



November , 2009

newsletter@lucastexas.us

665 Country Club Road, Lucas TX 75002 • 972/727-8999 • www.lucastexas.us

CITY COUNCIL

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Straight Talk from the Mayor



The City of Lucas' intersection improvements project is nearing completion. Reynolds Asphalt and Construction Company is the contractor for the project. The engineering firm of Freese and Nichols, Inc. was the design engineer. The City of Lucas' Public Works Department staff provided engineering oversight and

construction management.

The project will add right-turn lanes at two major intersections within the City. There are two new turn lanes at the intersection of West Lucas Road and Country Club Road, and one at Estates Parkway and Country Club Road. These improvements will help ease congestion at the intersections during peak traffic times, especially in the morning and afternoon.

The intersection improvement project was funded by the City of Lucas and Collin County through an Interlocal Agreement. Collin County participated with 50% of the costs of design and construction, using 2007 Bond funds.

The total cost for design and construction was \$295,506. The County and City each contributed \$147,753 to fund the project. The City used \$70,400 from Thoroughfare Impact Fees, obtained from new residential development, with the remaining \$77,353 from the City's General Fund.

Special thanks go to Collin County Judge Keith Self, and County Commissioners Joe Jaynes, Jerry Hoagland, Matt Shaheen, and Kathy Ward.

MEETING SCHEDULE

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 IN THE NEW CITY HALL UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

**PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

**CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

**CITY HALL CLOSED
NOVEMBER 26TH AND 27TH**

Sign up for email notification of all City of Lucas' website updates by emailing the City Secretary, secretary@lucastexas.us

Community Corner

Churches in Lucas city limits

Cornerstone Baptist Church

2242 W. Lucas Road

Lucas, TX

(972) 475-9149

Pastor Brother Jim Everidge

<http://www.cornerstonebaptistchurchlucas.org>

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 AM

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Sunday Evening 6:30 PM

Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM

Faith Fellowship

415 W. Lucas Road

Lucas, TX

(972) 442-2121

Pastor Luke Crain

<http://www.faithfellowshiplucas.org>

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Care Groups 6:30 PM

First Baptist Church

100 Stinson Road

Lucas, TX

(972) 442-3902

Pastor Jim Lanier

<http://www.firstlucas.com>

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Sunday Evening 6:00 PM

Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM

Forest Grove Christian Church

2542 Country Club

Lucas, TX

(972) 562-9025

Pastor Dr. Larry Ross

http://www.ntaccsw.org/pages/minisite_fgctx_home

Intercessory Prayer 9-9:15 AM

Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday School 10:30-11 AM

Fellowship Time 11:00-12 noon

Sunday School for Adults 12:15-12:30 PM

Intercessory Prayer Daily Prayer: Mondays through Thursdays, 9 AM

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

750 W. Lucas Road

Lucas, TX

(972) 727-3639

Pastor Nancy Sherman

<http://www.lucasumc.org>

Sunday School 9:45 AM

Sunday Worship 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Grace Evangelical Free Church

2005 Estates Parkway

Lucas, TX

(972) 727-4512

Pastor Joel Walters

www.grace-efc.org

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

10:45 AM

Property Fraud Alert

County Clerk [Stacey Kemp](#) has posted a new – and free – online service that will let you know when anyone attempts to change your property's documents on file in Collin County. **Property Fraud Alert** will notify you of any changes made to your personal or business property.

This notification system is set up to help thwart people filing a fraudulent land records with the County Clerk, making it look like they own your home or business property.

And it happens.

Scam artists pick a house to steal, maybe a rental property. They then assume the homeowner's identity using any information they can find on the homeowner,

create fake ID's, forge signatures and notarizations, and file a fraudulent deed transferring the property away from the legitimate homeowner. Next, they record the deed and sell the property or re-mortgage it and pocket the proceeds – and can be long gone before the homeowner is aware of what's happened.

Property Fraud Alert is a team effort with the County Clerk to help keep you informed if someone tries to file a land record using your good name.

For more information, check out the [Frequently-Asked Questions](#) from <http://www.propertyfraudalert.com/AboutPropertyFraud.aspx>, or [download a brochure](#) from http://www.co.collin.tx.us/county_clerk/PFA_brochure.pdf.



Vote Center concept brings added convenience to casting ballots on Election Day

Collin County will introduce the **Election Day Vote Center** concept for special elections slated on Nov. 3, and our [Elections Department](#) has tapped a few new resources to make it easier for voters to find a polling location.

