

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 23, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – August 22, 2019**

Updated Items

[Encampment Resolution Schedule – August 20, 2019 & August 27, 2019](#)

The Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) has scheduled the following sites for homeless encampment resolution on August 20, 2019 and August 27, 2019:

August 20, 2019	August 27, 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2300 Cesar Chavez (District 2)• 2446 Lucas Dr. (District 2)• 411 Continental Ave (District 2)• 4515 Village Fair Dr/200 Early Dawn Trail (District 4)• St Francis Ave at Interstate I-30 (District 7)• Jim Miller Rd at Interstate I-30 (District 7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1500 North Edgefield Avenue (Interstate 30 at North Edgefield) (District 6)• Ross Avenue at Hall Street (Interstate 345 at Ross Avenue) (District 14)• 1574 Inwood Road (Interstate 30 at Inwood Road) (District 6)• 8490 Midpark Road (Cottonwood Park/Cottonwood Creek Under Bridge) District 11)• Lyndon B. Johnson at Plano Road (District 10)• East Northwest Highway at Shiloh Road (District 9)

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 Chief Resilience Officer, and Monica Hardman, Director of Office of Homeless Solutions.

[Dallas Animal Services Participation 6th Annual Clear the Shelter](#)

On Saturday, August 17, 2019, Dallas Animal Services (DAS) participated in the 6th annual “Clear the Shelters” free adoption event and found homes for 239 pets. During the event, DAS hosted live shows and webcasts from both NBC5 and Telemundo and welcomed Council members Narvaez, Medrano, Arnold, Mendelsohn, and Gates as well as a staff person from Council Member Bazaldua’s office. The City of Dallas joined 1,982 shelters across the country, finding homes for a total of 89,535 pets. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer, and Ed Jamison, Director of Dallas Animal Services.

Photos attached: CM Gates and her grandchildren stop by DAS during Clear the Shelters and visit with “Cotton” (dog) and NBC anchors Brian Curtis and Laura Harris. CM Narvaez holds “Sky” (cat) while visiting with NBC anchor Brian Curtis. (NOTE: both Cotton and Sky were adopted)

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New Items

[Reunion Parking Center](#)

The Reunion Parking Center has been reported out of operation and barricaded due to an electrical fire as of August 2, 2019. There were no injuries, Dallas Fire and Rescue deemed the electrical gear a complete loss and Oncor has terminated all power to the center. With the exception of the Omni Dallas Hotel staff on the 4th level, the parking garage has been unoccupied for several years. Convention and Event Services has conducted a feasibility assessment and will be sharing the future of the facility in the coming months. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager.

[Concrete Repairs- City Hall Parking Garage](#)

On September 3, 2019, contractors will begin a four-month project to reinforce 50 concrete columns on the L1 level of the parking garage. Sections will be blocked periodically to facilitate the work and for employee, visitor, and worker safety but access to and from the garage will be maintained. The majority of the project will be completed after business hours, but some parking spaces will remain inaccessible during the day. The project is being phased to limit the number of spaces impacted at any given time and the schedule is being coordinated with Security Services. Additional details on the project schedule and phasing will be provided later this month before the work begins and throughout the project's duration. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Errick Thompson, Director of Building Services.

[Urban Land Institute Award Finalists](#)

The Office of Economic Development (OED) along with SHOP Companies real estate firm has been selected as a finalist for the 2019 ULI Impact "Next Big Idea" Award. This award highlights innovative development ideas that can positively impact quality of life, such as improving the quality of the built environment, the way in which planning and development is conducted, construction affordability, and financing. The entry submitted includes three projects that were developed by SHOP Companies and facilitated by OED-Casa View, Hillcrest Village, and Lakeridge Shopping Centers. The ULI awards have a strong national reputation, supporting transformative land use developments, best real estate practices, and creative visioning. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Courtney Pogue, Director of Economic Development.

