

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE February 1, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – January 29, 2019**

Update Items

[Confederate Monument Update](#)

As you will recall, the City Council adopted a resolution on April 25, 2018, to address Confederate monuments, symbols and images in public places. In that action, City Council requested that staff identify other ideas to enhance and improve Pioneer Cemetery, including the possibility of new statues or plaques and alterations to the Confederate Monument. The scheduling of this item before City Council was delayed pending the election and seating of a District 4 City Council Member.

This item is scheduled for City Council briefing on February 6, 2019. Briefing materials will be posted online this Friday, February 1, 2019. Should you have any additional questions about this ongoing effort, please contact Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager, or Jennifer Scripps, Director of the Office of Cultural Affairs.

[Encampment Resolution Schedule – January 29 and February 5, 2019](#)

The Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) has scheduled the following sites for homeless encampment resolution on Tuesday, January 29 and February 5, 2019:

| January 29, 2019 | February 5, 2019 |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Stemmons Freeway at Northwest Highway (District 6)Medical District at Stemmons Freeway (District 6)Interstate I-35 at Inwood Rd (District 6)Northwest Highway at Denton Rd (District 6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">2300 Harrison St (District 7)1813 Pennsylvania Ave (District 7)400 Mirror Lake Dr. (District 2)13729 C F Hawn (District 2)500 Hill St (District 2)Ross at Central Expressway (District 14) |

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 or Monica Hardman, Director of Office of Homeless Solutions.

[Additional Public Meetings on Track 4 of the Homeless Solutions Strategic Plan](#)

The Citizen Homelessness Commission's Housing Committee and the Office of Homeless Solutions are co-hosting three additional public meetings to further discuss Track 4, briefed to City Council on August 1, 2018, and the voter-approved 2017 Capital Bond Program: Proposition J (Homeless Assistance Facilities) prior to releasing the Notice of Funding Availability. The bond funds will be used to leverage public/private partnerships to increase the availability of supportive

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housing for the homeless; funds may also be used for day centers to provide the wraparound services. The meetings are scheduled for January 30th, and February 6th; further details are available in the flyer attached. Should you have any questions, please contact Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer Nadia Chandler Hardy, or Monica Hardman, Director of Office of Homeless Solutions.

[2019 Council Retreat and Planning Session](#)

On Wednesday, February 20th, the City Council will meet for the annual City Council Retreat and Planning Session at the Brain Performance Institute (2200 W. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas 75235) from 8:30 am to 5:00pm. Similar to last year, several dedicated planning discussions will occur between a few outside speakers. Staff are currently finalizing details for a productive day and will provide further information once completed. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff or Carrie Prysock, Managing Director of the Mayor and City Council Office.

New Items

[Welcoming Hubs](#)

The Office of Welcoming Communities and Immigrant Affairs (WCIA) continues to explore the best approach to developing Welcoming Hubs. WCIA, together with Communication and Information Services (CIS), will host a demonstration of AuntBertha.com on January 31, 2019. AuntBertha.com is a free platform for users where anyone can perform simple searches for free and reduced cost social programs. Departments with external-facing service functions are invited to send a representative to learn more about features of the system and advanced functionalities available to subscription holders.

The Welcoming Hubs concept is an integral pillar of the Welcoming Dallas Strategic Plan. Welcoming Hubs will serve as physical spaces in locations throughout the city and virtual spaces where newcomers to Dallas can efficiently connect with a broad range of city and community services. For example, a Dallas resident searching for naturalization services could search “citizenship” and a list of Dallas-area service providers would populate. Cities, hospitals, child care groups, counties, community college districts are utilizing Auntbertha.com for advanced functionalities such as; activity tracking, social need goal creation, and outcome tracking.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Director of the Office of Welcoming Communities and Immigrant Affairs.