Just as early voting allows registered voters to cast ballots at any polling locale before Election Day, a pilot program allows the Vote Center concept to work the same on Nov. 3 at 57 different locations. As long as you're registered in this county, there is no need to worry about which precinct in which you're registered and which polling location applies to that precinct.

Because of that, we've added tools and services to make it easier and more convenient to cast your ballot on that Tuesday.

Location, location, location

Since Collin County voters can cast ballots at any vote center, we've tried to make it as easy as possible to find a vote center close to your home, work or wherever you happen to be in the county while the polls are open. If you want to pick your polling locale online, you can logon to our Election Day Polling Location Search, type any county address and zip code, and the interactive map will find the closest poll to you, plus tell you how to get there.

We've also posted the master list of all 57 locations, from the Allen Municipal Court Building to Fire Station #5 in McKinney to the Wylie Municipal Complex. While you're viewing the list, take a look to the right hand columns, where we'll have a traffic light to show you whether the poll is being used heavily or not – and an

estimated wait time for each location. Don't have a lot of time to wait in line? Scan for locales that aren't as busy.

Text Service

Also, from October 31 up through Election Day, we'll be providing a text service where you can send in your zip code and the mPulse messaging service will provide up to three vote center addresses nearest you. If you're interested in this type of service, please sign up for election information emails and we'll get back with you with instructions. This is also where you can register to receive election results as they are updated by our staff.

Remember, Collin County is one of only four Texas counties participating in this state-sponsored pilot program. While the vote center concept might turn out to be how we vote in primaries and general elections in the future, this method is being tapped for the Nov. 3 Special Elections only. For that reason, we're encouraging everyone to "test drive" these tools and cast their vote on Nov. 3.

For those who prefer to cast their ballots early, check out our Early Voting Locations and Calendar.

And to preview the three sample ballot styles that will be in use for early and Election Day voting, head over to our [Sample Ballots Page](#).

For more information on voting in Collin County, please visit our [Elections Department](#).

County Provides Important Alert Related Service - CodeRED

CodeRED delivers emergency notices to resident and businesses at a rate of 60,000 calls per hour, and can target calls to specific geographic areas for emergencies such as evacuation notices, severe weather or a public health crisis. Residents must sign up online for the notification system. For more information, see www.co.collin.tx.us/public_information/features/code_red.jsp

Texas Municipal League: A Big Resource For A Small City

A small city such as the City of Lucas faces challenges that are unique to its size and demographics. Having affordable resources to assist us in administering our local government is invaluable. Our membership in the Texas Municipal League is an excellent way to gain the resource advantages enjoyed by a larger city, with out the “big city” bureaucracy.

The Texas Municipal League was formed in 1913, has more than 1,100 member cities, and membership is open to any city in Texas, regardless of size.

It provides a number of services to its members, including advocating municipal interests at both the state and federal levels. The League’s Legislative Services Department attempts to defeat bills detrimental to city interests, and helps facilitate passage of bills that improve the ability of local government to operate effectively. The League provides in-depth information to its members on legal issues, conducts training seminars for local government officials, and provides a wide variety of information and data helpful to cities. They employ full time attorneys who are available to provide member cities with advice and information on municipal legal matters.

The TML Intergovernmental Employee Benefit Pool provides the City with access to employee benefit programs that are generally lower cost than the open market.

CITY OF LUCAS
665 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

City Council Actions for October

- Approved **RESOLUTION # R-2009-10-00343** of the City Council of Lucas, Collin County, Texas designating the *McKINNEY COURIER GAZETTE* the official newspaper of the City of Lucas, Collin County, Texas, for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.
- Approved **ORDINANCE # 2009-10-00654** of the City of Lucas, Collin County, Texas, finding that the current rates of CoServ Gas LTD. Are unreasonable; approving Coserv Gas LTD.’s revised and uncontested tariffs; setting the effective date of new tariffs as November 1, 2009; finding rate case expenses reasonable; finding that any relief requested by Coserv Gas LTD. not specifically granted herein is denied; finding that the meeting at which this ordinance is passed is open to the public as required by law; providing for notice of this ordinance to Coserv Gas LTD.

The TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool gives us access to lower cost insurance programs for our property, public liability, auto insurance, and workers compensation insurance needs. In addition, they can provide valuable risk management assistance that may help us keep our claims to a minimum.

Our membership in the Texas Municipal League is certainly an advantage to our city and its residents. It allows us access to the latest in information and services that help us to more effectively and efficiently run our city.

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