# Memorandum



DATE May 25, 2018

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT Taking Care of Business - May 22, 2018

# **Update Items**

Fire Station #41 (5920 Royal Ln) District 13

As previously communicated, Station #41 was temporarily closed due to a sewage system backup that caused flooding. Initial clean-up and sanitizing is complete and environmental testing has been completed and did not show any harmful bacteria at the location after contractor sanitizing. The restoration project is in the finishing stages, but has had a setback that will require additional testing of material not affected by the sewage flooding event. This is required before allowing the station to reopen late June 2018. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Deputy Chief Dominique Artis, Dallas Fire-Rescue Department.

#### **New Items**

# Break-In at NE Garage Sign Shop

On Tuesday, May 22, 2018 the City's northeast garage sign shop was broken into. A stolen tire truck was driven through an overhead door and tools and tool boxes were stolen. Vehicles and property damage to the facility have been reported to the Dallas Police Department (DPD) who are currently on scene collecting information. The sign shop is currently closed until further notice. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Errick Thompson, Director of Equipment and Building Services.

#### Police Staffing Study

At the May 14, 2018 Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee, there was a request for an update on the procurement process to begin the Dallas Police Department Staffing Study. The City received three vendor proposals in April that are currently being reviewed by the evaluation team. Interviews have been conducted and the team is currently reviewing Best and Final Offers.

The evaluation team and the Office of Procurement Services continue to work on the project with the goal of completing the evaluation in June 2018. Once the highest ranked firm is identified, the City will work to negotiate and finalize a contract and present the recommendation to the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee prior to City Council action, which is targeted for August 2018

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall.

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## DPD and OfferUp

The Southcentral Patrol Division has experienced an increase in robbery offenses as the result of individuals meeting to buy/sell items that had been advertised on social media listing sites. As the department continued to see the offenses occurring, they reached out to one of the listing sites, "OfferUp" for assistance. OfferUp agreed to fund the project. On May 21, 2018, the Dallas Police Department and OfferUp unveiled the city's first Exchange Zone. This exchange zone is designed to create a safer space for buyers and sellers from online and mobile marketplaces to complete their transactions in a well-lit public location which is video recorded. Chief Hall stated this initiative has been in the works since December 2016 and has finally came to fruition. In addition to signage and cameras, OfferUp provided additional training to detectives on best practices and available tools on how to work closely with OfferUp to detect and deter criminal activity stemming from online transactions. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall.

### City Council Grant Discussions

The Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs (OSPGA) have met with Councilmembers throughout April and May to discuss priorities and projects in their respective districts that may be a good fit for grant funding. We would like to thank you for making time to meet with the OSPGA team. Although there are still a few meetings to schedule and conduct, there have been some clear trends in needs throughout the City. Senior programming is a top priority, along with Public Safety, trail and park amenities, complete streets, and projects to enhance neighborhood identity such as public art.

Staff will continue to look for funding that fits identified projects throughout the City. In addition, a number of councilmembers requested a list of submitted grants, which will be provided to all Councilmembers. If you or your staff identify additional priority projects, or know of a grant that staff should research, please contact Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director of the Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs.

#### **Media Inquiries**

As of May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- Byron Nelson Golf Tournament
- National Bike to Work Day
- Animal Services Officer Arrest
- Cite and Release (DPD)

Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the week of May 16<sup>th</sup> – May 22<sup>nd</sup> for your reference and in the event you are contacted by the press. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kimberly Bizor Tolbert, Chief of Staff.

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## **Look Ahead**

# City Council Briefings

June 6, 2018

- Amendments to City Manager's Proposed FY 2018-19 Consolidated Plan Budget
- Brush & Bulk Trash
- Dockless Bikeshare

June 20, 2018

- FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 Biennial Budget Update

**Homeless Solutions Proposed Strategy** 

City Manager

Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizor 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



# Public Affairs & Outreach Media Requests

May 15 to May 21, 2018

**May 15; Amy Sorter, Texas Jewish Post;** My name is Amy Sorter, and I'm a writer working with the Texas Jewish Post. This email is in follow-up to the voice mail I just left you, regarding a case recently overseen by the Dallas Board of Adjustments. The case in question is #BDA178-050, regarding the property at 7103 Mumford.

