

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE March 23, 2018

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – March 20, 2018**

Update Items

[FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 Budget Development](#)

As previously communicated in the TCB on March 7th, the City is gathering input from citizens through both an informal online survey and through community engagement meetings to use as we develop the next biennial budget. The community engagement meetings began on March 10th and the informal online survey will launch next week. The survey will allow residents to provide input on how their tax dollars should be used. The online survey consists of 7 questions and will only take a few minutes to complete. Leading up to the launch date of the online survey, Office of Budget Staff will work with your respective staff to provide you with material you can utilize in promoting community engagement through various means. If you have questions or comments, please contact Jack Ireland, Director of the Office of Budget.

[Dallas Area Partnership Meeting](#)

The Dallas Area Partnership to End Homelessness will convene on Friday, March 23rd at 1:30 pm at the Community College District's Bill J. Priest Campus on 1402 Corinth Street in Dallas. This will be a pivotal meeting for the Partnership to date as agenda items include discussion and possible action on 1) Joint Advisory Committee, 2) prioritizing recommendations from the 2017 Dallas Homeless Commission Report and 3) Corporation for Supportive Housing professional services contract. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nadia Chandler Hardy, Chief of Community Services.

[Senior Medical Transportation Services](#)

On Friday, March 16th the Office of Community Care (OCC) engaged in preliminary conversation with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) leadership regarding the senior transportation services provided by the City and potential coordination opportunities with paratransit services provided by DART. Friday's discussions revealed, at minimum, the need to evaluate client eligibility across all transportation programs, address potential duplication as well as income limitations. A formal meeting between DART and City staff from OCC, Transportation Department and Office of Welcoming Cities and Immigrant Affairs is scheduled for Friday, March 30th at 1pm.

Staff will present a full briefing at the April 2nd Human and Social Needs Committee with request to forward the contract authorization to full City Council for approval on April 11th. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nadia Chandler Hardy, Chief of Community Services, or Jessica Galleshaw, OCC Managing Director.

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New Items

[City Council Pilot Community District Offices](#)

The City Council Pilot District Office for Council District 7 will open next week on Thursday, March 29th, at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center. Councilmember Felder invites all City Council members to the ribbon cutting ceremony at the MLK, Jr. Community Center beginning at 12:00 p.m. The District 7 Pilot District Office reflects the City's commitment to Service First through increased citizen access to City services. The remaining pilot district offices will open in the coming months.

Staff is now focused on collecting quantifiable metrics to measure the pilot program's use, performance, and finalizing logistics for the remaining office openings. During the budget discussions for FY 2018-19 we will present pilot accomplishments. Should you have any questions or concern, please contact Carrie Prysock, Managing Director of Mayor and City Council Office.

[Delivery Package Screening](#)

In light of recent events involving exploding packages in the Austin and San Antonio areas, City Security staff is on a heightened state of alert and continues to coordinate with the Dallas Police Department on any perceived or potential threats. In addition, Equipment and Building Services and Public Affairs and Outreach are finalizing a communication to all staff citywide with tips and reminders related to receiving packages. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jody Puckett, Assistant City Manager.

[National League of Cities Congressional City Conference](#)

Last week, the National League of Cities held its annual Congressional City Conference in Washington, DC. Seven councilmembers from the City of Dallas attended the conference, as well as 12 of the City's 15 Youth Commissioners. Attendees participated in a variety of workshops and general sessions. Additionally, the City's Washington consultant provided a federal legislative briefing on current issues being discussed by Congress and the Administration. Meetings were also held with several federal agencies including the US Census Bureau, the US Army Corps of Engineers, the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and the US Department of Transportation.

On Wednesday, the final day of the conference, councilmembers traveled to Capitol Hill for meetings with the City's Congressional delegation. At these meetings, councilmembers advocated for several of the City's federal legislative priorities including infrastructure, with an emphasis on flood control and transportation; funding for core local government programs such as CDBG, HOME, and UASI; funding for the 2020 Census; and tax issues important to the City. Meetings were held with Representatives Jeb Hensarling, Eddie Bernice Johnson, Kenny Marchant, Pete Sessions, Marc Veasey, and staff from the offices of Representative Sam Johnson and Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz.

