# Memorandum



DATE April 5, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and City Council

# **SUBJECT** Taking Care of Business – April 2, 2019

# Update Items

# Encampment Resolution Schedule – April 2, 2019 & April 9, 2019

The Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) has scheduled the following sites for homeless encampment resolution on April 2, 2019 and April 9, 2019:

April 2, 2019 revised 03/28/19	April 9, 2019
<ul> <li>Lemmon Ave at Hall St. (District 14)</li> <li>Live Oak at Central Expressway (District 14)</li> <li>Central Expressway at San Jacinto (District 14)</li> <li>Greenville Ave at Mockingbird (District 14)</li> <li>New Sites Added: <ul> <li>2929 Hickory St. (District 7)</li> <li>2300 Harrison Ave (District 7)</li> <li>1800 South Blvd (District 7)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Sites removed due to special resolution on March 29th: <ul> <li>Hampton Rd at Interstate I-30 (District 6)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lyndon B Johnson Freeway at Inwood Rd (District 13)</li> <li>Lyndon B Johnson Freeway at Midway (District 13)</li> <li>Lyndon B Johnson Freeway at TI Blvd (District 10)</li> <li>8959 Markville Dr (District 10)</li> <li>Willowbrook at Harry Hines Blvd (District 6)</li> <li>650 N Riverfront (District 6)</li> <li>Interstate I-35 at Medical District (District 6)</li> </ul>

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.

# New Items

Public Hearing: Citizen's Police Review Board

The Dallas City Council will be briefed on proposed changes to the Citizens Police Review Board on April 3, 2019. Members of the public will have an opportunity to share their comments with City Council during a public hearing following the briefing presentation. Dallas Police Chief U. Reneé Hall will brief the following items:

- Board Structure and Staffing
- Complaint Handling Process

DATE April 5, 2019

SUBJECT Taking Care of Business – April 2, 2019

PAGE

Page 2 of 3

- Critical Incidents
- Engagement and Transparency

To review the full recommendation click <u>here</u>. Those who wish to speak during the public hearing must register with the City Secretary's Office at (214) 670-3738. The deadline to register wa 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2, 2019. The meeting may also be viewed online at <u>http://www.dallascitynews.net/watch-live</u>. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager.

# The City Receives \$357,000 in Federal Excise Tax Rebates

The City recently received two federal excise tax rebates totaling \$357,000 for compressed natural gas (CNG), which the City uses in approximately 761 of its fleet vehicles. In late summer 2018, Equipment and Building Services, became aware that the City qualified for a partial rebate of federal excise tax paid on CNG in calendar years 2016 and 2017, and requested assistance from the City Controller's Office in claiming those rebates.

As a result, the City applied for and received an approved registration as an alternative fueler through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Subsequently, we then applied for and received the 2016 and 2017 rebates in the amounts of \$173,873.53 and \$183,096.54, respectively. These tax rebates have expired. However, staff will continue to monitor IRS changes, and if the rebates are reinstated, we will apply for them again, if eligible. These funds have been previously placed back into fund balance or as a reduction to an expense. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer.

#### Open House at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center is hosting an Open House on the evening of Thursday, April 4, 2019 from 6 pm - 8 pm. The Open House will be in conjunction with a Remembrance Ceremony, hosted by the Alpha Sigma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., that will take place near the statue of Dr. King on the Center's campus as an opportunity to acknowledge the assassination of Dr. King and in recognition of his dream. The Open House will showcase programming and tenants housed on the 10.5-acre campus and will provide an overview of services offered and networking opportunities. Additionally, staff will offer tours of the campus and the Civil Rights Museum. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nadia Chandler hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer, and Jessica Galleshaw, Director of Office of Community Care.

