

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Paul A. Hofmann, City Manager
Date: March 5, 2021
Subject: Weekly Memo, March 1-5, 2021



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Department Directors in All Day Planning Session

City Department Directors, the Assistant City Managers, and I will be in an all-day planning session at the Convention Center today. I will be at the closing on our new home first thing Friday, but please let Trey, Rebecca, or me know if you need anything.

Communications Update

The Communications team has continued to disseminate the Winter Storm Recap video over social media, YouTube, on the City's TV station (BTXN Spectrum channel 10) and has received positive responses and feedback about that effort and the efforts of the City during this historic and unprecedented event.

Also in the works is the promotion for an upcoming ribbon cutting to commemorate commencement of the Wastewater Treatment Plant #3 construction. Stay tuned for invitations, event promotion, and coverage of the ribbon cutting.

As the City's Recreation programming is nearing Phase #2, the communications team is developing promotions campaigns and the system for receiving payments, as the "Free" offerings are being transitioned to paid.

This week's messaging has covered the City offices' closure due to Texas Independence Day on March 2, an update about the brief water outage that occurred on Wednesday, March 3, information regarding FEMA disaster documentation and assistance, and a live broadcast of a specially called virtual Planning & Zoning Commission meeting on Monday, March 1.

Bond Rating/Due Diligence Calls

Dan Wegmiller of Specialized Public Finance, our Financial Advisor, has coordinated a bond rating call with S&P Global Ratings, and a due diligence call with various bond underwriters, to discuss the City's refunding issue approved by Council at the February 23 City Council Meeting. Tracy Waldron did a very complete job of answering questions during both calls about City of Bastrop finances and our financial policies. Trey Job provided solid information on projected growth and our wastewater and water plant projects. Our audiences were very appreciative, and we anticipate hearing back on our bond rating in a few days.

New Housing Authority Interim Director

Mayor Schroeder and I were introduced last week to Doris Broadstreet, new Interim Executive Director of the Bastrop Housing Authority. Ms. Broadstreet also serves as Executive Director for the Housing Authorities in Elgin and Thorndale.

Governor's Order

Governor Abbott's much publicized Order is attached. Mayor Schroeder will discuss with Council the implications of this order on City of Bastrop decision-making during the March 9 Council meeting.

State Guard Delivering Vaccines this weekend

Chief Rosales reports that the Bastrop Fire Department will be assisting with the administration of COVID vaccines this weekend. The Texas Division of Emergency Management is deploying the Texas State Guard to provide vaccines to elderly and homebound persons. Chief Rosales and his team have provided information from our medical priorities list from within the city limits and will be assisting guard personnel. Over 40 individuals have been contacted and will receive the first round on Saturday. This effort is in collaboration with Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management and the Bastrop County COVID-19 Vaccine Taskforce.

Built for Life Designation

The Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) has named the City of Bastrop Fire Department a ***Built for Life Fire Department*** to acknowledge its efforts to help the residents of the City of Bastrop understand the life-saving importance of installing home sprinklers in new construction homes. The City of Bastrop Fire Department received the Built for Life Fire Department recognition for its ongoing efforts working with developers to incorporate residential fire safety while meeting the intent of the new B3 Building Codes. We are proud to receive this recognition for our efforts to go above and beyond traditional fire safety outreach. Residents planning to build a new home or doing major remodeling work should talk with their builders and the City of Bastrop Fire Department about fire safety concerns and ask for home fire sprinklers. Free educational material is available at HFSC's website: HomeFireSprinkler.org. Within days of receiving this recognition, the City of Bastrop Fire Department was able to work with a developer on the Legends Cove Subdivision and obtained an agreement to incorporate home fire sprinklers in all homes in that subdivision to mitigate a water supply issue in the ETJ that would have not been possible due to the extensive cost to upgrade the existing water supply infrastructure.

Pending Agenda Items

March 23, 2021

- Approval of River Loop project
- Contract for year 3 of the street maintenance project
- Selection of Construction Manager at Risk for Water Plant Project
- Receive unaudited monthly Financial Statement

- Consider action for Public Improvement Plan Agreement for Pecan Park Section 1B
- Consider action on Professional Agreement between ASAS, LLC and City for future development of 552-acre tract.

April 13, 2021

- Historic Landmark designation of structure known as the Mason Chalmers Fireplace
- Receive quarterly reports from Community Assets
- Receive quarterly report for January through March
- Presentation of Compensation Study

Attachments

- Governor Abbott's Order