



# LUCAS LEADER



A publication of the City of Lucas

August 2017



## Mayor's Message

By Jim Olk

Back in June as part of the Mayor's Message, I talked about a water rate study that the City was having done to determine if our water rates are adequate to take us into the future. Well, the water rate study was completed and it looks like we will be seeing an increase in our

water rates.

At the July 6, 2017 meeting the City Council approved a water rate study completed by Capex Consulting Group. The study laid out a plan that will enable the water fund to meet operating and capital expenditure requirements for the next five years. This rate study includes the use of Utility Fund reserves along with issuing \$3 million dollars in Certificates of Obligation to construct a new water tower and make operational improvements to our water system. The study takes into account that our wholesale provider, North Texas

Municipal Water District is proposing an approximate 10% increase in our wholesale water rates. The study considers each customer class (residential or commercial) to make sure any rate structure is just and reasonable. It also reflects national and industry standards for ratemaking as well as making sure our rates are competitive with other water providers in the area.

Bottom line... the plan reflects a series of rate increases over the next five years that will equate to an approximate increase of \$5.16 on the average residential monthly water bill. (The average water usage in Lucas is approximately 16,000 gallons per month.)

If you have any comments or concerns the City Council has scheduled a public hearing to consider adjusting the water and wastewater rates for August 3, 2017. The meeting to adopt the ordinance for the new water and wastewater rates will be August 17, 2017. If you are interested in the detailed schedules for the proposed rate changes they can be viewed on the City's website homepage by clicking the link under the "Public Hearing Set for Water and Wastewater Rates".

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

### West Lucas Road Continuous Turn Lane

The City will be adding a continuous turn lane on W. Lucas Road between Angel Parkway and Country Club to improve safety and capacity. During the month of July, the contractor plans to focus on the eastbound side from Angel Parkway to Middleton Drive.

Construction signage will be installed and the southern edge of the pavement/shoulder will be removed. The roadway base will be placed followed by new asphalt pavement the last week of July. Two-way traffic operation is anticipated for this area except for a few stretches where the main eastbound travel lane is in need of base repair. In August, the construction area will be between Middleton Drive and County Club Road. All of the work should be completed by Thanksgiving.

### Winningkoff Reverse Curve

Staff has been meeting with homeowners to discuss the project and roadway easements. If all goes as planned, the construction should start in September or October and last for six to seven months. Impacts to traffic flow should last three to four months. The 90% plans can be downloaded from the city website at <https://www.lucastexas.us/neighborhood-connector-street-projects/>.

### Summer 2017 Street Maintenance

This summer the City's contractor, APAC-Texas will be working on the following streets:

- 1,000 feet of Blondy Jhune Road West of the West Bridge
- Daytona Avenue
- Prado Verde Drive turnaround
- Edgefield Lane turnaround
- Estates Road turnaround
- Horseman Drive
- Skyview Drive

All the work should be done by the end of September. Staff will be contacting the homeowners to let them know about the plans.

## East Winningkoff Trailhead Becoming a Reality

The City of Lucas was successful in obtaining \$106,480 in funding from the Collin County Parks and Open Space Project Funding Assistance Program. The City is in the process of creating a trailhead on East Winningkoff just to the west of the water tower. We would like to thank Collin County Commissioners Court for their ongoing financial support of this program and the Collin County Parks Foundation Advisory Board for selecting the East Winningkoff Trailhead for funding.

This project includes a small pavilion with picnic tables, horse corral, restroom, water, and ample parking for trucks and trailers. This trailhead is designed to meet the needs of our equestrian community so they will have access to Trinity Trail and have a safe area to ride. The tree line is being cleared of debris and brush to provide additional shade and there is split cedar fence to help define the area.

Please watch the Lucas Leader for more details regarding completion of this recreational amenity and information on the celebration of the opening of the East Winningkoff Trailhead. We are anticipating completion in late September.

## Rise Broadband Update

The equipment has been installed and tested on the Seis Lagos (Brockdale Park) water tower. Rise is contacting customers to schedule redirection to this new site.