#### Electronic Procurement Platform: Bonfire Interactive

The Office of Procurement Services is excited to announce that we have launched the City's first electronic procurement platform, with Bonfire Interactive. Bonfire allows us to:

- Eliminate manual processes and forms, reducing project timelines,
- Increase competition, through a nationwide vendor network with clients in over 300 cities and countries worldwide,
- Streamline the solicitation process through an easy and convenient online portal,
- Automate bid tabulations and evaluations, eliminating hard copies and reducing errors, and
- Provide a secure and fully cloud-based online portal.

Since March 1<sup>st</sup> over 2,500 vendors have registered with the City of Dallas; we've received 137 electronic submissions and saved over 30,000 pages! Visit <u>https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com</u> to view the new platform and feel free to direct vendors to the site to register and view opportunities. Registered vendors will receive automatic notifications of new solicitations as they

DATE April 5, 2019

SUBJECT Taking Care of Business – April 2, 2019

PAGE Page 3 of 3

are published in Bonfire. Vendors must register to view solicitation documents; however, registration is free. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Chhunny Chheann, Interim Director of Procurement Services.

#### **Media Inquiries**

As of April 2nd, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- Municipal Court Closure
- Sanitation Truck Hits Power Line
- DFR Medics Meet the Man Whose Life They Helped Save
- DFR Extinguishes Fire in Vacant Downtown Dallas High Rise

Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the week of March 26th – April 1st 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.

lager

c:

Chris Caso, City Attorney (I) Carol A. Smith, City Auditor (I) Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge Kimberly Bizor 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 M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer Laila Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer Michael Mendoza, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services Directors and Assistant Directors



City of Dallas Public Affairs & Outreach Media Requests March 25 – April 1

**March 25; Jack Highberger, Reporter, NBC 5:** Reaching out regarding an incident involving a city of Dallas truck at 4934, Kildare Ave this morning at roughly 11:00AM.

Surveillance video shows the truck hitting some sort of cable that was hanging over the street and tearing it from a house. The homeowner tells us he's been unable to get in touch with anyone from the city and the unknown cable remains detached and on the ground.

Is this true? Any additional details you can provide would be appreciated.

**City Response:** I can confirm that the truck in the photo is part of the fleet that picks up brush and bulk trash. After the incident occurred, a Sanitation supervisor arrived at the scene and spoke to the resident, as well as generated a 311 service request for the repairs. Sanitation will coordinate with local utilities as needed for repairs. The Office of Risk Management was notified and will investigate any claims.

This evening, Sanitation staff are also reaching out to the resident directly again.

**March 28; Giles Hudson, Assignment Editor, KTVT:** Hi guys: Why is the [municipal] court going to be closed?

**City response:** Good afternoon, Courts are closed due to an annual personnel development training for city prosecutors. Hope this helps!

April 1, 2019; Stewart McKenzie, Producer, CBS 11: I'm trying to find out where the city is in the process of redeveloping Valley View Mall.

**Media Update from Stewart:** I just got off the phone with Councilman Kleinman who gave me some information. I should be good to go so please disregard my request.

**April 1, 2019; Lori Brown, FOX 4:** Can you please tell me what the proposed changes are to the homebuyer assistance program?

#### City Response:

Please review the links below:

Dallas Homebuyer Assistance Program https://dallascityhall.com/government/Council%20Meeting%20Documents/edh\_5\_dallashomebuyer-assistance-program-update\_040119.pdf

Dallas Housing Rehabilitation Program Overview https://dallascityhall.com/government/Council%20Meeting%20Documents/edh\_6\_dallashousing-rehabilitation-program-overview\_040119.pdf



Dallas Fire-Rescue Department Media Requests: March 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

<u>Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup></u>: All local media outlets - Reaching out to see if you guys are responding to a car that crashed into a house at 8600 Elerberry Court?

<u>City Response</u> – DFR responded to an incident, at 19:01, involving a woman who had accidentally driven her car into her own house at the 8600 block of Elderberry Court. Our Urban Search and Rescue Team (US&R) is responding to assess the integrity of the home before the vehicle could be removed.

The woman safely exited the car and the house on her own and was not injured.