[Street Design Manual and Drainage Design Manual Updates](#)

The September 11, 2019 City Council agenda will include a public hearing and consideration on updates to the Street Design and Drainage Design Manuals for the City, the associated Dallas City Code and Development Code amendments, as well as a new Street Process Manual. The Street Design Manual, which has been renamed from the Paving Design Manual, provides guidelines for designing streets and thoroughfares and preparing construction plans in the City of Dallas. The Drainage Design Manual provides standard principles and guidelines for designing drainage facilities and preparing construction plans for those facilities in the City of Dallas. The Street Process Manual is a new document that provides a guide through the process of planning and designing a street in the City of Dallas. These Manuals have been routed among City staff as well as the design, construction, and development communities, and the professional trade association community for review and comments. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Majed Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager.

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[Map My Neighborhood-New Web Tool](#)

A new web tool is now available to empower neighborhood leaders and residents with information about their neighborhoods. This customized web tool, hosted by PolicyMap, provides selected public data of interest to neighborhoods in an interactive, easy-to-use format. The [Map My Neighborhood](#) tool is featured on the Planning and Urban Design department's website as a neighborhood resource. It will also be included in the department's Neighborhood Organization Capacity Building program through a training module titled "Data and Maps to Empower your Neighborhood." Workshops are currently being scheduled to train neighborhood leaders and residents on how to use this tool effectively. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Peer Chacko, Director of Planning and Urban Design.

[Media Inquiries](#)

As of August 20, 2019, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- Local Restaurant Reopens After Recent Fire
- DFR and City Working to Resolve Air Conditioning Issues at Its Fire Stations
- DFR Deploys Multiple Units to Northwest Dallas Grass Fire
- Weekend Fire Destroys Historic Dallas Home
- DFR's Safety Division Talks Cancer Reduction
- Kitchen Fire Displaces Residents from 14 Apartments
- DFR Making Changes to Improve Response Times
- Trash Fire Destroys Car in Front of Lower Greenville Home
- Woman Suffers Burns in South Dallas Apartment Fire
- Man Missing in Lake Ray Hubbard After Falling from Jet Ski
- DFR Saves Man from White Rock Lake
- Water Quality Testing of White Rock Lake
- Alternate Sidewalk Paths for Pedestrians
- Removal of Confederate Monuments

Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the August 13– August 20, 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 Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors

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**Public Affairs & Outreach
Media Requests
August 12 - 19**

August 12, 2019

Topic: Water quality testing of White Rock Lake

Summary of Statement: TCEQ monitors WRL, City monitors creeks and tributaries that feed into the lake.

Department: Dallas Water Utilities

Media Entity: KVUE Austin

August 14, 2019

Topic: Alternate sidewalk paths for pedestrians

Summary of Statement: Explained why contractors may apply for permits to close sidewalks or streets during construction

Department: Public Works

Media Entity: Matt Goodman, Reporter, D Magazine

August 14, 2019

Topic: Closure of Reunion Parking Center

Summary of Statement: Reunion Parking Center has been out of operation since August 2.

Department: Convention and Event Services

Media Entity: David Goins, Reporter, WFAA

August 15, 2019

Topic: Zoning Question

Summary of Statement: Provided guidance for zoning inquiry, including link to zoning website.

Department: Sustainable Development & Construction

Media Entity: Victor Sims, Anchor/Reporter, NBC 5

August 16, 2019

Topic: Removal of Pioneer Park confederate monuments

Summary of Statement: The removal is currently pending due to a TRO

Department: City Attorney's Office, Office of Cultural Affairs

Media Entity: NBC 5

Dallas Fire-Rescue Department
Media Requests: August 12, 2019 – August 18, 2019.

Monday, August 12th: Sarah Blaskovich (Dallas Morning News) - Can you give me some information about the fire at Cowboy Chicken at 5315 Greenville Ave. in Dallas? I believe the fire was in June 2019 but I'm not sure what the date was.

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I'm looking for an explanation of what happened, including where the fire started and how severe the damage was. The date & time would be great, too.

I might write a story about it Monday morning. My deadline on this is 10:30 am Monday.

City Response - On Tuesday, June 11th, at 10:21 a.m., Dallas Fire-Rescue units were assigned to a reported structure fire at a Cowboy Chicken restaurant, located at 5315 Greenville Avenue. When firefighters arrived at the scene, they reported out on a one-story restaurant with nothing showing from the outside. It wasn't until they made their way into the building that smoke began to show from the roof; at which point they upgraded the response to a working fire and requested a one-alarm response. Despite the response, the fire was confirmed extinguished in a relatively short amount of time (precisely 10:38 a.m.).

