status. Crews are now collecting in Week 4 areas, the current scheduled week. Week 4 collections should be complete by Saturday, November 30th, so that Week 1 collections begin on schedule, Monday, December 2nd. Following the October 20, 2019 tornado, bulk and brush collections were suspended in order to deploy strike teams to the disaster affected areas. Sanitation crews along with up to 20 contractors have been working 6-7 days per week in an effort to return to normal schedule. Code Compliance will resume normal bulky trash violation procedures in December. Should you have any questions, please contact Tim Oliver, Interim Director of Sanitation Services at 214-671-8222.

### MLK Scholarship Essay Contest

The **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Essay Contest** will award scholarships to graduating high school seniors or first year students accepted or currently enrolled in a 2-yr College, 4-yr College, or Trade School. The essay must be original, and will be evaluated on organization, content, syntax, grammar, and overall conformity to the event theme: "**Linking Many Cultures Together for One Dream.**" All essays must be typed, follow APA formatting, and must be submitted by **5 p.m., Friday, December 13, 2019**. Scholarship winners will be notified by **Wednesday, January 6, 2020**. Winners will be asked to attend and participate in three events hosted by the City of Dallas during the MLK Commemorative Celebration Week (**MLK Candlelight Ceremony** (Friday, January 17, 2020); **MLK Scholarship & Awards Gala** (Saturday, January 18, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Hilton Anatole Hotel); and **The 2020 MLK March/Parade** (Monday, January 20, 2020). The application is available at <https://dallasmlkcenter.com/mlk-scholarship/>. Should you have any questions, contact Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager or Jessica Galleshaw, Director of Office of Community Care Director.

DATE November 27, 2019  
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 26, 2019**

### [Chariot Village Dallas Project](#)

The Housing Department is pleased to provide an update on the Chariot Village Dallas project. Dirt is flying as twelve homes have been completed and eleven are under construction. The development will have 53 homes ranging from 1,400 to 2,400 square feet and priced between \$214,000 to \$234,000. Thank you, Builders of Hope, Camden Homes, and Greenleaf Ventures for partnering with the City of Dallas on this project. <http://chariotvillagedallas.com/>

### [MCC Security Digital Desk Sign-in: Vendor Acknowledgement](#)

Effective November 2019, the digital sign-in at the MCC security desk includes a requirement for guests to report if they have a pending bid or proposal for a contract with the City. Guests with a pending bid or proposal are prohibited from lobbying councilmembers for the contract. The change is being implemented in partnership with the Office of Procurement Services as part of the City's enhanced efforts to ensure transparency and compliance throughout the procurement process. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carrie Rogers, Director of the Mayor and City Council Office, or Chhunny Chhean, Director of Procurement Services.

### [Fall 2019 Operation Beautification Event](#)

The Fall 2019 Operation Beautification Event took place on Saturday, November 2, 2019. Leading up to the event, due to the tornado in North Dallas on October 20, 2019, active recruitment and registration was suspended to enable City services to focus on the affected areas. Registered groups were contacted and made aware of anticipated trash pick-up delays and asked to consider discarding collected debris/trash themselves or cancelling their events. We are happy to announce that of the 47 registered groups, 23 opted to continue with their neighborhood cleanup events while contributing to the City's tornado response by discarding collected trash themselves. The Fall 2019 Operation Beautification Event summary report is available [here](#). For more information please contact Peer Chacko, Director of Planning and Urban Design.

### [Media Inquiries](#)

As of November 25, 2019, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- Workers Compensation Laws for Firefighters with Cancer Questioned
- Cooking Ventilation System Fire Shuts Down Popular Design District Restaurant
- NBC 5 to Cover What Thanksgiving Holiday at the Fire Station is Like
- Two Safely Escape from South Dallas House Fire
- Hilton Anatole Evacuation After Fire in Boiler Room
- Part II of WFAA 8's Cancer in the Fire Service

DATE November 27, 2019  
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 26, 2019**

Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the November 18<sup>th</sup> – November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for your reference. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff.



T.C. Broadnax  
City Manager

c: Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim)  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager  
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer  
Michael Mendoza, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Laila Aleqresh, Chief Innovation Officer  
M. Elizabeth Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion  
Directors and Assistant Directors

**Public Affairs & Outreach  
Media Requests  
November 18 – November 25**

**Date Submitted:** 11/20/2019

**Topic:** Dallas Animal Services (DAS) protocol on loose/stray dogs

**Inquiry:** Dallas Morning News requested a Q&A with a DAS staff member to discuss how DAS deals with strays, statistics on strays, and the process when a person gets attacked by a dog. This question was not directly related to the South Dallas attack that happened on Nov.15. DAS Field Manager Ann Barnes spoke with the reporter at 2 p.m. In addition to the interview, Whitney Hanson provided the reporter with a [link](#) that included statistical information.

