



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, Jan. 18
5 p.m.
City Hall,
Council Chamber

Tuesday, Feb. 1
5 p.m.
City Hall,
Council Chamber



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Mayor Davis details key 2011 projects



Welcome to 2011! Each January the Arbor provides residents with details on current projects that will benefit residents and help city employees provide even better service to the community.

Permanent home for the University Park Public Library

For decades, many of our best and brightest have wrestled with finding a permanent home for our public library. This month, barring unforeseen hurdles, the City Council will give final approval to an agreement that will provide 17,500 square feet of permanent space specifically designed and finished out as a library. Housed on the second floor of a new five-story office building in the Plaza at Preston Center (see rendering at right), the library floor plan includes a lobby entrance separate from the rest of the building's tenants. Meeting and office space will be located on part of the building's third floor. The agreement also provides patrons with ample parking in the building's underground and surface lots.

In the past, potential library sites have been challenged by rezoning and land acquisition issues that have spawned concerns over traffic, parking, and other perceived shortcomings for adjacent neighborhoods. Working in partnership with the Center and the Friends of the Library, this site provides the community with a state-of-the-art facility, minus those concerns.

Under the library agreement, the City will transfer ownership of streets, sidewalks and alleys within the Center's boundaries to the Center. In exchange, the City will gain ownership of the second floor of the office building. In addition, the Center will provide the City with a \$50 per square foot finish out allowance and lease the third floor meeting



and lobby space to the City at no cost for 50 years. The financial aspects of this agreement are attractive on several fronts. First and foremost, the City receives library space at

little or no taxpayer expense. Also, because there will be no large cash outlay for property acquisition or building construction, the Friends of the Library can focus on raising funds for an endowment to reduce the amount of City funds needed for the library's annual operating budget. The Center's property manager says building construction is slated to begin in May and last 18 months.

Playground in Germany Park South

Construction will begin this month on a small park located just south of the Germany Park track. The space, designed for use by younger children, will include a playground with a rubberized surface, tables and benches, walkways, a restroom structure, area lighting, decorative fencing with brick

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Mayor's message

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columns, irrigation and landscaping. Following architectural plans, discussion with adjacent home owners and the Park Advisory Board, the City Council approved a budget of \$402,309 for the project. Of that total, \$190,000 will come from money the City received from the sale of Potomac Park to SMU, and \$46,000 will come from the University Park Civic Foundation.



The playground is set to open in June.

Fondren Water Tower

The 2-million gallon elevated water storage tank on Fondren, just east of North Central Expressway, was constructed in 1992. A failing paint system on the interior of the tank has caused deterioration and rust. Bids for restoration and repainting in the amount of \$800,000 were approved by the City Council last fall. The renovation effort will begin in March, and will be completed in time for the higher demand summer season.

Water supply interconnect

Construction of a new 24-inch water main is nearly complete along Roland, from Mockingbird north to

Germany Park. This pipeline means, if for any reason the City's normal water provider, Dallas County Park Cities Municipal Utilities District, is unable to provide service, the City will have a redundant water supply from Dallas Water Utility. The project cost is \$950,000.

Fire Training Tower

This month, the City's new fire training tower will be ready for use. Replacing an obsolete tower, the new four-story structure is located next to the City's water tower on Fondren Avenue.



Outfitted with a burn simulator to replicate true fire conditions, the tower will help City firefighters maintain proficiency, meet state-mandated continuing education requirements and continue the City's favorable ISO fire suppression rating. Part of the City's Capital Projects budget, the project cost is \$620,000.

City boosts alarm permit renewal fees



As part of the fiscal 2011 budget effective last October 1, the City has increased the amount residents and businesses are annually charged to renew their alarm monitoring permits. The new amount is \$48 a year. The annual renewal fee had been \$12 a year. The new amount, applied to your utility bill, is now consistent with what other area communities charge.

This is the first time the City's alarm registration permit fee has increased since 2001. The City opted to boost this fee to offset continued reductions in other revenue streams including building permits, sales tax and interest earnings.

The proceeds gained from alarm permit renewals help fund police and fire operations. Case in point: the City has been able to increase the number of full-time 9-1-1 dispatchers from four positions in 2001, to eight full-time positions today.



Direct Alarm subscribers should note their permit renewal fees are included in the monthly alarm monitoring fees. Direct Alarm offers residents and businesses the opportunity to have their security systems monitored directly from the City's police and fire dispatch center.

