

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE November 15, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

Updated Items

[Encampment Resolution Schedule – November 12, 2019 & November 19, 2019](#)

The Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) has scheduled the following sites for homeless encampment resolution:

November 12, 2019	November 19, 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1800 South Boulevard (District 7)• 1531 South Malcolm X Boulevard (District 7)• 2300 Coombs Street (District 7)• 7548 Bonnie View Road (District 8)• 8298 South Lancaster Road (District 8)• 2929 Hickory Street (District 7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• West Northwest Highway at Community Drive (District 6)• 12666 Schroeder Road (District 10)• 7575 Frankford Road (District 12)• 10999 North Stemmons Freeway Southbound (District 6)• 13568 North Central Expressway Northbound (District 13)• 2458 Royal Lane (District 6)

OHS Street Outreach team will continue to engage with homeless individuals to provide notice of clean-up and connect them 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 Monica Hardman, Director of Office of Homeless Solutions.

[First Week of Home Improvement and Preservation Program Application Process:](#)

The HIPP application process opened last week to a STRONG start! There were 93 completed applications processed and over half of those 93 attended the HIPP Orientation Program. We also have 155 applications in progress. A big HIPP HIPP Hooray for the Housing Department with these impressive initial numbers!!! Let's continue to spread the word about HIPP to Dallas residents.

New Items

[Inclement Weather Shelter Update and Volunteer Opportunities](#)

The Office of Homeless Solutions in conjunction with several City departments and area partners are continuing to operate the temporary overnight inclement weather shelter. Last night there were 218 individuals who stayed overnight.

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

Dallas Fire-Rescue, Parkland and the Right Care Team continue to provide medical care at the shelter. There were no transports for medical assistance.

Dallas Animal Services provided sheltering and food for the two pets kenneled.

Since temperatures will hit below the inclement weather threshold of 36 degrees tonight, the temporary inclement weather shelter will reopen at 5:30 p.m. this evening.

Many City employees and external volunteers have expressed their willingness to assist with the City's temporary inclement weather shelter at the Convention Center for persons experiencing homelessness. If you would like to volunteer, please fill in the shifts you are available to work at this link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1cFnLPcvhVMTmnsDvX7-TCyM1jek3IRYmzXyzFcXwDFY/edit?usp=sharing>

Please note the following:

- If you are unable to work the entire shift, please simply note the times you are available to work within that shift.
- There are three tabs at the bottom of the spreadsheet – one with volunteer assignments, one for this evening and one for Friday evening. Please note that while we will try our best to provide volunteers with their preference, we cannot guarantee.
- We will email you a parking pass for the convention center prior to your shift time.
- When you come to volunteer, please go to room A-201 (far south side of the convention center).

Please contact Latrisce Johnson or Angela Gort should you have questions.

[Dallas Wins Digital Survey Award](#)

The City of Dallas made the top 10 list in the 2019 Digital Cities Survey Winners list presented by The Center for Digital Government (CDG).

Dallas was recognized for developing an online crime reporting tool, combating cyberthreats by partnering with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to develop the Dallas Strategic Cybersecurity Plan and establishing a regional data sharing agreement with Dallas County.

The survey, in its 19th year, recognizes cities that use technology to tackle social challenges, enhance services, strengthen cybersecurity and more.

Should you have any questions, please contact Hugh Miller, Chief Information Officer.

[Census 2020](#)

City staff and the Mayor's Complete Count Committee are continuing vigorous outreach to ensure all Dallas residents are counted for the 2020 Census. On November 7th, from 9-11 a.m., at Crozier Hall, the City of Dallas Complete Count Committee hosted a Census

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

summit featuring Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson. More than 200 people, including a number of local, state and federal elected officials and offices, attended. Partners and stakeholders learned about getting involved in the Census. Participants divided up into breakout groups for different sectors including elected officials, government agencies, non-profits, community, business, education and healthcare. Similar outreach events will occur over the next months leading up to April 1, 2020 (Census Day).

The City and County are working together to select a vendor to serve as “super coordinator” for the Census 2020 effort. This vendor will help to coordinate efforts around the county. Additionally, they will not be replacing the work that City staff is doing, but instead complimenting it. The review and selection process is underway and the County is expecting to make a contract award, with City concurrence, in early December.

Census staff is working to improve communication and coordination with Complete Count Committee volunteers, as well as more regular updates to the City Council on progress and opportunities for collaboration on Census related activities. Over the next month, staff will be hosting trainings for City Councilmember appointees. Staff is also meeting with City departments to identify ways for them to be more actively engaged with outreach and awareness, both internally and externally. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Brett Wilkinson, Director of the Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs.