**Submitted By:** Demeshia Jackson and Whitney Hanson (Dallas Animal Services)

**Media Entity:** Nataly Keomoungkhoun (Dallas Morning News)

**Date Submitted:** 11/20/2019

**Topic:** Number of breed dogs being picked up by Dallas Animal Services (DAS) via the Dallas90 Shelter Service System.

**Inquiry:** Dallas Morning News had a follow up question regarding the number of dog breeds being picked up by the department and the progress using the Dallas90 Shelter Service System. They provided a [link](#) to a story that mentioned Dallas90 efforts. The Dallas90 Service System is still in the development stage with a proposed 2020 launch date. DAS explained how complex the breed number breakdown is because visual dog breed identification is proven to be unreliable. The most reliable generalizations DAS can make are related to dog size. DAS was able to provide data related to dog size.

**Submitted By:** Demeshia Jackson and Whitney Hanson (Dallas Animal Services)

**Media Entity:** Nataly Keomoungkhoun (Dallas Morning News)

**Date Submitted:** 11/20/2019

**Topic:** Illegal dumping in the Bishop Arts area

**Inquiry:** Demond Fernandez with WFAA asked about dumped furniture, household trash, construction debris, food and brush at the corner of S. Vernon Ave and Sunset Street. Code Compliance Services removed the debris the same day. WFAA was informed there was no record of the debris being reported by residents and residents should report illegal dumping to 3-1-1 by phone or online.

**Submitted By:** Roxana Rubio (Code Compliance Services)

**Media Entity:** Demond Fernandez (WFAA)

Dallas Fire-Rescue Department  
Media Requests: November 18<sup>th</sup> – November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>: WFAA 8 (from City PAO, Anastasia Reed)** - Below are the questions I received from the WFAA reporter who's doing a story on firefighters with cancer. I drafted responses for 2 and 4, but they may need to be reviewed. Jason, can you make sure 5 is accurate or provide a more accurate response? I'd like to have these back to the reporter **by 5 p.m. today.**

1. What is the process for workers comp in the city of Dallas if a firefighter is diagnosed with cancer?
2. Was the city in support of Senate Bill 2551 this past year, where firefighters and EMT's in Texas can get worker's compensation if diagnosed with a specific type of cancer – 11 listed? **The City of Dallas follows all laws set forth by State and Federal levels.**
3. How many firefighters have applied for worker's comp because of cancer? How many have been granted and denied?
4. How much has the city spent on worker's comp for firefighters with cancer?
5. Overall comment on the situation of firefighters getting cancer? I know the city is investing in a 2<sup>nd</sup> set of gear to help firefighters! **The City's FY 2019-2020 budget invests heavily in public safety and first responders. This budget will allow the City to purchase a second set of personal protective equipment and a complete replacement of self-contained breathing apparatus for firefighters. Dallas Fire-Rescue continuously evaluates protective gear to ensure our firefighters are safe.**

**City Response** – The following joint response was sent, on Wednesday 11/20, after review by the CAO:

**QUESTION 1:** What is the process for workers comp in the City of Dallas if a firefighter is diagnosed with cancer?

The workers' compensation process is the same for all City employees who claim to have a work-related injury or illness:

- Once a City employee notifies his direct supervisor, superior or a workers' compensation coordinator, the injury/illness claim is reported to the City's third-party administrator (TPA) Tristar.
- Tristar completes and submits a DWC 001 form to the State.

- Workers' Compensation Coordinator contacts the employee within 24-hours of notice to provide and discuss a selection of a treating doctor from the City's workers' compensation health care network provided by Injury Management Organization (IMO). This may include an out-of-network approval process if the employee sought medical treatment prior to notifying the City.
- TRISTAR has 60 days to determine if the claim is compensable. **Employee would receive medical treatment during these 60 days.**

**QUESTION 2:** Was the City in support of Senate Bill 2551 this past year, where firefighters and EMT's in Texas can get worker's compensation if diagnosed with a specific type of cancer – 11 listed?

Still working on finding additional information for this question.

**QUESTION 3:** How many firefighters have applied for worker's comp because of cancer? How many have been granted and denied?

55 cancer claims filed  
12 cancer claims accepted  
43 cancer claims denied

**QUESTION 4:** How much has the city spent on worker's comp for firefighters with cancer?

\$2,609,989.14

**QUESTION 5:** Overall comment on the situation of firefighters getting cancer? I know the city is investing in a 2nd set of gear to help firefighters!