The case itself represented a parking variance for this particular property which was denied by the DBA. When I asked the attorney for the applicant why, she told me she never received an official answer for the denial.

I'm hoping to talk to either Mr. Steve Long or someone else at the DBA, who can clarify why the application for parking variance was denied.

**City response:** The City of Dallas does not comment on pending litigation. You may read more on the background of this decision at dallascityhall.com; click on Open Meetings.

May 16; Matt Howerton, WFAA 8; Hey guys, Doing a story on this street that was repaved in oak cliff. This is near Brooklyndell and Barnett. This was taken nearby at Ivandell. Can you confirm if this was a contracting job Dallas did? And or if this is protocol? I'm guessing no, lol but looks like the workers just went around everyone's parked cars.

**City response:** This is a slurry seal treatment, not a resurfacing project. Residents are notified in advance, and if cars are present the contractor, works around them and returns at a later date to finish the areas they could not access. The contractor did pass out notices and plans on finishing the street this Saturday weather permitting and assuming the cars are moved when they return.

**May 16**; **Blake Hanson, Fox 4**; I was checking in because some residents near Brooklynndell were complaining about a bizarre paving job. It looks like crews, yesterday, resurfaced but just went around cars. The neighbors also say they weren't notified the resurfacing was going to happen. Can you all tell me what happened?

**City Response:** This is a slurry seal treatment, not a resurfacing project. Residents are notified in advance, and if cars are present the contractor, works around them and returns at a later date to finish the areas they could not access. The contractor did pass out notices and plans on finishing the street this Saturday weather permitting and assuming the cars are moved when they return.

Follow up: I know your email says the contractor sent out notices about fixing it Saturday.

Did the contractor notify residents before doing the work yesterday? If so, how?

All the residents I talked with didn't know it was going to be happening.



**Response:** The contractor gives Public Works staff the schedule two weeks in advance and notifies the citizens at least 48 hours in advance with door hangers. They also maintain a spreadsheet on dropbox that allows staff to see the progress of notifications. The section in question was notified on Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Follow up:** And what is the purpose of a slurry seal treatment? Is this work part of a bigger project? Are crews going to be sealing a bunch of streets out there?

**Response:** The address in question is in council district 1 which has 20.69 lane miles of Micro scheduled and 29.21 lane miles of Slurry to be completed by the end of September. Slurry is for residential areas and micro is a similar product for use in high traffic commercial areas. A slurry seal is used to seal residential asphalt roads. The placement of this mixture on existing pavement is the "seal" as it is intended to seal the pavement surface. Slurry seals are generally used on residential streets. Slurry seal is applied in order to help preserve and protect the underlying pavement structure and provide a new driving surface.

**May 16; Telemundo;** Executive Manager Monica Cordova gave an interview in Spanish about the road work at Brooklyndell and Barnett.

May 16; Fox 4, NBC 5, WFAA 8, CBS 11, DMN; Inquiries related to victims identified in a double homicide at Pueblo Park

City response: On May 15, 2018, at approximately 11:47 a.m., City Park employees were working at the Pueblo Park located in the 500 block of Pueblo Street when they discovered a late model black Cadillac ATS that exhibited evidence that led them to believe that a crime may have occurred. Dallas Fire Rescue arrived on scene and conducted a welfare check of the vehicle and located two deceased Individuals inside the trunk. Homicide Detectives were notified and is currently working this incident as a Double Murder. This incident remains under investigation and is reported on case number 103216-2018. Update May 16, 2018 at 5:20 PM: The names of the two individuals found deceased in the trunk of a late model Cadillac has been identified as Robert Diaz III, 28yrs old and Jacob Collard 20 yrs. old. Next of kin has been notified. This is being investigated on case #103216-2018.

May 16, 2018; Cory Smith, NBC 5; We are working on a number of stories related to the Byron Nelson tournament at the new Trinity Forest Golf Course.

One of the concerns residents who live in that part of Dallas have is that having the course in the area could lead to gentrification. It was reported by the DMN that Mayor Rawlings believes that the city's new housing strategy will prevent displacement.

