**Dear D13 Neighbors,**

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| You likely saw news headlines around the City Council vote to give City Manager TC Broadnax a raise. **I, along with four other Council colleagues, did NOT vote in favor of this raise**. You’ll recall that in June, there was discussion of whether he would continue in his role. After all of the hubbub around that, it was decided that all Council-appointed employees (City Manager, City Attorney, City Secretary and City Auditor) would be reviewed in August after Council’s annual July recess. The Mayor also asked for, and received, a 100-day plan from the City Manager. With that plan still underway, it did not seem justifiable to give him a raise—and I voted accordingly. I am watching progress against the 100-day goals as well as operation of all 43 City departments, along with what it means to be an executive-level leader. On December 8th, the City Council voted in a bright new day of ethics enforcement in Dallas. CM Willis joined the Mayor in signing a new ethics pledge. In March, the City's first Inspector General, Bart Bevers, was hired. He needs to staff his department -- and **I support his proposed budget for 2022-2023**. Some fellow councilmembers submitted an amendment that would TAKE from his budget. Though I agreed with the need for more community prosecutors, I did not support taking the funds for them from the Inspector General's inaugural budget. Finally, it’s amendment season for the 2022-23 City budget. I’ll do a budget rundown once all amendments are approved/denied, but **I’m over the moon that my amendment to have the Vickery Park Library open 7-days a week passed Council’s vote**. Many city libraries and rec centers are relatively close to one another, but not in Vickery Meadow. The library is the only city resource and serves almost 30,000 people within a 1 mile radius.  1. Mile. I am very appreciative of my colleagues consideration of the case I laid out. 14 other city libraries will move to being open 6-days per week, with the remaining libraries budgeted to move to 6-days in the 2023-24 budget. The D13 office has had a very high volume of emails and calls over the past few weeks. If you have not heard back on a request - please let us know at district13@dallascityhall.com. The newsletter has a lot of good information on how code works, storm debris removal, and more -- so read on!**Take care,****Gay****National Night Out on October 4th**Is your community hosting an event for National Night Out on October 4th? The District 13 team wants to join!**Please** **send us an email** **and let us know the time, location, and run of show for the event** -- we will be attending multiple events that night, so an agenda for the evening will help us plan our route!**Coyotes In Dallas: What You Need to Know** |

Want to know about urban coyotes in Dallas? If you need to know who to call, hazing tactics, and best practices, [check out the resources on the Dallas Animal Services website.](https://www.bedallas90.org/coyotes/)

At the neighborhood meeting on coyotes two weeks ago, it was made clear that you should not feed coyotes -- this even means leaving your pet food outside or feeding feral cats. It lures coyotes to your neighborhood. Also, it is important to make noise and wave your arms if you see one. Otherwise, they get comfortable approaching people -- which can be dangerous for children and adults! Staff emphasized that **all** neighbors need to participate in these coyote hazing tactics, otherwise it will not be effective.

**Temporary Fire Station 41 Is Now Open!**

**Temporary Fire Station 41 at Royal & the Tollway**
On Wednesday, August 31st, DFR officially opened Temporary Fire Station 41, and the D13 was present as the official call came in over the radio! While construction has ended, the firefighters still need some items to settle in.

Firefighters work 24 hour shifts. When they are not responding to calls, they live at their station—which in this case is a modified construction trailer.

They cook, shower, sleep, train, and relax while they are on shift. Temporary Fire Station 41 is now open, and we would like to help them get equipped with some of the comforts of home.

CM Willis delivered some basic items, but if you are a neighbor who would like to show your support, **please consider donating to their Amazon Wishlist**, which can be found by [clicking on this link](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/MLMHHB2DIEXE?ref_=wl_share). They are most excited to have more coffee!

*This fire station will be operational while the permanent Fire Station 41 is being built. City Council is set to vote on the revised Station 41 contract this Wednesday, September 14th.*

**What to Do In September In Dallas**

Excited for football season? Want to squeeze every last drop of summer fun out of your schedule? Looking to get fall started early? Simply want a good meal? [Check out Visit Dallas' recommendations for what to do during a Dallas September.](https://www.visitdallas.com/things-to-do/dallas-now/2021/08/what-to-do-september.html)

**Honoring Queen Elizabeth II**

Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson and His Majesty’s Consul General in Houston Richard Hyde invite you to the lobby of Dallas City Hall on **Friday, September 16,** to mark the opening of the condolence book for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The public is invited to sign the condolence book beginning at 11am. Parking is available behind City Hall.  Call the D13 office if you need special assistance with parking. The lobby is open until 3:00pm.