Investigators classified the cause of the fire as accidental in nature, and were able to determine that it was most probably caused by an accumulation of grease in the duct work connecting to the kitchen's cooking ventilation system. The damage was mostly isolated to the interior of the duct work.

The story was published online at: <https://www.guidelive.com/food-and-drink/2019/08/16/cowboy-chicken-fire-reopened-dallas-greenville-ave>

Monday, August 12th: NBC 5 (Ken Kalthoff) and Hayat Norimine (Dallas Morning News) –

Can you please provide more information related to recent online posts regarding various air conditioning issues DFR is having at some of its fire stations?

City Response - Dallas Fire-Rescue and the City of Dallas are aware of the air conditioning concerns at a number of fire stations. Since April 17, there have been eight stations affected by air conditioning issues. As problems are reported, Building Services assesses the problem and either makes a repair at that point in time or applies temporary cooling measures at the station.

While the issues at six of the stations have been addressed, the remaining two stations have had temporary measures, such as the placement of portable cooling units, put in place to provide an appropriate work/living environment.

In the meantime, DFR continues to work with the City's Building Services Department to ensure that more permanent solutions, through repairs or replacement, are made in a timely manner.

Monday, August 12th: All local media outlets – Can you provide more information on a 2-Alarm Grass Fire DFR is responding to at Walnut Hill Lane and Goodnight Lane?

City Response - At 18:18 Dallas Fire-Rescue units were assigned to a 911 call for a Grass Fire near the intersection of Walnut Hill Lane and Goodnight Lane in Northwest Dallas.

Reports from on-scene personnel indicate that approximately 3-4 acres were on fire. DFR dispatched the equivalent of a one-alarm fire response, to include 3 Boosters, 2 Brush units and 1 trail unit as well as heavy units, to help manage the situation. It was that quick decision for extra resources that aided in rapid containment and suppression. There were no reported injuries as a result of the fire, and DPD was called to the scene to block the intersection, while also deploying Air 1 for a birds-eye view of the situation.

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Tuesday, August 13th: Dallas Morning News (Robert Wilonsky) - Jason, do you have any info about the fire there Sunday? Cause? Etc.? This is one of the most historic homes in South Dallas.

City Response - Our records indicate that units were assigned to this structure fire on Sunday, August 11th, at 4:44 a.m. When first responding companies arrived at the scene they observed fire coming from the back corner of the home. The fire went defensive soon after arrival of the first company. Later, after the flames had been knocked down enough to allow for entry, there was a partial collapse inside the home.

The home was deemed unsafe for entry, so investigators were not able to assess the inside. Unfortunately, the damage was such that it was torn down.

The cause of the fire remains undetermined.

The story was published online at:

<https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/commentary/2017/12/28/new-owner-hopes-rescue-one-south-dallas-historic-neglected-homes>

Tuesday, August 13th: WFAA 8 (Tiffany Liou) -

In response to an interview request made on August 8th, members of our Safety Division, specifically Deputy Chief, Lauren Johnson and Captain, Greg Henderson, interviewed with WFAA Channel 8 reporter, Tiffany Liou, for a story about the prevalence of cancer in the fire service and the efforts put forth by the department in regards to cancer reduction.

Prior to speaking with us, Ms. Liou has spoken with Dallas Firefighters' Association President, Jim McDade, and DFR widow (of Jeff Delbert) Dena Delbert. Topics of conversation included the rising number of firefighters being diagnosed with cancer, measures being taken across the county to reduce it and the overall need for a culture change in the fire service in regards to exposure reduction.

Though the reporter originally inquired about extractors, we were able to not only show her the extractors, but talk to her about other equally, if not more important, measures such as gross decontamination (with detergent) immediately after a fire, the rescue wipes we use on our bodies to combat the increased absorption rate that comes with increased body temperatures, the recent approval of a second set of turn-out/bunker gear, in addition to our continued partnership with GCS among many others.

The show for which we interviewed is not for any local news segment; rather it actually being done as what was termed as a "long-form piece" for a show called that's not supposed to air until sometime in October.