[Office of Community Police Oversight](#)

The video for the November 12, 2019, Community Police Oversight Board Meeting is posted [here](#) and publicly accessible. As a reminder for residents who may inquire directly to you, all materials are accessible [here](#) on www.dallascityhall.com. We will also be making some modifications to the OCPO [web page](#) in the coming weeks.

[Texas Department of Criminal Justice Re-Entry Services Grant](#)

During the 86th Session of the Texas Legislature, funding was appropriated within the budget of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) to establish a Reentry Services Pilot Program. This funding is allocated to the City of Dallas (as well as to the City of Houston) to operate a pilot program for reentry services to individuals released from TDCJ facilities who are returning to the Dallas area. The pilot program authorizes the City to enter into agreements with non-profit entities, faith-based organizations, community groups, and the private sector for the provision of reentry services. The total appropriation to the City of Dallas is \$500,000, with \$250,000 being allocated to each FY 2019-2020 and FY 2020-2021.

The Office of Community Care is working with the Economic Development Office, the Office of Resilience and the Office of Procurement Services to develop a procurement to seek community partners to implement the program. It is anticipated that the City Council will consider acceptance of these funds and authorization of the contract with TDCJ at

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

the January 22, 2020 City Council agenda meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Galleshaw, Director of the Office of Community Care.

[Vendor Workshop](#)

The Office of Procurement Services is hosting an outreach event for vendors to learn about citywide opportunities. In addition to learning about open and upcoming contracting opportunities, vendors can ask questions about Bonfire, the City's electronic bid portal, meet the department specific buyers, and ask other questions about how to do business with the City. The vendor workshop is planned for Monday, November 18, 2019 at City Hall, with the first session from 10-11 a.m. for the general vending community and the second session from 2-3p.m. for non-profits. A promotional flyer is attached. Please contact Chhunny Chhean, Director of Procurement Services, for more information.

[Assistant Building Official Named Chair of National Committee](#)

Sustainable Development and Construction proudly announces that David Session, Assistant Building Official, was recently chosen as chair of the International Code Council's Evaluation Services Committee (ICC-ES). This national committee consists of 10 Code Officials from across the United States who provide independent consideration and approval of acceptance criteria, with public safety as their main concern. Acceptance criteria are developed for new and innovative building construction products that are not yet recognized in the construction codes, therefore allowing for entrance of such products into the marketplace. The committee meets three times per year to consider new acceptance criteria and revisions to existing criteria. It is through dedicated and knowledgeable experts like David that we can ensure our built environment is as safe as possible. Should you have any questions, please contact Kris Sweckard, Director of Sustainable Development and Construction.

[Storm Debris Collection Update](#)

Following the October 20 tornado, Sanitation Services and contractor crews have collected over 5200 loads of debris, totaling approximately 157,000 cubic yards. Initial estimates of the total debris were between 200,000 and 250,000 cubic yards. The City's thirty (30) contractor crews continue to work through the impacted area and are making multiple sweeps as residents continue to cut and set out additional storm debris. Debris is currently being directed to a temporary debris staging and grinding site at TI Boulevard and IH-635. In order to address some concerns from the nearby residential area, a barrier has been established to buffer properties adjacent to the staging site from some noise and equipment activities. A secondary grinder is being brought into the temporary site to expedite the reduction and subsequent haul out of the material. Staff currently anticipates a late November or early December departure from the site. Should you have any questions, please contact Timothy Oliver, Assistant Director of Sanitation at 214-671-8135.

[Bulk and Brush Collection Update](#)

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

Following the October 20 tornado, bulk and brush collections were suspended in order to deploy strike teams to the disaster affected areas. With contractors now in place for the ongoing storm debris collections, normal bulk and brush collections resumed citywide on November 4th. Those areas in week 3 which were left incomplete in October were addressed first with October week 4 areas collected next. 20 additional contractor crews are deployed with Sanitation crews as focus is being closely placed on returning to normal schedule by December week 1. While some have been delayed, there will be no reduction in collection weeks for any areas. Residents have been asked to follow their normal collection set out schedules for November and Code Compliance has suspended issuing bulk/brush citations until the return to normal collection schedules in December. Should you have any questions, please contact Timothy Oliver, Assistant Director of Sanitation at 214-671-8135.

