

City Administrator's Update

HIGHLAND HAVEN

February 28, 2025



The Importance of Local Control in Highland Haven

Dear Highland Haven Residents,

Texas has long championed the idea of limited government and local control, but recent actions by the State Legislature tell a different story. Laws that preempt local decision-making—such as those regulating short-term rentals, accessory dwelling units, and minimum lot sizes—threaten our ability to manage Highland Haven in a way that reflects the character and needs of our community. These changes could have lasting impacts on our residents, property values, and overall quality of life.

Local governments exist to serve their residents directly, with firsthand knowledge of their communities. When decisions about zoning, land use, and development are made at the state level, they often fail to account for the unique needs of cities like ours. A one-size-fits-all approach may work in larger metropolitan areas, but it can be damaging to small, rural cities that rely on carefully crafted local policies to maintain their identity and function effectively.

If these issues matter to you, the best way to make a difference is to contact your state representatives. While locally elected city leaders and city staff advocate for Highland Haven, lawmakers ultimately listen most to their constituents. Your voice is powerful, and reaching out to your legislators about the importance of local control can help protect our ability to shape our own community's future.

Andy Adams

City Administrator
Highland Haven, TX
cityadministrator@highlandhaventx.com

Contact Information for our Local Representatives

**Senator
Pete Flores
District 24**

Capitol Address

The Honorable Pete Flores
P.O. Box 12068
Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711

Phone

(512) 463-0124

Email

pete.flores@senate.texas.gov

**Representative
Ellen Troxclair
District 19**

Capitol Address

The Honorable Ellen Troxclair
Room E1.322
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78711

Phone

(512) 463-0490

Email

ellen.troxclair@house.texas.gov

Legislative Issues

www.highlandhaventx.com/legislative-issues/

To find out more about current legislative issues that may affect our city, please visit the website listed above. On the city's legislative issues webpage you can find a copy of Resolution #364 which outlines the city's legislative priorities for the 89th Texas Legislative Session.

You can also find a Bill Review document which summarizes bills that have been filed so far this session, as well as contact information for our local representatives and sample form letters which can help you write an effective advocacy letter or email.

Next BOA Meeting

The next Board of Alderman meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday March 4 at the Community Center.

A copy of the agenda will be available online, as well as the packet.

Next P&Z Meeting

The next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting will take place at 6 p.m. on Thursday March 13 at the Community Center.

A copy of the agenda will be available online, as well as the packet.

What's Up With Water

Customer Shut Off Valves and Curb Stops



In each City Administrator's Update, we'll share important information about Highland Haven's water system, including maintenance tips, best practices, and any ongoing projects or repairs. This edition focuses on an important distinction between customer shut-off valves and city-owned curb stops.

Each home in Highland Haven has a city-owned shut-off valve (curb stop) and a customer-side shut-off valve—but it's important to know the difference. The curb stop, marked in red in the image, is for city use only and should never be turned on or off by residents. Instead, homeowners should use their customer shut-off valve, typically located inside or just past the meter box (marked in green). The meter itself, which tracks usage, is highlighted in yellow. Please note that not all meter boxes and shut offs look like this.

The city's shut-off valves are designed for infrequent use, primarily by city technicians for meter repairs. Improper use can cause serious damage, leading to costly repairs and service interruptions. Recently, a resident mistakenly turned off a city valve, breaking it and causing a two-hour water outage for nearby homes.

To help maintain our water system, please use your customer shut-off valve when needed. If you're unsure where it's located or need assistance, contact City Hall. Any damage to city infrastructure caused by improper use will be billed to the responsible party.

Thank you for doing your part to keep Highland Haven's water system running smoothly!

Stay in the Loop & Reach Out!

We appreciate you taking the time to stay informed about what's happening in Highland Haven. If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat about city matters, we're always happy to hear from you! Feel free to reach out, and we'll do our best to provide answers and keep you in the know.

☎ Phone: (830) 265-4366

✉ Email: cityadministrator@highlandhaventx.com

📍 City Hall Address: 510-A Highland Dr., Highland Haven, TX 78654

Stay engaged, stay involved, and thank you for being a part of what makes Highland Haven a great place to live!