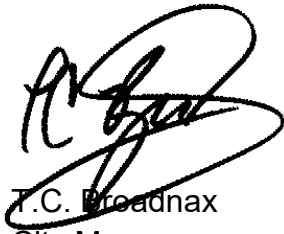
[Media Inquiries](#)

As of January 29th, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- Juvenile Curfew Town Hall
- Dallas Residential Recycling
- Possible Coyote Sightings
- Dallas Police Officer Arrested
- South Dallas Home Burns for the Third Time in January
- DFR Investigators Arrest Woman on Felony 1 Arson Charges
- First Ever Person of Eastern Indian Descent Promotes to the Rank of Captain in DFR
- DFR Responds to Early Morning Tanker Fire that Shuts Down Major Interstate

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Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the week of January 22nd – January 28th 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.



T.C. Broadnax
City Manager

c: Chris Caso, City Attorney (I)
Carol A. Smith, City Auditor (I)
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer 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
Directors and Assistant Directors



**City of Dallas
Public Affairs & Outreach
Media Requests
January 22 – January 28**

January 21, 2019; Larry Powell, reporter, ReadLarryPowell.com: My name is Larry Powell and I have the animal-friendly news site www.readlarrypowell.com, The Pet News Place For People. My question has to do with the DAS home page, www.dallasanimalservices.org.

The site previously published a daily report card, accessible via the "About Us" item on the menu. But the 2018 archives only go through August. And only one card appears to have been posted for January -- January 10th.

Has DAS management decided to suspend that report?

I hope not -- it gives the public a good view of the declining numbers at the shelter.

Thanks for any info you can give me.

City Response: Please visit <https://dallascityhall.com/departments/dallas-animal-services/Pages/Daily-Report-Card.aspx> to see the most recent daily report cards. All of the information should be updated, including the 2019 archive.

January 21, 2019; All local news stations: Dallas Police Officer Arrested

DPD response: On January 21, 2019, Senior Corporal Kevin Masters, #8044, was arrested by the Cedar Hill Police Department for Driving While Intoxicated.

Senior Corporal Masters has been with the department since July of 2001 and is assigned to the Community Engagement Section. He is on Administrative Leave pending an Internal Affairs administrative investigation.

January 23, 2019; Allen Manning, WFAA Managing Editor:

Will you email me a copy of the "dangerous business" letter sent to club XTC and the date and place for the city hearing on the issue?

City Response: The letter you requested requires an open records request. You may submit open records requests through e-mail to openrecords@dallascityhall.com, through fax to the attention of the City Secretary at 214-670-5029, or through the online portal at www.dallascityhall.com - click on "Open Records Request."

January 23, 2019; Allen Manning, WFAA Managing Editor:

Could you have someone send out the schedule when approved for curfew town halls?

City Response: The public hearing dates on the juvenile curfew have been finalized. They will be held on Feb. 6 and Feb. 13. Please visit dallascityhall.com in the coming weeks for more information.

January 24, 2019; Sarah Bowman, Reporter, Indianapolis Star: I am calling because I am working on a story about recycling, and for that I am trying to track down the recycling or diversion rate (or the amount of waste material diverted from the landfill/incinerator) for many of



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the biggest cities around the country, with Dallas being one. If someone would be able to help get me that number, that would be very helpful and much appreciated!

City Response: Dallas' residential recycling diversion rate is 20%. The link below may assist you with your research:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/recycle/study-on-the-economic-impacts-of-recycling>

January 25, 2019; Karen Ballesteros, Telemundo/NBC 5 Assignment Editor: We received this photo from one of our reporters of a coyote outing in Oak Cliff.

Have you guys received any other coyote outings complaints?

City Response: According to 311 records, there's only one report referring to coyote activity this year. Dallas Animal Services responded on the same day the service request was filed but the animal was not found. Coyote sightings are not uncommon, as they are native to this area, though aggressive activity towards humans extremely rare. We encourage people to use the OurDallas mobile app, dial 311 or use our online system to file services requests as soon as they notice something amiss.

