

Rockport Transcript

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF ROCKPORT

City Involved in Master Planning

For several years, City staff and Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, and dedicated volunteers have been working towards a Master Plan for the Rockport Heritage District with the goal of creating areas to facilitate pedestrian oriented, mixed-used development and adherence to design standards. This District encompasses land within the boundaries of Market Street, Highway 35 business and Broadway Street, including Rockport Harbor and the southern end of Little Bay ski basin.

Accepted by City Council in late April, the Rockport Heritage District Zoning Overlay Code was prepared by Gateway Planning Group, Inc., a nationally recognized town-planning, transportation-design



Representational concept of a paseo or pedestrian-only street

and economic-development services firm.

Among the components of the plan are character districts, which include business, retail and residential; frontage standards; street designation and networks; civic and open spaces; and development standards, including design, signage, lighting and landscape.

Also underway is the development of a Master Plan for the newly annexed areas in South Rockport. Funding and oversight of the project are being provided to the City and the Planning and Zoning Commission by the Sustainable Communities program and Texas A&M.



Conceptual signage recommendations

Utilities Department Crew Saves Taxpayers over \$33,000

One of the key components in the treatment of wastewater is the clarifier, which removes solids and grease from the treated wastewater. Because of the harsh operating conditions, the clarifier needs to be rehabilitated periodically.

The Utilities Department solicited quotes to sandblast all surfaces, coat with a coal tar epoxy, remove and install different com-



Thanks to Kenneth Morgan, Mark Kuenstler, Jesse Rios, Shaun Woodruff and Danny Cox for their initiative and outstanding work.

ponents, replace consumable parts, make repairs and clean up. The \$36,600 quoted was not available in the budget so Utilities Superintendent Jean Picarazzi collaborated with staff and Urban Engineering and concluded the work could be done in-house for **significantly** less.

Strutting in Rockport



More than 230 individuals braved inclement conditions to participate in the 24th Annual Whooping Crane Strut.

Top Male and Female Winners were: 10k Run – Paul Nicolaides and Rachel Hudson, 5k Run – Donald Patterson and Nicole Spatz, and 2 Mile Walk – Patrick Kennedy and Shelly Green.

Also on hand to cheer on the participants were friends, families, spectators, and a Whooping Crane from the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.



Visit us on the Web
@ www.cityofrockport.com

Public Safety Services

The Rockport Police Department strives to provide exceptional public safety through crime prevention, investigations and patrols. Two very useful services are also available to residents to keep them informed – CrimeReports and FirstCall Emergency Notification.

Crime Reports

For over a year residents have been able to receive near real-time access to crime data from CrimeReports and are able to select the types of crime they wish to know about, create an email alert for the geographic area of interest (like their neighborhood), access historical data, and even submit a tip about a crime. Take a look and sign up by going to the Police Department page at www.cityofrockport.com.

FirstCall

By the beginning of May the

current Reverse 9-1-1 emergency notification system will be replaced with FirstCall. FirstCall allows users to be notified of emergencies such as dangerous weather, evacuations, hazardous material spills, missing persons, and utility service disruptions.

Citizens can choose to be notified by telephone, mobile phone, SMS text message, email, or any combination of methods. FirstCall is paid for by the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

With the 2012 hurricane season approaching, residents are strongly encouraged to go to the Police Department page on the City web site at www.cityofrockport.com.

Being informed about what is going on in your neighborhood is a great tool to help keep you safe! Please call Lt. Larry Sinclair at 790-1134 if you have questions about CrimeReports or FirstCall.

CALL — BEFORE YOU DIG



Before undertaking major landscaping or excavation on your property, call 800-DIG-TESS (344-8377) 3 – 14 days ahead. The Texas Excavation Safety System (TESS) will notify all area utilities to mark underground lines. There is no charge for this service.

May is Election Month



Election of city council representatives for Wards 2 and 4 is scheduled for Saturday, May 12 at City Hall. Registered voters in Rockport may cast early votes by applying for a mail ballot by May 4 or visiting City Hall between April 30 – May 4 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Extended early

voting will be offered from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. on May 7-8.

Due to mandated redistricting following the 2010 Census, many residents may find themselves in different wards. To identify your ward, look for CTY in the right-hand box of your voter registration certificate. The number below CTY represents your ward.

Elections for the Texas Primary, which includes local, state-wide and national races, will be held on Tuesday, May 29.



Applications for the 4th Annual "Rockport in Bloom" contest are available through May 13 at City Hall and online at www.keeprockportbeautiful.com.

This popular event, which is sponsored by the Keep Rockport Beautiful Advisory Board, is one of many efforts dedicated to city improvement and beautification. Judging will be held the week of May 14 and the awards ceremony will be held at City Hall on May 22.

Nominations can be self-made OR you may nominate a deserving individual or organization. All eligible participants will have a "Rockport in Bloom Nominee" sign to post in the yard.

Categories are residential, parks, business, churches and schools. The Business Category has two subcategories – grounds or containers. The Residential subcategories are a) xeriscape, i.e., low water requirement, b) shrubs and flowering plants, c) containers and d) sustainable, i.e. low maintenance plants that are native or adaptable to the area.

On the Horizon



Wondering about the new construction on the west side of the Bypass between Pearl/FM 2165 and Market/FM 1069? It's the new Public Service Center Complex and water tower, which will be completed this summer.

Designed as a one-stop center for residents, developers and builders, the complex will house the City's public works, water, wastewater, natural gas, building and development, permits/inspections, code enforcement and environmental services divisions. Construction is being financed through a 2009 Certificate of Obligation.

Shop Rockport—
Keep your retail sales
taxes working at home

Rockport City Council

Mayor

Ward 1

Ward 2

Ward 3

Ward 4



C.J. Wax



William Fisher



Leopoldo Villa



Paul Lippke



Adelaide Marlatt

Construction Updates



(Left) Construction is progressing on the Tule Hike & Bike Trail with an estimated July completion date. The trailhead begins at the parking lot located at the north entrance of the WalMart on Business 35 and will wind for a mile through live oaks and along Tule Creek ending at Enterprise Boulevard. This is only a portion of a long-term trail system that will connect all parts of the city. It also includes the sidewalks connecting Live Oak Street to the courthouse and along Concho.

(Right) Concurrent and adjacent to the trail construction is the West Tule Creek stormwater management project, which is being overseen by the County. The flow of water and the detention pond are being reengineered to reduce the potential for flooding and to trap nutrients and sediment from entering Little Bay.

Who Do I Call If ...

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency Public Safety	729-1111
Utility Bill Questions/Concerns	729-2213 x 234
Street Issues and Repairs	790-1160
Sewer, Water and Gas Issues	790-1160
Trash Pick-Up	729-2213 x 234
City Administrative Offices	729-2213 x 221
Building and Development Dept.	790-1125

For additional questions or concerns, visit the "Who Do I Call" or "Fix It" sections on the City's web site. www.cityofrockport.com or call City Hall at 729-2213.



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