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Wednesday, August 14th: NBC 5 (Stephanie Smith and Karen Ballesteros) - Can you please provide information on this fire? 100 N Randolph Dr.

City Response - Units were dispatched to the location at 08:34, and it was declared extinguished at 09:52. When the first units arrived they observed smoke coming from a second floor apartment. They were able to make it inside and put the fire out. Fortunately, the tenant was not home at the time of the fire, and there were no injuries reported.

The fire began in the kitchen of a second-floor apartment, and with the exception of fire making its way into the attic; the damage was isolated to that unit. There were at least 14 units in the building; a number of which sustain varying degrees of smoke and water damage from the fire operation itself. The American Red Cross was called out to assist with an unspecified number of residents that could potentially be displaced.

Wednesday, August 14th: Dallas Morning News (Jim Mitchell) – Called (on Monday, 8/12) to find out if he could speak with Chief Artis about an article, published in the August 7th DMN, regarding DFR's EMS response times, and get some more context for the brief mentioning of some of the measures the department is taking to improve them.

City Response – Set up an over-the-phone interview between the two for further discussion on different measures the department is implementing to combat the problem. The interview came just after his deadline had passed however. ***The article was published in the Thursday edition, in the Editorials section. The online version reads as follows:***

<https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/editorials/2019/08/15/dallas-fire-rescue-slow-response-times-need-understand>

Wednesday, August 14th: WFAA 8 (Demond Fernandez) - I'm checking in to get details about a fire that happened on the 5500 block of Bonita this week. There is video of DFR putting out fire on a mound of bulk trash and the fire damaged a car.

Could you give me some details on what investigators found and/or determined the source of the fire to be?

City Response - There's not a lot more information I can tell you about this fire than what you already know.

Units were assigned to it on Tuesday, August 13th, at 4:30 a.m. According to reports, firefighters saw trash and a car on fire when they arrived. There were no witnesses to the fire, and firefighters were unable to make a determination on what caused it.

Friday, August 16th: Fox 4 News (Steven Young) - Jason: Was there an injured civilian transported from this fire? Thanks. Steve Young. Fox4 News. Dallas. (214)720-3155

Dallas Fire Rescue Incidents

Structure Fire Working | 1100 E Ledbetter Dr | 13 UNITS ASSIGNED | 250332 | 20:48 | B |

City Response - At [20:37](#) DFR units were assigned to a 911 call for a structure fire at an apartment complex located at 1130 East Ledbetter Drive, in South Dallas.

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When firefighters arrived at the two-story apartment complex, they made their way to a second-floor apartment where smoke was reported to have been seen prior to their arrival. They used forcible entry to access the apartment, where they found heavy smoke and an unresponsive adult female, who had suffered unspecified burn injuries, on the floor.

The fire was quickly extinguished, as the burn victim was pulled from the apartment and taken to a DFR rescue unit. Medics began life saving measures, including CPR, before taking her to a local hospital where she currently remains in undisclosed condition. The cause of the fire is undetermined.

Friday, August 16th and Saturday, August 17th: All local media outlets – Can we have more information on a water rescue that DFR is responding to at Lake Ray Hubbard?

City Response – On Friday, August 16th, at 20:20, DFR units were dispatched to Lake Ray Hubbard for an incident involving a man who was evidently separated from his jet ski near I-30 and Dalrock Road. Crews were on scene searching until almost midnight; and though they were able to locate the Jet Ski, they were unable to find the man who was reportedly riding it.

Today, DFR (Marine 1) will be assisting the Texas Game Warden's Office with search and recovery efforts.

All media inquiries, in regards to the latest developments, should be forwarded to the Game Warden Office going forward.

Sunday, August 18th: Univision 23 (Juana Palmieri), WFAA 8 (Lance Conrad) and NBC 5 (Karen Ballesteros) - Do you have information on this? Technical rescue at 4401 - 4499 W Lawther Dr| E55 Boat 48 Bn 3 o/s White Rock Lake for technical rescue by boat.

City Response - At 16:14 Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for a water rescue after someone observed a capsized sailboat, in White Rock Lake, with one man on board.

The man managed to climb on top of his boat until DFR's arrival. Rescuers launched a boat, rescued the man and towed his boat back to shore.

At no point did the man appear to be in any distress, and he was not injured.