January 25, 2019; Hanaa' Tameez, Fort Worth Star-Telegram/La Estrella Diversity

Reporter: My name is Hanaa' Tameez and I am the diversity reporter for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. I am writing a story about the recent lawsuit that was filed against the City of Dallas by the Tenth Street Residential Association that claims the city failed to preserve the historic neighborhood that was settled by freed slaves.

I wanted to know if the City of Dallas wants to make a comment in regard to the lawsuit. My editors would like to publish this story as soon as possible so it would be great to hear back at your earliest convenience.

City Response: The City Attorney's Office has no comment on this litigation matter.

January 28, 2019; Dom Nicastro, CMSWire Reporter (Follow up question):

What's one past achievement in IT you're particularly proud of and why? [Transforming the City of San Antonio from a reactive technology organization to more cutting edge technology government with better citizen engagement.](#) I'd like to ask a follow-up question to that: [Can you give me an example of this in action and how it's helped citizens and why?](#)

City Response: We began by rebuilding the entire infrastructure and application portfolios including adding a fiber network throughout the city. Then we began working on projects like a city-wide traffic light management system, court kiosks, residential applications, etc. We stabilized the City's SAP system and that helped the City receive AAA bond ratings from all three bond rating agencies for nine consecutive years. Built an IT Project and Portfolio office to deliver technology projects into a more enterprise approach.



City of Dallas

Dallas Fire-Rescue Department

Media Requests: January 21st – January 27th, 2019.

Tuesday, January 22nd: WFAA 8 (Joe Sherwood) - Looking for details on the fire in the 1600 block of Elsie Faye Heggins at around 02:16, Incident# 2019016394.

City Response – (NOTE: This information was eventually sent out to all of the local media) On Tuesday, January 22nd, at 02:14, Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for a structure fire at a home, located at 1625 Elsie Faye Heggins Street, just south of Downtown Dallas.

When firefighters arrived at the one-story home, they observed fire coming through the roof, and began a quick attack on the interior. Despite the quick actions of firefighters, the flames had progressed to a level that attack teams had to move to a defensive posture before declaring the fire extinguished in just under an hour.

There were no injuries reported, as no one was home when the fire began. Investigators were able to determine that the fire started in a rear bedroom, where it traveled up the walls, onto and through the ceiling before breaking through the roof. The fire caused major damage to the room of origin, the roof above it and a nearby laundry room; and the rest of the house sustained moderate smoke and heat damage.

Tuesday marked the third time, in the month of January, which DFR responded to a fire at this house. The first fire took place on January 2nd, at 18:29, and is still undetermined pending further investigation; the second fire took place on January 12th, at 23:47, and was determined to be the result of an electrical short in the laundry room.

Despite being able to zero in on the point of origin of yesterday's fire, investigators are unable to rule out multiple potential sources of ignition. Therefore, the cause of that fire is undetermined, pending further investigation.

Wednesday, January 23rd: All local media outlets – Can we have more detail on a fire that DFR responded to early this morning on Noah Street?

City Response - On Wednesday, January 23rd, at 04:50, Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for a structure fire at a home, located at 1219 Noah Street, in South Dallas.

When firefighters arrived at the one-story residence, they observed fire coming from a bedroom in the back of the home. There were at least two people in the home when the fire occurred, but they were able to make it out unharmed before firefighters arrived. They deployed hand-lines, mounted an offensive attack on the fire and had it quickly extinguished in a matter of minutes.

Investigators responded to the scene when one of the occupants, a 27 year-old female, admitted to intentionally setting the fire. Knowing this information, investigators still conducted a systematic investigation, and gathered statements from available witnesses, which corroborated the admission. Consequently, the woman was arrested and charged with Felony 1 Arson.

Wednesday, January 23rd: Sent the following Media Advisory to **all the local media**.



City of Dallas

A First for DFR at Fire Prevention and Investigation Promotional Ceremony

What : Dallas Fire-Rescue Fire Prevention and Investigation Promotional Ceremony

When : Thursday, January 24th, at 2:00 p.m.