Media Inquiries

As of November 11, 2019, the City has received media requests from various news outlets regarding the following topics:

- Man Apprehended After Setting Debris Pile Fire in Tornado Ravaged Neighborhood
- Firefighters Extinguish Two Overnight Oak Cliff Fires
- Tornado Response/Recovery Operational Summary – Firehouse.com
- 18-Wheeler Full of Chocolate Catches Fire on Interstate 20
- DART Train Catches Fire in the DART Tunnel

Please see the attached document compiling information provided to the media outlets for the November 4 – November 10, 2019 for your reference. 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 (Interim)
Mark Swann, City Auditor
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
Michael Mendoza, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Laila Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer
M. Elizabeth Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

Dallas Fire-Rescue Department
Media Requests: November 4th – November 10th, 2019.

Monday, November 4th: CBS 11 (Giles Hudson) NBC 5 (Karen Ballesteros) - Good morning. Did you all get pinged about someone deliberately setting fires in debris piles in the tornado zone?

City Response - On Sunday, November 3rd, at 11:16 a.m., Dallas Fire-Rescue units were assigned to a 911 call for what was believed to be an “illegal burning”, at a home located at 10731 Allwood Lane, after someone called about seeing a person trying to start a fire, and then noticing the smell of burning wood.

Firefighters arrived at the location to find that a small fire had been set within a pile of tree branches and other debris, left over from the recent tornados, in front of the home. The fire had not grown to a significant size by the time firefighters arrived, so they were able to put it out within minutes, using minimal personnel and equipment.

Approximately an hour later, Fire Investigators and Dallas Police officers were able to apprehend the suspect, at the 11200 block of Goodnight Lane, after a resident who lived in the community where the fire took place followed the suspect in their vehicle. The man was issued a citation, for a Class C misdemeanor, by Fire Investigators and taken into custody by Dallas PD.

Monday, November 4th: WBAP Radio (Kim Lampkins) – Can we have information on two fires, referenced in a Fox 4 News Tweet, that DFR responded to?

City Response:

Pueblo St. and Sylvan Ave.:

On Saturday, November 2nd, at 23:24, Dallas Fire-Rescue units were assigned to a 911 call for a structure fire in a vacant building, located at the intersection of Pueblo Street and Sylvan Avenue.

When firefighters arrived at the location, they observed smoke and flames coming from the windows of the building. They moved in for an offensive fire attack and had the flames extinguished in about 20 minutes.

Witnesses reported an unspecified number of homeless individuals exiting the building around the time of the fire. Though they all made it out safely prior to the arrival of firefighters, one of them (an adult male) was taken to a local hospital after being exposed to the smoke.

The building did not have any functioning utilities, and the cause of the fire is currently listed as undetermined.

624 S. Edgefield Avenue:

On Sunday, November 3rd, at 00:46, Dallas Fire-Rescue units were assigned to a 911 call for structure fire at a residence, located at 624 South Edgefield Avenue.

When firefighters arrived at the one-story duplex, they observed smoke and fire coming from the side of it. They deployed handlines and conducted a quick offensive fire attack, and had the flames knocked down in about half an hour.

Fire investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and began as the result of a portable space heater being left too close to combustible materials in the bedroom of the residence. Major fire damage was noted to the contents in the bedroom as well as the walls and ceiling. The flames then spread into the attic space by way of a skylight located just outside of the

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

bedroom. There was no one inside when the fire began, and there were no injuries reported as a result; but the American Red Cross was called out to assist the residents who lived there.

Wednesday, November 6th: Firehouse.com (Joe Vince) – This is Joe Vince from Firehouse magazine again. I contacted you a while back about a story I did on the department's use of blocker trucks.

I'm writing a story about the department's response to the tornado that touched down Sunday night. I want to look at a few key things:

- details concerning the initial response
- coordinating resources within the department and across multiple agencies
- what firefighters were encountering on the ground at the time.

Pete Matthews suggested Chief Ball might be a good person to talk to when it comes to the overall response. I attended Tami Kayea's session at Firehouse Expo, and I thought she might be a good resource, too. But I'd appreciate any interviews you could set up. Also, if possible, I'd like to talk to anyone from Station 41 who could discuss what that situation has been like.

I'm on a tight deadline, and I'd like to be able to do these interviews Wednesday. Depending on individual schedules, I could email questions if phone interviews don't work.

City Response –

General info and numbers (I know these are just estimates)

- How many firefighters/EMTs/etc. deployed?

Over 400

- How many different responding agencies?

