

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE March 4, 2022

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – March 3, 2022**

## City Manager's Corner



Barksdale Haggins serves as the Fair Housing Administrator in the Office of Equity and Inclusion and has been with the City of Dallas for 20 years. Mr. Haggins' position puts him at the forefront of disputes concerning some of our most vulnerable residents. Whether investigating discriminatory claims, making residents aware of their rights, or facilitating conflict resolution among parties, Mr. Haggins does so with a measure of professionalism and dedication that is hard to match. In the face of inequality, Mr. Haggins has been

instrumental in ensuring that every resident gets a fair shake, not only in housing but in any realm where discrimination persists. We are so grateful for Mr. Haggins and his dedication to both the law and the residents. Thank you, Mr. Haggins, for all that you do!

## Park and Recreation Staff Earn National Certifications

Three Park and Recreation staff are Certified Park and Recreation Professionals (CPRP) recognized by the National Recreation and Park Association. Recreation center managers Ruben Limon (Kidd Springs) and Antonio "Tony" Raya (Campbell Green), and Joseph "Joe" Lashley (K.B. Polk), successfully passed rigorous written examinations to achieve the CPRP distinction. They are among 14 Recreation Services employees to have the designation that recognizes their educational and work experiences and commitment to the parks and recreation field. For more information related to the certification, please visit: [NRPA.org](http://NRPA.org). Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Crystal Ross, Assistant Director of Park and Recreation.

## Share Your Opinion at the Texas Comptroller's Broadband Listening Tour

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced last week that he will embark on a statewide listening tour to hear from Texans about internet access and to collect input that will be used to develop the state's first broadband plan. This information will help the newly established Broadband Development Office determine how to close the digital divide in Texas. The Comptroller's Broadband Listening Tour will

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consist of 12 public forums held across the state. These events are free, and everyone is encouraged to attend to share their thoughts on the current state of broadband services in Texas. See a list of dates and locations, and register to participate, click [here](#). You may also share your feedback by filling out this [online survey](#) by May 5. Should you have any questions or concerns, contact Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff.

### **FreshStart Program**

The Freshstart Employment Program are pre-screening individuals interested in employment with the City of Dallas. Pre-screening is to determine program eligibility. Individuals deemed eligible for the FreshStart Employment Program will be referred to hiring managers for interview and employment consideration. In-person Pre-Screening will be held weekly beginning on March 9th from 9 AM-1PM at the MLK JR Community Center 2900 MLK Jr. Blvd, Building A Dallas, Texas 75215. For your convenience, online pre-screening is also available [freshstartemployment@dallascityhall.com](mailto:freshstartemployment@dallascityhall.com). To learn more about the Small Business Center, please visit: <https://sourcedallas.org/>. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Joyce Williams, Director of the Small Business Center.

### **FreshStart Spotlight**

The FreshStart Spotlight shines the light on internal departments that show support by hiring justice-impacted individuals. The program's success is the result of hard work, and perseverance from departments leaders, hiring managers, and their staff. For the month of March we are celebrating two departments: Dallas Water Utilities and Dallas Park and Recreation for their efforts to participate in this program. FreshStart relies on a combination of internal programs and local community-based organizations to refer eligible applicants and to help potential clients gain the stability and skills needed to become successful employees. The FreshStart staff will work with City departments to help place clients in full-time positions with growth opportunities. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Joyce Williams, Director of the Small Business Center.

### **Small Business Center – Food Series Collaborative**

The Small Business Center presents the Food Series Collaborative, a 7-week virtual presentation designed to engage Food Industry startups and existing small businesses such as scratch kitchens, caterers, chefs, ghost kitchens, bakers, and restaurants. The weekly session topics include developing business plans, launching a food truck, understanding permits licensing and inspections, payroll taxes and hiring processes, and running an environmentally sustainable kitchen/zero waste kitchen.

The Food Series Collaborative facilitator Regina Onyeibe was recently featured on WFAA 8 with Tashara Parker. <https://sourcedallas.org/2022/02/20/food-series->

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[collaborative/](#) . For more information about the Food Series Collaborative, please email Regina.Onyeibe@dallascityhall.com or visit <https://sourcedallas.org/2022/02/20/food-series-collaborative/>.

To learn more about the Small Business Center, please visit: <https://sourcedallas.org/>. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Joyce Williams, Director of the Small Business Center.