## Meetings and Events

**August 3, 2017**

City Council and Fire District  
7:00 pm - Council Chambers

**August 17, 2017**

City Council  
7:00 pm - Council Chambers

**August 10, 2017**

Planning & Zoning  
7:00 pm - Council Chambers

**August 22, 2017**

Parks and Open Space Board  
7:00 pm - Council Chambers

## Adopt a Pet

*Collin County Animal Services*



Meet Foxy. She is a seven-year old Pomeranian mix. She is gentle, loves treats, likes to be petted, and loves to investigate while she's on walks. If you would like to learn more about Foxy and others to adopt, visit the Collin County website at [http://collincountytx.gov/animal\\_services/Pages/default.aspx](http://collincountytx.gov/animal_services/Pages/default.aspx) or visit the Collin County

Animal Services on Facebook for additional information and pictures.

## Funds Proposed for Water and Roadway Projects

During the May 18 City Council meeting, a Resolution to issue Certificates of Obligation in an amount not to exceed \$9,000,000 was approved to fund priority water and general fund roadway projects. The City received an AA+ rating from Standards and Poor's Financial Services (S&P) for the 2017 Certificate of Obligation sale, which is the second highest rating that a City can earn. The City was assigned this rating due to a very strong economy, strong management, strong budgetary performance and strong liquidity. This positive rating helps the City receive the lowest possible interest rates and demonstrates the City's capacity to meet their financial obligations. Priority projects identified to be constructed using proceeds from the sale of the 2017 Certificates of Obligation are listed below:

### Priority Water Fund Projects - \$3,284,743

- Elevated Water Tower
- Parker Road Waterline-Shepherds Creek Drive to Santa Fe
- Parker Road Waterline Santa Fe Trail to Stinson Road
- Restore/replace pumps at North Pump Station
- New Pump house at the North Pump Station

### Priority General Fund Road Projects - \$8,134,000

- Winningkoff Reverse Curve
- Stinson Road/W. Lucas Road Intersection
- Country Club/Estates Parkway Intersection
- Winningkoff - Reverse Curve to Snider Lane
- Stinson Road South of bridge
- Blondy Jhune/West bridge/Winningkoff

### Funding sources for the projects include:

#### Water Fund:

FY 16-17 Capital Fund	\$142,964
Water Fund Reserves	\$142,000
2017 Certificates of Obligation	<u>\$2,999,779</u>
Total	\$3,284,743

#### General Fund:

FY 16-17 Capital Fund	\$749,000
General Fund Reserves	\$1,385,000
Amount funded with Certificates of Obligation	<u>\$6,000,000</u>
Total	\$8,134,000

### Resonate Life Church

## Back to School Family Fun & Safety Fair August 12 from 9 am to Noon

Bring your friends and family for a fun-filled morning and receive safety advice from the experts on Saturday, August 12 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Lucas Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road. There will be games for the whole family, hot wheels track race (bring your own hot wheels), crafts, face painting, music and explore the fire truck and emergency vehicle. For more information email [resonatefamily@gmail.com](mailto:resonatefamily@gmail.com).

# Collin County Sheriff's Office

## SCAM ALERT

Collin County Sheriff Jim Skinner is warning citizens throughout Collin County and the DFW Metroplex to be on the alert for a dangerous scam being perpetrated by individuals posing as Collin County Deputy Sheriffs. Individuals posing as Deputy Sheriffs are calling citizens and advising them there has been a warrant issued for their arrest for failing to answer a jury summons. The citizen is directed to remain on the telephone and bring cash to the Sheriff's Office in McKinney where they are to meet the "deputy" in the parking lot in order to pay a fine. These criminals attempt to keep their victims on the phone in order to keep their victim from calling the real authorities while they are on the way to bring money.