Where : Moody Performance Hall (2520 Flora Street, Dallas, TX 75201)

Details : Thursday, at Moody Performance Hall, Dallas Fire-Rescue's Fire Prevention and Investigations Bureau will formally recognize the promotions of 50 of its members who recently achieved the ranks of Senior Fire Prevention Officer (23), Lieutenant (16), Captain (9) and Section Chief (2).

Among the promotions, DFR will be recognizing a first in its rich history, as Julie Kumar becomes the first East Indian to ever achieve the rank of Captain. Captain Kumar has spent the entirety of her 18-year career in Fire Prevention and Investigation, and currently serves as a Fire/Arson Investigator; where she will continue working at her new rank.

Among family who'll be in attendance with the Captain will be her Father, Jacob George, who, in 1987, became the first East Indian, born in India, to be hired by DFR. He went on to serve the City of Dallas for 27 years before retiring in 2013. Additionally, her younger sister, Jamie George, who also works for the Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau, will be in attendance as well as promoting to Senior Fire Prevention Officer at the ceremony.

Media : **Please advise if you plan on sending representataion.** There is currently no plan on how we'll conduct post-ceremony (or pre-ceremony) interviews, but we'll figure something out that works for everyone. Have your photogs/reporters find me, and I'll direct them to a good location where they can get b-roll of the occasion.

Sunday, January 27th: **NBC 5 (Theresa Griesedieck)** - I wanted to reach out and see if you had any information on the tanker fire at i-45 and Wintergreen road? We heard that Hazmat was called out to the scene. Wanted to confirm this is a gasoline tanker on fire? Do you have any idea how the driver is or if there was anyone injured? Any information you have would be greatly appreciated.

City Response – **(Note: This response was also sent to Fox 4 and the Dallas Morning News after requests later in the morning).** We were called out, by Hutchins FD, on a Mutual Aid response just before 06:00. This being the case, you'll have to contact them for your final details.

In the meantime, I can only confirm that an 18-wheeler, carrying approximately 8,500 gallons of fuel is on fire, and has caused the shutdown of Interstate 45, North and Southbound from Pleasant Run Road to Dowdy Ferry Road, in Hutchins, TX.

There is no available information indicating how the fire began, but the driver was able to get out of the 18-wheeler long before it was fully involved.

Crews are containing and monitoring the situation until the fire burns out; which is estimated to take at least another 2-3 hours.

Again, DFR was called out, by Hutchins FD, on a Mutual Aid response, and will therefore not be providing any more updates on this response. Going forward TxDOT



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will ultimately address the clean-up, and Hutchins PD will be your contact for updates on the closure.



Carolyn King Arnold
Councilmember, District 4

DISTRICT 4 COMMUNITY OFFICE OPEN FOR BUSINESS



We can help connect you with city services at

**Beckley-Saner Recreation Center
114 W. Hobson Ave., Dallas, TX 75224**

**10 a.m.- 4 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays
214-243-1527**



City of Dallas

**For more information contact
Renita Griggs at d4@dallascityhall.com**

Hosted by: Office of Homeless Solutions and the
Citizen Homelessness Commission's Housing Subcommittee



PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS

Join us to discuss Track 4 of the City's Homeless Solutions Strategy Plan
and how the \$20M voter-approved bond funding will be used
to help those experiencing homelessness

WEDNESDAY, JAN 23
VIRTUAL MEETING
6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.
<http://bit.ly/2VxIR3Y>

WEDNESDAY, JAN 30
6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.
MEADOWS CONFERENCE CENTER
2900 LIVE OAK, DALLAS, TX 75204

WEDNESDAY, FEB 6
6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.
J. ERIK JONSSON CENTRAL LIBRARY
COMMUNITY SHOWCASE ROOM
1515 YOUNG STREET, DALLAS, TX 75201

For more information, email HomelessSolutions@dallascityhall.com