**Code Compliance 101: Understanding How Code Is Enforced**

The City of Dallas has a lot of codes to follow - from the height of your grass to the level of noise you are permitted to make. Dallas Code Compliance has officers out in the city each day, responding to complaints and proactively addressing code violations they see. But what does that actually look like? See the FAQ below:

**Q: How does filing a code complaint work?**
A: When you [submit a service request](https://dallascrm.force.com/public/servicetypes) through our 311 system, the clock begins. Your service request (SR) is routed to the proper department - in many cases, Code is the department responding to an assortment of concerns. They provide an estimated response time, and a code officer is dispatched to the scene to investigate.

**Q: What does a code officer do when responding to a complaint?**
A: Code officers investigate concerns to determine whether a code violation has taken place. From there, they may issue a "notice of violation" to offenders, or they may simply just have a conversation focused on educating citizens regarding the code. A notice is not like a ticket; it simply alerts the offending party that there is an issue that needs to be rectified. If the offending party does not address the code violation within the time frame given on the notice, they are then subject to a citation. A citation is then referred to a department called "Nuisance Abatement," which will address the code concern and then charge the offending party for costs incurred.

**Q: I did not know I was committing a code violation. Should I be worried?**
A: No, you should not be. Code officers understand that in many cases, people either do not know they are committing a violation or do not know how to address those violations. The notices they issue are simply that: notices. They serve to alert you to code violations so that you can address them. Code officers can help you understand what you need to do, and how to get it done. They also can use discretion to extend the time period for compliance, should you be attempting to address the concern but are unable to do so within the set window. Neither you nor the officer wants to see a citation issued. Code officers want to help, and they appreciate your kindness, understanding, and cooperation!

**Q: The code violation I reported has not been fixed. What is next?**
A: The Service Request ticket should provide a timeline by which the violation is addressed. However, in many circumstances, the code officer is working with the violator to address the issue, and that may take time. Please be patient, but feel free to follow up with the code officer for an update. If you are not able to get a response, please let the D13 office know and we will follow up.

For more information regarding Dallas Code Compliance, [click here.](https://dallascityhall.com/departments/codecompliance/Pages/default.aspx)

**Storm Debris Disposal**

Sanitation customers with storm-related debris may utilize Sanitation's [monthly brush and bulky item collection service](https://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/default3.aspx), subject to program rules and limits, or may self-haul waste to the landfill or a transfer station at *no cost*.  Residents may also use debris removal services of a private company.

For brush and bulky items placed at the curb for Sanitation collection, please continue to follow set-out rules [found here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdallascityhall.com%2Fdepartments%2Fsanitation%2Fpages%2Fbrush_and_bulky.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Cjames.anderson1%40dallas.gov%7Cb23f2b5b970d420cf79c08da91aca1bf%7C2935709ec10c4809a302852d369f8700%7C0%7C0%7C637982467879117544%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3yN6xA47omPpfWMIcsGfhYX51uFmJJhZmd8t%2BJTaQXI%3D&reserved=0).  Customers may claim a once annual 20-cubic yard, oversize set-out by calling 311 the week in advance of their normal collection week.  A collection fee will be assessed to a dwelling unit's utility account for non-compliant setouts.

Resident's electing to self-haul waste to the landfill or a transfer station should review rules, limits, and facility hours of operation [found here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdallascityhall.com%2Fdepartments%2Fsanitation%2FPages%2FLandfill-and-Transfer-Stations.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Cjames.anderson1%40dallas.gov%7Cb23f2b5b970d420cf79c08da91aca1bf%7C2935709ec10c4809a302852d369f8700%7C0%7C0%7C637982467879117544%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FeevzeAYrQS82Dw66tVkPeR9HNLYqafOzQATZqGQPWU%3D&reserved=0).