Sheriff Skinner wants the public to know that NONE of our deputies, or ANY other law enforcement official, would EVER contact anyone and request they bring money to pay a fine. THIS IS A SCAM!! Law enforcement does NOT take money, in any form, from citizens for any purpose!! If you, or anyone you know, is contacted in this manner, please report this immediately to your local law enforcement authorities or the Collin County Sheriff's Office at (972) 547-5100.

## Fire-Rescue Insurance Services Office Audit Complete

In the May 2017 newsletter, Fire-Rescue reported the City will be completing an audit of the City's Insurance Services Office (ISO) fire prevention and fire suppression capabilities. The audit began in October 2016 and was completed on June 19, 2017. Items graded included the City's water distribution system, fire dispatch, fire response capabilities, fire training, fire personnel, including volunteer emergency responders, and automatic mutual aid agreements. Chief Stephens was informed that the City will improve its ISO rating from a 3 to a 2. This new rating could save homeowners within the City and ETJ that are within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant approximately 8% on their homeowners insurance. Businesses within the City and ETJ that are within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant would save approximately 6% on their insurance. The new ISO rating will be announced as soon as we receive official notification from ISO.



In every community, people struggle to find transportation options that connect them to doctors, jobs, grocery stores, churches and more. Access North Texas, part of the North Central Texas Council of Governments, is updating their regional plan to assess the needs of its residents. What public transportation options are needed for older adults, people with disabilities and low-income individuals. If you would like to take part in this online survey, go to [www.accessnorthtexas.org/survey](http://www.accessnorthtexas.org/survey) and submit your input. Presentations from meetings are posted online at [AccessNorthTexas.org](http://AccessNorthTexas.org). For other questions, you may contact Access North Texas directly at 817.695.9287.



**TREE CITY USA®**

The Tree City USA is a national recognition program that began in 1976 and is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and National Association of State Foresters. The Lucas Parks and Open Space Board is working with City staff to prepare an application on behalf of the City of Lucas to become designated as a Tree City USA. Special Projects Coordinator Cathey Bonczar and Park Board Member Bill Esposito will be leading this endeavor.

The benefits enjoyed by communities that receive Tree City USA recognition usually includes a more organized and effective approach to the care of trees. The citizens of Lucas have a passion for our beautiful trees that make our City a special place to live. They shade our homes and create canopies over our streets. They clean our air and water, reduce storm water run-off, increase our property values, reduce energy costs and make our neighborhoods greener and healthier. Tree City USA recognition from the Arbor Day Foundation would highlight our commitment to urban forestry, community improvement and civic pride. The four standards that must be met to become eligible to be named a Tree City USA include:

- A tree board or department
- A tree care ordinance
- A community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita
- An Arbor Day Proclamation and observance

The City of Lucas already meets most of these requirements so we plan to work on the application for a fall submittal. The Parks and Open Space Board is encouraging everyone to mark your calendars for the City of Lucas Arbor Day and Clean Up Event on Saturday, November 4. The Parks and Open Space Board has a commitment from the Texas Forestry Service for 200 saplings for our event.

## Congratulations to City of Lucas 2017 Certified Scenic City

The mission of the Scenic City Program is to recognize cities that implement high-quality scenic standards. The Scenic City Certification Program provides a proven, highly-regarded tool to Texas cities for assessment, evaluation and recognition of infrastructure standards. Cities that score at the upper level and demonstrate a landscaping/tree planting program, on-premise sign regulations, and prohibition of new billboards may earn Certified Scenic City designation. Special thanks to Special Projects Coordinator Cathey Bonczar and Development Services Director Joe Hilbourn for their hard work on this endeavor.

*Save the Date*

ARBOR DAY & CLEAN UP  
EVENT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

LUCAS COMMUNITY PARK





## Law Enforcement Contract Renewed with Collin County

The City of Lucas has a current agreement with Collin County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services for the benefit of the citizens of Lucas that expires on September 30, 2017. The Lucas City Council, working in partnership with Sheriff Skinner and his staff, is proposing a new four-year agreement beginning on October 1, 2017. This agreement allocates an additional deputy to assist our current deputy, Brent Collins, in providing essential public safety services. Under this proposed agreement, the City would have two fully equipped deputies serving our community.