My question is this: What in the city's new housing policy will prevent displacement and other issues that arise with gentrification in the area surrounding the golf course?

Any info you can provide would be greatly appreciated. If it's easier to have someone give me a call that's fine. If not, I'll look for your response by the close of business today.

**City response:** We question the premise that the investment of the golf course alone causes gentrification or displacement. The City is working on a Displacement Risk Factor overlay to the Market Value Analysis that will help track, on a quarterly basis, any areas that show signs of



displacement. Furthermore, the city's Housing Policy provides for the use of Stabilization Reinvestment Strategy Areas with Neighborhood Empowerment Zone overlays to mitigate displacement factors such as loss of affordable housing units and spikes in property tax assessments due to increased land values.

**May 17; Ben Russel, NBC 5;** I'm doing a story for tomorrow morning about National Bike to Work Day.

For the story I want to highlight info that includes answers to the following questions:

How many miles of bike lanes are there on your city streets? Is that number up at all from what it would have been in the not-too-distant past?

Are there specific plans to add bike lanes in the foreseeable future? If so, how many?

Aside from adding lanes, is there anything your city is doing to make yourself more "bike friendly"?

**City response:** There are approximately 19 miles of bike lanes on the streets now. This represents an increase of a few miles over the past couple of years. There are several roadway projects, that include bike lanes, that are nearing the completion phase now so the miles of completed bike lanes is going to begin increasing.

There are an additional 17 miles of bike lanes that are under construction or in the development phase. An interconnected network of bike lanes is beginning to take shape downtown, along and across the Trinity River, to West Dallas and Oak Cliff. For example, bike lanes were striped on Continental to provide access from the Katy Trail/Victory Park area to the Ron Kirk Bridge, Trinity Groves, and the Trinity River. The City is also taking advantage of a street repair project on Matilda to add bike lanes to reduce speeding, cut-through traffic, and improve bicycle mobility in this East Dallas neighborhood. Bike lane striping will also begin this year to connect the Cedars neighborhood to downtown and the Farmers Market.

The City is working with stakeholder groups to install bike parking. Primary focus areas are downtown, Deep Ellum, the Bishop Arts Area, and the Cedars. The City's trail network continues to expand with key projects making critical connections between trails, across highways, etc. For example, a bike/ped bridge over US75 near Royal Lane is in design and will connect the Northaven Trail to the White Rock Creek, Cottonwood Creek, and SOPAC Trails.

May 17; Fox 4, NBC 5, WFAA 8, CBS 11, DMN; Inquiries related to the arrest of an Animal Service Officer

**City Response:** As a result of an investigation by Dallas Animal Services and the SPCA of Texas, Officer Eric Pogue was arrested and charged with Cruelty to Non-Livestock Animals on May 16, 2018.

On April 25, 2018, City of Dallas Animal Service Officer (ASO) Eric Pogue was bitten by a four-week-old kitten during the intake process, and violently threw the kitten to the floor. The kitten suffered severe trauma during the incident and was nonresponsive as a result.



DAS notified the Animal Cruelty Investigators at the SPCA of Texas, as well as the Dallas Police Department and requested for a cruelty investigation to be launched. The SPCA of Texas is handling this investigation. Mr. Pogue was placed on Administrative Leave.

Dallas Animal Services strives to provide quality service to all residents of Dallas and humane care for the approximately 32,000 animals that enter our facility each year. Cruelty of any type is not tolerated.

May 17; Tiffany Moore, CBS 11; Hi there, sorry to bother you about this but our producers just wanted to know the current status of the kitten.

**City response:** The animal was euthanized.

May 17, 2018; Karen Ballesteros, KXTX Telemundo: We are working the story about officer Eric Pogue charged with cruelty to a non-livestock animal. We would like to go into the shelter and record some of the animals inside. Also, if you can provide pictures of the kitten would be very helpful as well.