Crosswalk safety reminders

The City of University Park is committed to making city streets and roadways as safe as possible. In 2007, the police department established a Traffic Enforcement Division. Working with HPISD and PTA representatives, the department recently increased the school crossing guard staff to 13 members. Technology also continues to be addressed. The Traffic Division uses the latest in highly-reflective materials to outfit all warning signs and in-pavement lighted crosswalks have been installed in some locations.

Despite these and other advancements, too often, potentially devastating mishaps involving pedestrians, cyclists and motorists are narrowly avoided. On occasion, the outcome is life-threatening or worse. In November, an SMU student was seriously injured when she was struck by a motorist. Police reports taken at that accident scene suggest both the driver and pedestrian were not paying attention as the student crossed at mid-block. Tragically in 2003, a first-grade student was struck and killed as she, her mother and younger sister were crossing Hillcrest.

Please take a moment to review the bullet points below. If you have school-age children, discuss crosswalk safety with them. If you have teenage drivers in the household, quiz them too.

Texas Transportation Code:

The operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing a roadway in a crosswalk if:

- no traffic control signal is in place or in operation

and the pedestrian is:

- on the half of the roadway in which the vehicle is traveling; or is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger (a pedestrian may not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and proceed into a crosswalk in the path of a vehicle so close that it is impossible for the vehicle operator to yield)
- the operator of a vehicle approaching from the rear of a vehicle that is stopped at a crosswalk to permit a pedestrian to cross a roadway may not pass the stopped vehicle

A pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to a vehicle on the highway if crossing a roadway at a place:

- other than a marked crosswalk or in an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection
- between adjacent intersections at which traffic control signals are in operation, a pedestrian may cross only in a marked crosswalk



A pedestrian beacon. The City has these devices in the 3800 block of University (between Goar and Williams Parks) and at 7800 Hillcrest at Greenbrier.



An in-pavement lighted crosswalk. This type of equipment is located in four locations.

- 3500 blk of Lovers (UP Elementary)
- 3300 blk of Daniel (*SMU Law Library)
- 6500 blk of Airline at Daniel (*Sorority Row)
- 5900 blk of Airline (*Doak Walker Plaza)

*SMU paid for design, materials and installation of the crosswalk equipment at these locations.

City news briefs

Fire department offering CPR training class

As a community service, the fire department will soon offer American Red Cross CPR training classes. Conducted at City Hall (3800 University Blvd.), each class will be limited to the first 20 people who sign up. Participants will be charged \$20 each to cover the cost of materials. During each hands-on class, participants will learn how to give CPR to adults, children and infants. Class participants will also work with Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). At the conclusion of each class every participant will receive a certificate of completion. If you want to participate, contact the Fire Department at **214-987-5380**. Class dates will be detailed in the February Arbor.



American Heart Association Statistics:

- Effective bystander CPR, provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest, can double or triple a victim's chance of survival.
- Up to 80 percent of all sudden cardiac arrests happen at home, so knowing CPR often means the difference between life and death.

New lights for Germany Park tennis courts

New lighting has been installed at the Germany Park tennis courts. In March, those courts will also be resurfaced. Once that work is completed, all the City's tennis courts will have received recent lighting and surface upgrades.



Visitors to Germany Park should also note that red hollies have been added to the landscaping around the tennis courts to boost aesthetics and provide privacy and a wind screen.

Above: Example of the type of lighting that will be installed.

Reporting lost and found pets



The City of University Park is committed to reuniting pets with their families. Residents are encouraged to call the City's police/fire dispatch center at any time to report a lost or found pet. The dispatch center keeps a list of all such reports. It includes a description of the pet, and the time and place that it was last seen or found. Residents should also check with local animal shelters. Area shelters are listed on the City's website (www.uptexas.org) on the Animal Control page. Use the website's search window to access shelter information. Type "animal control," and click on Go.

- To report a lost or found pet, residents should call **214-363-3000**.
- Please do not dial 9-1-1.
- To keep the information sheet as accurate as possible, if the pet reported lost is found, call the police/fire dispatch center so that the lost and found list is current.

For information concerning the City's animal regulations and policies, residents are encouraged to contact Animal Control Officer Launa Patton, at 214-987-5371. Or, they can e-mail her at ldarmofal@uptexas.org. Launa's office hours are: Tuesday-Saturday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

CONTACT THE CITY...

City of University Park
3800 University Blvd.
University Park, Texas 75205

Main Number 214-363-1644
City Information Line 3-1-1

Fred N. Peek - Harold F. Peek Service Center
4420 Worcola St.
Dallas, Texas 75206