<u>Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup></u>: Fox 4 News (Gillian Hughes and Natalie Solis) – Wanted to know if they could interview medics responsible for saving the life of James Sullivan; who suffered a heart attack while attending the Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, Greenville Avenue St. Patrick's Day Parade. <u>City Response</u> – Assisted in setting up a reunion with three of the responding medics and the patient at the rehab facility he was now located. The story aired during the afternoon and evening news casts and can be seen at the following link: <u>http://www.fox4news.com/news/man-meets-first-responders-who-saved-his-life-at-dallas-st-patricks-day-parade-after-heart-attack</u> <u>NOTE</u> - Personnel from DPD were also part of these life-saving efforts, but were unavailable to attend the meeting with the patient. Attempts to pull the meeting off on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, personnel from both departments were available, were unsuccessful.

<u>Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup></u>: All local media outlets - Any info on the 2 alarm response with USAR at 505 N. Ervay in downtown Dallas?

<u>**City Response</u>** - At 17:08 Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for a structure fire at a vacant high-rise, located at 505 North Ervay Street, under-going renovation work in Downtown Dallas.</u>

Initial reports, from the 911 caller, indicated smoke and flames coming from the 6th floor of the building. When firefighters arrived on the scene, and made their way up to the floor, they found a trash fire still burning. They quickly contained the fire and extinguished the flames before it could spread any further.

Though the source of the fire is known, investigators are still working to determine how it started.

<u>Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup></u>: WFAA 8 (Jason Wheeler) – Sent out a late notice indicating that a story he interviewed a couple of firefighters fire, on Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, was finally going to air on this evening, during the 10 o'clock news.

**Background** – The overall story centered around the fact that women are more like to ignore symptoms of a heart attack then men; and centers around a woman who DFR medics had to convince to go to the hospital, after two 911 calls, for the symptoms she was having. She ultimately had a heart-attack in the back of the ambulance and was saved by the hospital; but had it not been for the persistence of the medics, she may not have made it to the hospital on time. The story can be viewed at the following link:

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A partner.criticalmention.com app -23clip view 35075049-3Ftoken-3D09557b76-2D662e-2D476a-2D8d72-2D77ae7bbb9e21&d=DwIFAg&c=qhent5IL-

8Lans1hhN7NTGhSd0GBLfQfwUvzHj1D5tQ&r=ZXepQjvvm-



## **City of Dallas**

E3njNGrTH6U7 830JSSumJQhBJNN3PaaA&m=oDVMFGgrgernyedzo5ryZbyiJvfKnLYP-UjVhnRBkys&s=tR398M3 g6L1gTpn6y0bg IV6tf vuSNwL-3UL7M0S8&e=

Friday, March 29th: All local media outlets - Can we get more information on the apartment fire DFR is responding to on Forest Lane?

## City Response -

## **Fire Destroys Northwest Dallas Condominiums**

Dallas: On Friday, March 29th, at 12:25 p.m., Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for a structure fire at the Forest West Condominiums, located at 3022 Forest Lane, in Northwest Dallas.

When firefighters first arrived at the two-story building, they observed smoke coming from the upper floor. They moved inside to locate the source of the fire, while knocking on doors to evacuate any remaining residents; but by the time they came out, flames were showing through the roof. A second alarm response was dispatched, and all companies were ordered to pull out and establish a defensive posture. The fire eventually escalated to a 4th alarm, and approximately 80-100 firefighters, using a variety of fire suppression means, including hand lines and ladder pipes, responded to the scene to mitigate the situation.

The building contained a total of 24 condominiums, displacing a total of 55 residents, according to the American Red Cross; who responded to the scene to provide assistance. Thankfully there were no injuries reported as a result of the fire.

The building sustained significant damage throughout, and had multiple internal collapses. As a result, heavy equipment was requested to bring the structure down. Additional crews will remain on-scene, to monitor for underlying hot spots, while the demolition is done.

The cause of the fire is undetermined.