Since 2005, when the Texas Legislature adopted the presumptive cancer law, Dallas Fire-Rescue has had several members who have died from cancer recognized as Line of Duty Deaths, but we know the impact is much larger.

DFR has dedicated a number of departmental resources toward cancer prevention and supporting those who've been diagnosed. Everything from wellness exams (before and during employment), to workers compensation, to counseling support of firefighters and their families, to additional equipment and procedural changes have been made in an effort to reduce exposure to cancer causing agents as well as the recurrence of this deadly disease.

Going forward, the department has plans to change its firefighting gear to types that filter out hazardous particles and keeps the particles from getting onto the firefighters' skin. Additionally, we have employed gross decontamination procedures that all members undergo after fighting fires. Extractors (large washing machines for firefighting gear) are located throughout the department to clean firefighting gear, in addition to regular washing machines used to clear their duty uniforms while at the station. We also provide professional cleaning and inspection of firefighting gear; and using funds from the City's FY 2019-2020 budget, we will buy each firefighter a second set of firefighting gear so that they can change into "clean" gear after every fire and send the dirty set out for cleaning.

**NOTE: The responses are to be used in the second part of a long-form piece WFAA 8 if doing on the prevalence of cancer in the fire service. Part 1 aired on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, and Part 2 is scheduled to air on Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>: Dallas Morning News (Sarah Blaskovich) -** I'm hearing there was a 3- or 4-alarm fire at Town Hearth, a steakhouse in the Design District, tonight. The address is 1617 Market Center Blvd, Dallas, TX 75207. What can you tell me about the fire? Were there any injuries? What was the cause of the fire? What was the damage?

I'll take information as soon as you're able to get it.

**City Response** - On Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, at 18:19, Dallas Fire-Rescue units were assigned to a 911 call for a structure fire at the Town Hearth restaurant, located at 1617 Market Center Boulevard, in the Dallas Design District.

When firefighters arrived at the location there was a light smoke throughout the restaurant, and all occupants (customers and workers) had evacuated. They went into the kitchen to find the remnants of a kitchen fire that made its way into the overhead cooking ventilation system. They were able to make quick work of what the fire suppression system didn't extinguish on its own, and declare the fire extinguished with 30 minutes.

According to investigators, people working in the kitchen stated that the fire began on a grill and quickly made its way into the overhead cooking ventilation system where it continued to spread through the length of the system before making its way to ventilation exit at the roof of the restaurant.

The fire resulted in no structural damage to the restaurant and was isolated to the ventilation system.

**Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>: NBC 5/Telemundo (Cynthia Garcia) -**

I hope this email finds you well. We would like to do a story on First Responders spending Thanksgiving at the fire house. What do they do? Who prepares the food and what they are thankful for?

Can you help me with this? English and Spanish interviews would be great.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

**City Response** – After consulting with the Station, I arranged for them to visit Fire Station 18 on Thanksgiving Day.

**Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>: NBC 5/Telemundo (Karen Ballesteros)** - Do you have any information on the fire at Wood Valley and Crocker Hill? We know police is currently on scene talking to the family affected on this fire.

**City Response** - At [14:22](#) Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for a 1-Alarm structure fire at a home located, on the 2500 block of Wood Valley Drive, in near the intersection of W. Illinois Avenue and S. Cockrell Hill Road.

When firefighters arrived at the one-story residence there was smoke coming from the roof of the home.

Firefighters moved in for an offensive fire attack and found fire in the attached garage, which had already gotten into the attic space and begun to spread laterally. Despite the advanced stages of the fire, attack teams were able to quickly knock the flames down and declare the fire extinguished in under half an hour.

There were two people, a woman and her daughter, in the house when the fire began, but they were both able to make it out safely.

Investigators were able to determine that the fire was accidental in nature, and most probably the cause of improperly discarded smoking materials left inside the garage, where another occupant (the Son), who had recently left from the garage, was known to go for a smoke.

**Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>: WFAA 8 (Alyssa Woulfe) and KRLD (Austin York)** - Anything noteworthy about the reported fire at The Anatole Hotel?

**City Response** - According to on-scene personnel, there was a small fire in a boiler Room located at the back of the hotel. Reportedly the fire had self-extinguished by the time firefighters arrived at the location. Staff at the Anatole went through their normal procedures and begin evacuating the hotel prior to our arrival. There were no injuries reported, the fire was isolated to the boiler Room and units have already begun to clear from the scene.

**Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>: WFAA 8 (Tiffany Liou)** – Part 2 of her long-form piece about the prevalence of cancer in the fire service aired during the 5 o'clock news cast. It can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.wfaa.com/article/news/law-helps-firefighters-workers-comp-cancer/287-052a4e15-0bd4-4eba-ae16-7f08f2ec868c>