13 Mutual Aid

- Plano USAR/Hazmat
- Frisco USAR/Hazmat
- Wylie HAZMAT
- Grand Prairie Hazmat
- Lake Tawakoni FD
- Coppell FD
- Hurst FD
- Carrollton K9
- Northeast Fire Department Association (NEFDA) USAR
- o Grapevine
- o Euless
- o Haltom City
- o Keller
- o Carrollton
- How many storm-related calls?

187

- How many Injuries and fatalities?

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019

7 Injuries 0 Fatalities

- What's the Initial damage assessment (number of structures, dollar estimate)?

Destroyed: 106

Major Damage: 287

Minor Damage: 356

Affected: 156

Total: 905

Overall Response Questions (Chief Ball)

1. With a tornado, you might be called out to structure fires, medical calls and water and confined space rescues that are happening at about the same time and covering a wide area. How did you triage the situation? What were the biggest concerns initially and how were crews and resources deployed?

There was immense chaos due to extensive tornado damage. Offensive tactics to effect search and rescue were initiated.

Initial concerns identified:

- Extensive damaged to residential and commercial property across a wide area
- Multiple collapse zones (night-time hazards)
- Multiple damaged and downed trees (night-time hazards)
- Multiple power lines in the road
- Potential trapped victims
- Multiple gas leaks

The expanded incident was branched by establishing two separate command posts, with a Deputy Chief establishing command in the northeast parking lot of Marsh Lane and Walnut Hill Lane and a Deputy Chief establishing command on Harry Hines Blvd., south of Walnut Hill Lane. The direct path of the tornado(s) and extent of destruction was not immediately known; however, due to the amount of damage and destruction along with multiple personnel and emergency equipment assigned to this activity, an Area Command was established by Chief Ball

Actions to overcome challenges included; initiating a command post as a central location to dispatch, requesting resources, identifying needs, handling walk up requests immediately through the command post, addressing calls that were received through the DFR dispatch center and dispatching from the command post with our available resources. This allowed us to slow down and start identifying the severity of damage and potential resources needed to mitigate the situation

2. What were crews encountering during those first calls generated from the tornado? How were they describing the scenes they were at? What were the most common types of emergencies?

An overwhelming number of calls for trapped victims, Multiple gas leaks and downed power lines

Rescue problems were handled as efficiently as possible. The difficulties of the search and rescues over a wide area at night presented challenges when trying to determine what needed to be searched immediately and where the greatest damage was located.

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019

Citizens requesting immediate help while crews were engaged in a search and rescue efforts, depleted resources.

3. How did you keep firefighters safe while responding to calls during the severe weather? What specific precautions did they take if they needed to head out in the worst of it? Were any crews caught in the middle of a call as the storm hit?

Two Fire Stations were hit and both companies sheltering in place. Crews were out on calls but did not sustain any damage

4. What type of issues, if any, did crews encounter because of a loss of power or downed phone lines/radio towers?

There was still cell service enabling victims to call. The power did go out at several fire stations, but the generators kicked on.

5. How did technology such as drones or thermal image cameras help during searches for anyone who might've been trapped in collapsed structures?

Thermal imagers provided a useful tool in our search as all power was out.
We did not use drones

6. What was the biggest challenge Sunday? Was there a particular call or moment that illustrates how well firefighters and EMTs responded to Sunday's adversity?

Exposure problems presented themselves in the form of potential charged power lines laying on buildings, partial collapses altered engineering stability allowing potential further collapses, displaced citizens trying to re-enter buildings for family members or possessions, and a secondary storm with high winds that impacted our operations. crews needed saw teams through the night to help search. These searches and the hazards associated with cutting trees were all done with little to no lighting as crews climbed over and under damaged and unstable structures to search and clear Mapsco search grids.

7. Where do things stand now? What's still left to be done for crews?

Dallas Fire-Rescue maintained incident command for 10 days in order to facilitate the road clearing and clean up.

8. Was there anything about this storm that made the response unique? Any quick lessons learned from Sunday that you'd pass along (or the reverse: things that were done that you would make sure not to repeat)?

Operational problems were a direct by-product of the tornado causing unknown levels of destruction

The power outages made searches and damage assessments very difficult to complete accurately and efficiently. The unknown factors regarding damage and the complete effect of the tornado created constant concerns for managing needs with the adequate resources with minimal intelligence or feedback.

One problem was getting apparatus back to the staging area to get refueled since they were dispatched continuously in devastated areas. Another problem was managing the influx of mutual aid fire department personnel showing up wanting to help. Some were responding without their department approval or mutual aid requests.