### **Adaptive Reuse Program Spotlight | Encanto Market & Cocina Grand Opening**

The Encanto Market & Cocina Grand Opening was held on Saturday, February 12th is one of the true success stories of our Small Business Center's Adaptive Reuse Program. This neighborhood general store is focused on providing healthy fresh produce, groceries, warm meals, homemade ice cream, a juice bar, and more to the community. It is family-owned and operated, and the family is proud to have brought such a much-needed asset to the community.

This business started with the family purchasing a vacant, blighted building with the hope of providing an oasis in what was a food desert in their community. The closest convenience store to this location is almost two miles away and doesn't offer fresh produce, warm meals, or many other healthy food options available at Encanto. This new oasis has created jobs for those in the community within walking distance, which in turn enhances their green footprint. Encanto met the grant criteria of the SBC's Southern Dallas Adaptive Reuse by eliminating blight in the community and restoring a vacant commercial property into a vibrant community asset that is very pleasing to the eye and an establishment the community can be proud of.

For more information about the Small Business Center's Adaptive Reuse Program, please contact Erma Saracho, Erma.Saracho@dallascityhall.com or visit <https://sourcedallas.org/2022/01/25/small-business-adaptive-reuse-program/>.

To learn more about the Small Business Center, please visit: <https://sourcedallas.org/>. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Joyce Williams, Director of the Small Business Center.

### **Nightwork Expo**

The Small Business Center, Workforce Solutions of Greater Dallas and 24HourDallas present Nightwork Expo on Monday, March 7 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Gilley's, which is located at 1135 Botham Jean Blvd. About 40 businesses will be showcased throughout the Nightwork Expo. For more information about the Nightwork Expo, please contact Denita Lacking-Quinn, [Denita.Lacking@dallascityhall.com](mailto:Denita.Lacking@dallascityhall.com) or register to attend <http://www.nightworkexpo.com>. To learn more about the Small Business Center, please visit: <https://sourcedallas.org/>. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Joyce Williams, Director of the Small Business Center.

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### **OAC Celebrates Women’s History Month**

Throughout the month of March, the Office of Arts & Culture celebrates women and the contributions and achievements they have made throughout history, culture, arts, and society. From a photography exhibit at the South Dallas Cultural Center to a theater performance at the AT&T Performing Arts Center, there is a variety of free and ticketed programming this month: <https://dallasculture.org/womens-history-month/>. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Gabriel Gonzalez, Marketing Coordinator in the Office of Arts and Culture.

### **Code Compliance Convenience Store**

Code Compliance and its local partners are taking a proactive look at litter and the resources needed to help reduce blight in the city of Dallas. The department has asked residents for their responses to a Litter Index Survey. The survey helps Code learn more about what residents think about the cleanliness of their neighborhoods.

As the weather gets closer to spring, Code has also partnered with Keep Dallas Beautiful with the Great American Cleanup Initiative to focus on beautifying communities in a grassroots spring-cleaning movement. By going online, residents, neighborhood groups, and businesses can request resources to host their own cleanups in their communities. Links to both programs are mentioned below.

**Litter Index Survey:** <https://bit.ly/3gDBmTJ>

**Great American Cleanup:** <https://bit.ly/3HRWvFx>

For more information contact Eric Onyechefule, CCS Public Information Coordinator.

### **Redistricting**

The Redistricting Commission met on Tuesday, February 28 at 3:30 p.m. via videoconference and at Dallas City Hall – Council Chambers – 6EN. They received an update on map submissions and heard two map presentations from residents who met the required map submittal criteria. The Commission accepted the two map submissions for further consideration after some discussion regarding the process of selecting a final map. The next Commission meeting will be on Monday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m. at Dallas City Hall – Council Chambers – 6EN.

The Commission also heard from four public speakers, offering feedback regarding the redistricting process. Individuals who wish to address the Redistricting Commission can still do so by attending a regular meeting, virtually or in person. or a complete list of meetings or to submit your very own map, visit [www.DallasRedistricting.com](http://www.DallasRedistricting.com) or call 214-671-6197. All map submissions must be submitted by April 15, 2022. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Brett Wilkinson, Director of the Office of Government Affairs.

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### **Fix a Leak Week**

March 14th-20th the cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Round Rock, and water provider Tarrant Regional Water District are partnering to celebrate the Environmental Protection Agency's annual Fix A Leak Week. The partner cities and provider bring educational, virtual workshops that teach participants how to fix leaks and take other water preservation measures. Fixing leaks is just one element of efficient water use in today's cities. It is estimated minor household leaks can account for 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year, with 10 percent of homes wasting 90 gallons or more per day from leaks.

