

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Paul A. Hofmann, City Manager  
Date: January 22, 2021  
Subject: Weekly Memo, January 18 - 22, 2021



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### Personnel Updates

Kelline “Kelli” Reynolds will start her employment with the City on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> as our new Building Custodian.

Building Inspector Eddie Benavides is no longer employed by the City of Bastrop.

### Sidewalk Project Update

Pecan Street section of the Sidewalk Connectivity Project is complete. The Laurel Street section will begin Monday.



### First Down Ride Along with Bastrop Police Department

The City of Bastrop Police Department will partner with the BAMFAM Foundation in their First Down Ride Along Program Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Former Green Bay Packers Bernard Blake will patrol the community with our officers and then head to Bastrop High School, to host a sports clinic and have an open discussion with our youth later this afternoon. This program is designed to help foster positive relationships between the community, law enforcement and athletes.

### **Bastrop Fire Department Working to Improve ISO Rating**

The Bastrop Fire Department is in the process of improving our Public Protection Classification. This rating is used by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) to reflect the community's local fire protection for property insurance rating purposes. ISO classifies communities from 1(Best) to 10(worst) based on how well they score on the ISO Fire Suppression Rating Schedule, which grades such features as water distribution, fire department equipment and manpower and fire alarm facilities. ISO field representatives use the schedule when surveying a community's fire protection capabilities. The City is currently a class 4 community and is awaiting results of our new grade. The regarding is due to our enhanced level of services by adding the aerial apparatus (ladder truck) and full time staffing.

### **Bastrop Fire Department training on new equipment**

All members of the Fire Department have conducted over 60 hours of pump training on both our new apparatus. All members have completed over 120 hours of training on the aerial ladder. Members have learned basic operations, aerial apparatus placement, aerial limitations, aerial usage, and capabilities. Quint 10 (ladder truck) is currently in service and available for calls. All full-time staff will be fully qualified to operate all new apparatus by end of March 2021. Additional training is scheduled to continue to build experience and proficiency within the department.

### **No Joint City Council/BEDC Meeting on February 22**

Last week's memo announced a planned joint meeting of the City Council and the Bastrop Economic Development Corporation to be held on February 22. That meeting is no longer scheduled. It is felt that a joint workshop of this nature is better scheduled for later in the year.

### **Trey Job and Shirley Ellis to speak during February 3 Chamber Luncheon**

Assistant City Manager Job and Interim Building Official Ellis will be the featured guests at the February 3 virtual chamber luncheon. They will discuss and answer questions about the City of Bastrop's development processes.

### **SH 21 / SH 71 Update**

Work continues on the substructure items for the Main Lane River Bridge.

On the east bound frontage road river bridge, the bridge deck for spans 5 – 8 have been completed and the final slab for span 9 was to be completed this week weather permitting. Precast panels and forms continue to be placed on the west bound river bridges and deck placement should begin in February.

The 54" pipe placement under the Union Pacific railroad was delayed due to permitting issues with the railroad.

The contractor has almost completed the mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) wall by Lovers Lane and has begun the work on the one by Jack in the Box. Traffic has been switched over to the newly paved sections of the U-turn west of the river so the remainder of the U-turn can be completed.

Work is continuing on the west bound frontage road between the railroad and Pecan St. to complete the first half of the roadway.

Thursday January 21<sup>st</sup>, the East Bound Outside (Right) Main Lane was closed from the east end of the Colorado River Bridge to the UPRR Overpass to allow for removal of guard fence and placement of concrete traffic barrier. The closure is scheduled to take place from 8:00 pm – 5:00 am Friday morning.

Beginning the evening of January 22, the west bound frontage road will be closed from MLK St (North side) to the UPRR railroad tracks and MLK St. will be closed from the west bound frontage road to Newton St. This is to allow full depth reconstruction of the frontage road / MLK intersection and widening of MLK St. During this time, traffic will follow a detour route. The closure is scheduled from 8:00 PM Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 8:00 pm Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup>. Upon reopening traffic will continue in the current configuration.

### **Communications Update**

Monday was the MLK Day Virtual Event, featuring many pieces produced in house by the communications team including a video message by Mayor Schroeder, walking tour map, photo set of the Freedom Colony exhibit, Council Member Dock Jackson video, list of non-profit volunteer opportunities, and MLK video from two years ago. Promoted the Vaccine Distribution Pre-Registration as offered by Bastrop County. Shared the CARTS NOW free ride promotion. Posted alerts about a water main break, sewer main repair work, TxDot closures on SH 71, and the oil field odorant smell that we received many calls about. Completed the MyGov Quick Start guide print version.

### **Future Agenda Items**

January 28 Joint Workshop with Planning and Zoning Commission

February 9, 2021

- Chief Nagy presents the required Racial Profiling Report
- Presentation of the FY2021 Quarterly Report for the period of October-December of 2020
- Proclamation recognizing February as Black History Month
- Resolution to apply for Homeland Security Grant
- The Colony MUD Roadway Agreement

February 23, 2021

- City Manager Evaluation
- Contract for year 3 of the street maintenance project
- Approval of River Loop project
- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Audit
- Gils Branch update from Halff and Associates

March 9, 2021

- Discussion on future direction of Recreation Programing
- Reappointment of Presiding Judge

## **Attachments**

- TML Legislative Update Number 03