The outcome of the operation turned out to be positive. From the onset of the tornado at night and into the morning, we managed to complete a primary search on an area west of Stemmons Freeway to Greenville Ave, and from Forest Ln to Park Lane. The crews managed to cover this large area since we did not know the extent and path of

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

damage. We started amongst the damage and swept toward the lesser damage during the primary.

In addition to initial responses, all Special Ops teams were utilized during the primary search through the projected tornado damaged area. Each was given Mapsco grids (along with other first responders) to search and identify any needs or solve any emergencies. They were assigned to clear each street, house, and building within their responsive grid. Companies were instructed to report back when their grid was clear and when emergency was mitigated.

Dividing Division 1 Deputy and Division 2 Deputy and branching search efforts into an east and west branch helped to identify the damage path and gain control of resources being used in an area. Utilizing the ICS system to establish the search and rescue assignments assisted in managing multiple companies and prevented companies from being pulled to other calls. The primary search by grid allowed us to keep track of companies in specific zones and we were able to keep hold them accountable for the search and rescue efforts completed in that area. Grid assignment from staging provided coordination and the needed rest and replenishment for crews. Excellent job by all companies

Damaged Station Questions

1. Was anyone inside the station when the damaged happened? If so, what was that like?

Yes, they took shelter in an inside hallway. They have not admitted to being afraid but I'm sure they were.

2. How did the department handle the storm putting one of its stations out of commission? How did that affect the overall response to calls Sunday?

This did not affect the response on the night but having to relocate an Engine and Truck will have an effect on response time in that area.

3. What overall damage was done to the building? What about to apparatus or other equipment?

Station 41 is likely a total loss, but station 35 just sustained damage to an outside perimeter wall

4. What happens to the gear and firefighters normally housed at the station?

We have housed the equipment and personnel at different station, keeping our full fleet still in service.

Thursday, November 7th: All local media outlets – Can we have more detail about an 18-wheeler fire that DFR responded to early this morning?

City Response - Dallas Fire-Rescue units were dispatched to Interstate 20 and Spur 408, at 05:49, in response to multiple 911 calls indicating a truck trailer was on fire spreading into the grass.

When firefighters arrived at the scene, they observed an 18-wheeler fully involved. It took between 2-3 hours to extinguish the flames. The cargo was reported to be chocolate

DATE November 15, 2019
SUBJECT **Taking Care of Business – November 14, 2019**

truffles, and they proved difficult to extinguish as the flames reignited multiple times before we could knock them down completely.

According to first responders, the driver of the 18-wheeler stated that he was driving along the highway when the cab of the truck ignited. He pulled over and exited the truck safely, but the fire quickly spread throughout the entirety of the truck and its contents.

Friday, November 8th: WFAA 8 (Lourdes Vasquez) and NBC 5/Telemundo (Joanna Molinero) - Good evening Jason, I was reaching out regarding a possible reported fire by the Pearl DART Station. It could be nothing, but I thought I'd reach out.

City Response - At [17:39](#) Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for what was reported as a structure fire at the Deep Ellum DART Station, located at 450 Good Latimer Expressway, in Deep Ellum.

When firefighters arrived at the location, they found a DART train which apparently was on fire prior to the arrival of firefighters. According to on-scene personnel, the conductor of the train was traveling through the DART tunnel when he noticed he had a fire under the carriage of the train. He stopped the train in the tunnel, found the fire and put it out with a fire extinguisher, before ultimately bringing it to the Deep Ellum Station where DFR arrived.

You'll have to reach out to DART to find out more detail about the train, what may have caused the fire, where it was headed and the number of passengers on board, but there were no reported injuries as a result of the fire.



VENDOR OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

The Office of Procurement Services is hosting a workshop to showcase opportunities for business vendors and non-profit vendors.

Monday, November 18, 2019

Dallas City Hall
1500 Marilla Street
L1 Auditorium

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
General Vendor Session

2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Non-Profit Vendor Session



City of Dallas

For more information contact:

Carmen Esquivel at 214-670-5246 or email: carmen.esquivel@dallascityhall.com



The Office of
Community Police Oversight
can be reached at 214.670.3882
or OCPO@dallascityhall.com.

You can also visit the office
at City Hall, 2CN,
1500 Marilla Street,
Dallas, Texas 75201.

www.dallascityhall.com



Puede comunicarse con la
Oficina de Supervisión de la
Policía Comunitaria al 214.670.3882
o OCPO@dallascityhall.com.

También puede visitar la oficina
en el Ayuntamiento, 2CN,
1500 Marilla Street,
Dallas, Texas 75201.

www.dallascityhall.com