The virtual seminars are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. on March 15 (indoor leaks) and March 17 (outdoor/irrigation leaks) via GoTo Webinar.

Fix a Leak Week registration is free at these links:

March 15th (Indoor) <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/233841715867>

March 17th (Outdoor) <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/233862177067>

Should you have any questions, please contact Carlos Evans, Director of the Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability.

### **Better Climate Challenge**

In support of the Comprehensive Environmental and Climate Action Plan (CECAP), and consistent with the City's goals toward maintaining climate leadership, the City of Dallas joined approximately 100 public and private partners from across the United States to participate in the inaugural U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) [Better Climate Challenge](#). Building on the leadership that cities like Dallas are already demonstrating, this new effort challenges organizations to set ambitious **greenhouse gas (GHG) emission** reduction goals and share their successes, innovations, and barriers. Through this challenge, the City will partner with DOE to help reduce portfolio GHG emissions by at least 50% within 10 years. The City has pledged to reduce GHG emissions from 140 buildings and implementing a 20% energy intensification reduction. The City will have access to peer-to-peer learning and working groups to collect and share best practices and highlight strategies to measure and reduce operational GHG emissions. Lastly, the City and other participants will receive national recognition for achieving program milestones and GHG reduction results. Should you have any questions, please contact Carlos Evans, Director of the Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability.

### **OHS Street Outreach Update**

The DRTRR team of homeless service providers, co-led by OHS and MDHA, is currently targeting several encampments, which will result in closure through the housing of those unsheltered individuals throughout the year. The team will outreach to these sites and meet with various persons experiencing homelessness to assess

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their needs in preparation for site closure via housing. During this time, the OHS Street Outreach Team will continue to engage with unsheltered residents through normal street outreach, connecting people with the needed resources, such as: getting IDs, working with Community Courts on expunging eligible tickets and offenses from their records, identifying medical needs, and getting them access to the Coordinated Access System (CAS).

Please see the attached schedule for homeless encampment cleaning the weeks of February 28, 2022 – March 11, 2022. Please note that these will be for debris removal and outreach only. All encampment cleaning requests are being resolved as time allows. We appreciate everyone's patience.

### Encampment Resolution (**Cleaning**) Schedule February 28 – March 11, 2022

February 28- March 4	March 7- March 11
<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
2500 Hickory St	N Central Expwy & Churchill
1700 Baylor Rd	Harry Hines & Northwest Hwy
2900 Hickory St	Starlight & Northwest Hwy
1700 Cockrell Hill	11555 Harry Hines
I-30 & Ferguson Rd.	1133 Riverfront
Stemmons Fwy & Mockingbird Ln	9929 Harry Hines
Stemmons Fwy & Inwood Rd	2380 Northwest Hwy
8325 N Stemmons Fwy	11844 Josey Ln
2253 Storey Ln	
Web Chapel Extension & Storey Ln	
2465 Crown Rd	
Stemmons Fwy & Oak Lawn	

OHS continues to urge people who see an encampment to report it via 311 or 311's OurDallas smartphone app to ensure strategic alignment with comprehensive OHS outreach. The OHS Service Request dashboard can be utilized to track the progress of encampment resolution efforts. Please visit the [dashboard](#) and feel free to share this tool with residents. Should you have any questions please contact Christine Crossley, Director of the Office of Homeless Solutions.

### Media Inquiries

As of March 1, 2022, the Communications, Outreach, and Marketing (COM) Department has received various media inquiries available to view by clicking [here](#).


The following storylines reference the major media inquiries addressed by Dallas Fire-Rescue (DFR) during the period dating from February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. A more detailed account of the department's responses to those inquiries, and others, can be viewed at [this link](#).

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**Highlights include:**

- Dallas Restaurant Evacuated After Nearby Gas Leak Send Flames Shooting from Ground
- Winter Weather Results in Increased Number of Accident and Fall Responses
- Five DFR Units Struck While Responding to Accidents on Slick Roads

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff.



T. C. Broadnax  
City Manager

c: Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Deputy City Manager  
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth(Liz)Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager  
Dr. Robert Perez, Interim Assistant City Manager  
Carl Simpson, Interim Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Directors and Assistant Directors