The functional areas within the Collin County Sheriff's Office are separated into divisions to allow for effective and efficient control of its numerous areas of specialty services. The following summarizes each division's responsibilities.

- The Administrative Services Division is responsible for recruiting, hiring, and training the most highly qualified personnel to staff both the Sheriff's Office and the detention facility. In order to implement new technologies, comply with changing laws, and meet the increasing needs of the county's citizens, the Training Section staff researches, develops, and conducts comprehensive training programs for employees at all levels.
- The Support Services Division includes records, communications, and support service functions. The Records Section handles all processing, maintenance, and storage of Sheriff's Office records, which includes offense, arrest and jail reports, and investigative records. The Records Section also processes arrest warrants received from the court system, and prepares crime reports for the state and FBI. Emergency 9-1-1 phone service, computer-aided-dispatch, and all radio communications are provided in the public safety communications center by staff assigned to the Communications Section.

- The sections within the Field Operations Division are the most highly visible operations in the Sheriff's Office.
- The Patrol Section is responsible for responding to calls for service from citizens, conducting investigations of criminal violations, detecting, and arresting those who violate the law.
- The Criminal Investigation Section investigates reported criminal offenses by gathering evidence, collecting statements and preparing all paperwork necessary to file cases with the district attorney's office.
- The Narcotic Section investigates violations of controlled substance laws involving illegal activities. Field operations works proactively by offering services and educational programs to help citizens reduce their vulnerability to crime.
- The Crime Prevention Section staff conducts home and business security surveys, provides safety programs for children and adults, and maintains the Neighborhood Crime Watch Program.

It is important to highlight the vast array of law enforcement services provided by the Collin County Sheriff's Office and compare that to the law enforcement services that a small municipality is able to provide. The City of Lucas would not be able to offer its citizens such a comprehensive program without a significant financial investment. The services described in its agreement with Collin County offers the citizens of Lucas a lot of value for their investment as the City receives a comprehensive law enforcement program that has experience. Under the proposed agreement, the Collin County Sheriff's Office will provide two dedicated deputies to serve the Lucas community. Law enforcement work schedules are developed based on monthly reporting and analysis of crimes that have occurred the City of Lucas benefits from the Collin County Sheriff's Office use of technology to facilitate the efficient allocation of resources.

### Fireworks Patrol

The City of Lucas conducted fireworks patrol on the evenings of July 1 through July 4. The fireworks patrol included personnel from Code Enforcement, Public Works, Office of Emergency Management, Lucas Fire-Rescue, and the Collin County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) providing Deputies and Citizens on Patrol (COP). The patrols intention was to inform residents and non-residents that it is unlawful to shoot fireworks within the City of Lucas as well as within 5,000 feet of the city limits.

The patrol was successful and the City was able to document 49 calls of service either from 911 dispatch or fireworks observed through patrolling over the four nights. The goal was to preserve the safety of all Lucas residents and property and as a City we feel that we met that goal.

A suggestion received from a citizen is being considered for next year to setup a hotline dedicated to reporting fireworks issues.

### Nar-Anon Family Group Meetings Now Held in Lucas

Nar-Anon Family Groups are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. As a twelve step program, Nar-Anon offers help by allowing others to share experience, strength and hope. Nar-Anon will now be meeting every Wednesday evening from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church located at 750 W. Lucas Road in Lucas. For more information contact Jerry or Carla at 972.837.6558 or pony100k@icloud.com.

### Cornerstone Baptist Church - Mother's Day Out

Now Enrolling for Fall 2017-2018  
Tuesdays and Thursdays - 8:30 am - 3:30 pm  
Variable Schedules for 6 months - 23 months  
Multi Child Discount  
Visit website for details and upcoming events at  
[http://cblucas.com/page/mothers\\_day\\_out](http://cblucas.com/page/mothers_day_out)