Sanitation is in communication with the Office of Emergency Management and the Department of Public Works to identify areas severely impacted by the recent storms and will assist as appropriate.  Impacted residents are encouraged to report storm-related damages to the Texas Division of Emergency Management [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdamage.tdem.texas.gov%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cjames.anderson1%40dallas.gov%7Cb23f2b5b970d420cf79c08da91aca1bf%7C2935709ec10c4809a302852d369f8700%7C0%7C0%7C637982467879273770%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=t%2Fu0jdMIm7thh0zYpBswhC2E%2FE6NFM7VlbWcCsO0CSc%3D&reserved=0).

**4th Annual Branch Out Dallas**

Dallas residents can participate in the **fourth annual Branch Out Dallas Tree Give-Away program**. The program gives Dallas residents a FREE five-gallon tree for their yard. Residents will be able to choose from six locations to pick-up their tree. Trees benefit the urban environment by cleaning the air and cooling our city. Trees may be reserved until September 30 or until supplies last.

Register at: [**Branch Out Dallas**](https://dallascityhall.com/departments/waterutilities/Pages/branch-out-dallas.aspx)

**Dallas Animal Services: Adoptable Pets**

[**Domingo (#A1126162)**](https://adopt.adopets.com/pet/71052373-3be9-4ced-9275-8602d5622278?tracking=23f1ee38-e512-422f-9146-a46ae713249c) is a 3-year-old, 93-lb fluffy mixed breed dog. He is very friendly with all people and enjoys the Dainty/Gentle playgroup at DAS.

[Captain (#A1155254)](https://adopt.adopets.com/pet/46267654-77a6-41cb-803d-8aef9a0fef6e?tracking=aef71967-7cb3-492b-89d0-d092542d245e) is a 7-year-old, 72-lb mixed breed dog. He is gentle and friendly with people and dogs, and is housed at our facility with the small dog he was found as a stray with.

To adopt or temporarily foster Domingo, Captain, or any other lovable dogs and cats, please [visit bedallas90.org](https://www.bedallas90.org/home/pets/) and explore all the animals waiting for a forever home!

**Texas Tax Code 33.06: Property Tax Deferral Program Information**

Property values in Dallas have gone up by 15% in the last year. Even with the new City budget including the largest proposed rate cut in decades, it will still feel like a tax increase. Please note that you may be eligible to defer your property taxes according to [Texas Tax Code 33.06](https://www2.texasattorneygeneral.gov/seniors/investments-property). This allows seniors over age 65, people with disabilities, and some other eligible citizens to defer taxes until after they pass away, at which point the taxes will be paid by their estate. It is an optional program, giving you the flexibility to defer taxes if and when you have the need. Please keep in mind that deferred taxes include an annual interest rate of 5%.

The District 13 offices advises you to speak to a tax professional regarding this provision, should you qualify or are uncertain whether you qualify.

**D13 In The Community**

**If you are a District 13 neighborhood organization, crime watch group, or similar, please** **email District 13** **if you would like to invite the Councilmember or staff to attend.**

D13 is out and about in the neighborhood! See what we have been up to below:

1. CM Willis and the firefighters at Temporary Fire Station 41 pose in front of an engine after receiving the official call to begin service out of the location. Thank you, Fire Station 41, for your service to the community!
2. Above, Chief Eddie Garcia and CM Willis watch on as a martial arts class spars in the Marcus Park Recreation Center.
3. Below, children color at the Open House and Art Workshop for Walnut Hill's Cool School Neighborhood Park. The event was put on by Trust for Public Land. The drawings will be used to inspire a mural at the new park!
4. Above, a Budget Town Hall is held at Marcus Park Recreation Center. Here, residents had a chance to ask questions and give input into the City's budget process. Chief Garcia and Mayor Eric Johnson even joined D13 for the evening!
5. D13 has had coyote sightings in Peter Pan Park. Below, residents came out to hear the City's urban biologist and Dallas Animal Services regarding urban coyotes, best practices when dealing with them, and how the city manages the population.

**Council Member Willis' Mayoral Appointments:**
Ad Hoc Administrative Affairs (Chair)
Government Performance and Financial Management Committee (Vice Chair)
Public Safety Committee
Economic Development Committee
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
Legislative Affairs Committee
Judicial Nominating Committee
Visit Dallas Board of Directors
Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Advisory Council