Thank you to those councilmembers who participated in this important conference. Staff will work on all follow-up items from the meetings with congressional leaders and staff

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liaisons. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director of the Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs.

[MCC Mid-Year Review](#)

In October 2017, Human Resources staff moved Employee Performance Evaluations from a paper-based to electronic-based system, which Mayor and City Council (MCC) Staff utilized to not only complete the FY2016-17 employee performance evaluations, but to also set goals for the next year. It is now time to conduct a check-in and evaluate the progress of these goals. While the Mid-Year Review is only required for those employees at risk of not achieving a “Fully Successful” rating, conducting such a review with all employees offers a great opportunity to touch-base, commend excellent performance, and make any necessary mid-stream corrections. The Mid-Year Review process will occur between March 19th and April 30th. Carrie Prysock, Managing Director of the Mayor and City Council Office, will work in the coming weeks to seek Council Member input to complete the Mid-Year Reviews and meet with each MCC staff member. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact Carrie Prysock, Managing Director of the Mayor and City Council Office.

[Media Inquiries](#)

As of March 20th, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- NCAA Tournament
- Electric Scooters
- SB-4

Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the week of March 13th – March 20th for your reference and in the event you are contacted by the press. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff.

Look Ahead

[Police Substation Security Fencing](#)

Construction is currently underway at the Dallas Police Department South Central substation. The contractor have located the utilities and begun installation of temporary fencing to demolish the existing fencing. Electrical installation for powering the access gates is also underway. Installation at the Northeast Substation is scheduled to begin March 30th. Construction at the Central, Southeast, Northwest, Southwest, and North Central substations will follow with an anticipated completion of all seven by June 2018. All construction schedules are subject to weather. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jody Puckett, Assistant City Manager.

[ATMOS Energy](#)

On April 18th, ATMOS Energy is scheduled to present at the City Council Briefing meeting to provide an update regarding recent gas leaks, planned gas outages, restoration of service, and their ongoing service and system performance enhancements. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager.

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First Community Meeting April 3- The Southern Gateway Project

The first community meeting for The Southern Gateway project has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 3 from 6-8 p.m. in the cafeteria of Townview Magnet High School. The school is located at 1201 E. 8th St., Dallas, 75203. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the public about overall construction plans and upcoming major lane closures along the project. The meeting will begin with a brief presentation, and then invite guests to ask any questions they may have about construction. The meeting will be an open house format where attendees can listen to our presentation, view maps and renderings, and ask questions to staff from TxDOT and the project's design-build contractor, Pegasus Link Constructors. More project details can be found on our website, www.thesoutherngateway.org Should you have any questions or concern, please contact Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs.



T.C. Eadnax
City Manager

c: Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary (Interim)
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Jo M. (Jody) Puckett, Assistant City Manager (Interim)

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Chief of Community Services
Raquel Favela, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services
Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience
Directors and Assistant Directors



City of Dallas

**Public Affairs & Outreach
Media Requests**

Mar. 13 to Mar. 19

March 12; Lauren McGaughy, Dallas Morning News; My name is Lauren McGaughy and I am a reporter with *The Dallas Morning News*. I am writing about the prison reentry program funded by Koch Industries that's being piloted in Dallas, Hood and Hunt. I'd love to get a comment from the city on the pilot and what officials hope to learn from it. Could you give me a call?

City Response: "While the City of Dallas is not directly involved in the Safe Streets and Second Chances program, we are supportive of programs that reduce recidivism and help the formerly incarcerated to reintegrate into the community and lead healthy, productive lives."

March 12; Maria Cruz / Rebekah Riess, WFAA; Checking in to see what information you can share in regards to the NCAA tournament. Does the City have a map/plan for anticipated traffic and road closures during the NCAA Tournament at the AAC? What are the City's hopes in terms of economic benefit for the city while visitors are in town for the Tournament?