**City Response:** AD Ryan Rogers spoke with Telemundo. They were allowed to take shots outside of the shelter.

May 17, 2018; Ken Kalthoff, KXAS NBC 5: There is a situation near the Byron Nelson at 1117 Pemberton Hill Road where police and code enforcement officers appear to be having concerns about a parking lot operation involving a large open field with a several dozen parked cars and a van from Deliverance Chapel Church. The officers and church van driver All declined comment. The city people directed me to you. A parking person at another lot said this one at 1117 was being shut down. Please help me learn what's up with this??

**City Response:** The address listed (1117 Pemberton Hill Rd) is a vacant lot being used to park cars for those attending the Byron Nelson Golf Tournament. This lot is NOT an approved parking lot for this event as others are in the area. The operators running the lot were charging \$50 per vehicle. Dallas Code Compliance and Dallas Police were alerted and told the operators to stop this illegal land use. The City is currently in the process of ensuring the lot is closed and that the activity does not reoccur.

May 17, 2018; Kristen Mosbrucker, San Antonio Business Journal: Looking to fact-check the number of permits filed and approved for small cell nodes in Dallas.

A 5G advocacy group reported that there have been 305 applications received by the city and 288 permits approved.

How might I find that information?

City Response: Your inquiry requires an Open Records Request. You may file one here:

http://dallascityhall.com/government/citysecretary/openrecords/Pages/default.aspx



May 17; Fox 4, NBC 5, WFAA 8, CBS 11, DMN; Inquiries related to an arrest made regarding a murder at the 6100 block of LBJ

**City response:** This is an update regarding the murder that occurred on May 9, 2018, at 6104 LBJ Service Road in which the victim Carla Patricia Flores Pavon, Latin female 26 was found deceased in her apartment. The arrested person is Jimmy Eugene Johnson III B/M/24. He was taken into custody in Walker County during a traffic stop. (An alert notice was placed on his vehicle).

Dallas homicide detectives travelled to Walker County to interview the suspect. He was read his Miranda rights and waived those rights and agreed to speak with detectives. During the interview, it was revealed that property was stolen from the victim during the commission of the murder offense. This property was recovered in the suspect's vehicle during his arrest. The suspect is being held in Walker County on a murder charge with a \$500,000.00 bond. Charges may be enhanced to capital murder at a later date.

May 19; Fox 4, NBC 5, WFAA 8, CBS 11, DMN; Inquiries related to a shots fired near the Central patrol station

**City response:** On Saturday, May 19, 2018, at about 11:20pm, an unknown person fired several rounds from a vehicle which was traveling south bound in the 300 block of South Hall. This was directly adjacent to the Central Patrol Station. It has not been determined if the shots were fired at the Central Station or in another direction. There were no injuries. This offense is documented on 106963-2018. Shortly after this incident, a vehicle matching the suspect's shot at a security guard at 2671 Logan. Several similar shell casings were recovered at the crime scene. The service number for this offense is 106963-2018. Each division was notified for situational awareness and told to enhance perimeter security.

**May 21; Dallas Observer; Stephen Young** with the Dallas Observer contacted Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall Department requesting a statement about the continued disparity in the ethnicity of those citied-and-released, and whether or not the department might consider changing enforcement priorities with the regard to marijuana possession.

City Response: On May 21, 2018, Chief Hall responded that upon review of Cite and Release, Dallas Police Department (DPD) found that 45% of the citations were secondary violations resulting from traffic stops. Only 18% were a result of self-initiated activity by officers. DPD is aware that when looking at Cite and Release exclusively; African American and Latino populations appear almost solely. DPD examined marijuana arrests as a whole and found that Caucasian arrests increase to 10% of the total arrests. We reviewed all drug cases and found that while Caucasian arrests are minimal for marijuana and Cite and Release, they make up 50% of Meth, 34% of Heroin and 12% of our Cocaine arrests. The Dallas Police Department is committed to fair and equitable treatment of the entire community. We are reviewing citation and arrest data regularly to control for any disparities that may arise. We have analyzed the data and found no improprieties. Our enforcement is directed towards highly concentrated areas of crime with no respect of race. Our community raises concerns daily of marijuana use and sales, as quality of life concerns. The community is working alongside of us in this process. 28% of the Cite and Release citations were a result of a call for service by residents and 9% were the result of drug complaints. DPD will continue to assess this matter.