City response: The NCAA did not request a Special Event permit from the City. Because of this, the City has no records on their plans or traffic expectations. Both the traffic and economic benefit questions would be best answered by the Visit Dallas Sports Commission.

March 13; Diana Zoga, NBC 5; Seeing social media posts about three alligators spotted at Lake Ray Hubbard. I don't think gators are totally out of the question there, but perhaps rare.

Since Dallas owns the lake waters, who is the best person to ask about this? (I've called TX Parks and Wildlife, also trying to cover my bases on the local level too).

City response: Most North Texas lakes have been known to have gators inhabiting their waters. Gators are inhabiting the Trinity River and as such, it is feasible for gators to migrate to LRH via flows from larger creeks or Lake Lavon, especially during heavy rains and/or releases.

The last confirmed sighting Trinity Watershed Management had was during the 2004-2006 timeframe when the dam gates were being painted. Apparently, a gator was spotted sun bathing just below the dam. Since then, there has been no other sightings or reports of gators.

In the event a gator sighting is reported to Watershed, the protocol would be contact Texas Parks and Wildlife as they are the best resource for dealing with this type of issue.

March 14; Noelle Walker, NBC 5; My name is Noelle Walker, reporter at NBC 5. Lime Bike is planning to launch electric scooters and it looks like Dallas is one of the markets <http://www.limebike.com/electric-scooter>

I am wondering if the city is aware, if there have been any discussions/restrictions with Lime Bike about the launch? I would like to talk to someone from the city on-camera for our report.



City of Dallas

City response: The City Code prohibits motorized scooters on both streets and sidewalks. All City trails prohibit motorized vehicles of any type. At this time, we are waiting for more information from Limebike to understand their plans.

March 14; Jack Highberger, NBC 5; Does the City have a response to the SB-4 news?

City response: We do not anticipate the ruling affecting any procedures or law enforcement operations of the City.

March 16; David Schechter, WFAA; Verify; Can you please help with my request below? (He requested permission in a previous email to fill a pothole himself) What is the annual street repair budget? And how much of that is spent on filling potholes?

City Response: Public Works referred your questions to the Office of Risk Management. Risk Management declined the request since this may be a liability issue, violating an Administrative Directive.

Specifically, it would violate Administrative Directive 3.3 - Driver Safety Program, Section 4.1 Responsibilities:

4.1.4 **Prohibits non-City employees (Volunteers, work release participants, contractors, etc.) from operating City equipment.** The Department Director or designee may approve the following exceptions if the proper insurance, authorization and certification are provided:

4.1.4.1 Employees from other municipalities being trained by the City of Dallas,

4.1.4.2 Non-City personnel training City employees to operate new or specific types of equipment,

4.1.4.3 Non-City personnel contracted by the City to provide repair and maintenance services on City-owned equipment, and

4.1.4.4 Reserve Police Officers.

What is the annual street repair budget? And how much of that is spent on filling potholes?

The Departments' total Street Repair budget is \$63M which includes all street treatments. The total includes pothole repair, which is primarily citizen driven.

March 16; Rebekah Riess / Allen Manning, WFAA; Trying to find out if there are any pedestrian bridges in Dallas constructed similarly to the bridge that collapsed in Miami yesterday? If so, will any action be taken to secure these bridges further to prevent an accident like the one in Florida?

City response: The Miami bridge is a different design configuration than the Mockingbird Pedestrian Bridge.

Follow up: Is the Mockingbird bridge from the same company?

City response: The Mockingbird pedestrian bridge was built by Rebcon, a different company.

March 16; Lori Brown, FOX 4; Can you please tell me how the Dallas Party Bike gets around the open container laws? How long has it has a permit for? Are there any ordinances regulating party bikes?



City of Dallas

City response: According to their website - <https://www.dallaspartybike.com/policies/> - they operate like a party bus, and do not sell or distribute alcohol on board. To keep in line with the open container laws, they state that they do not allow containers to be opened prior to boarding, nor allow the open containers to be removed from the vehicle.

If you need further information, I will have to follow up with staff during work hours next week.