

LUCAS LEADER

A publication of the City of Lucas

www.lucastexas.us

November 2018

The City's Funding Sources

By Councilmember Wayne Millsap

In the October issue we outlined the expenditure budgets for the new fiscal year which began October 1. The four expenditure components to the budget are:

General Fund	\$5,599,625
Water Fund	\$4,615,579
Debt Service Fund	\$1,172,388
Capital Projects Fund	\$8,945,465

General Fund

Most daily functions, such as fire and emergency medical services, streets, parks, building and development, are in the General Fund. The revenue budget for the year is \$5.8M which includes a small surplus. The sources of funds are:

Property Tax	\$2,599,106	44%
Sales Tax	\$1,418,000	24%
Licenses and Permits	\$ 483,220	8%
Fire Department	\$ 454,806	8%
Franchise Fees	\$ 331,200	6%
Water Fund Charges	\$ 248,437	4%
Other	\$ 337,247	6%
	<u>\$5,832,016</u>	<u>100%</u>

Property taxes make up 44% of the GF budget; however, this is only two-thirds of the total taxes to be collected. One-third of the property tax is dedicated to the Debt Service Fund which we cover below. The property tax rate for this year is \$.303216 per \$100 of assessed value. This is \$.015 less than last year and is one of the lowest tax rate in the area. Sales tax has become a major source of funding for the City due to the growth of retail in our commercial areas. The overall sales tax rate is 8.25% of which 6.25% goes to the State. The City receives the remaining 2%, though half is dedicated to specific uses. The General Sales Tax is 1% and used to fund the day-to-day operations of the City. Of the additional 1%, .5% is dedicated to streets and .5% is collected through the Fire and Emergency Medical Services District. These dedicated sales tax revenues were voted into existence by the taxpayers in 2014. The additional sales tax revenue has allowed us to expand City services, in particular Lucas Fire-Rescue, to meet the needs of the community while reducing reliance on property taxes.

Other important sources of funding for the City are:

- **Licenses and Permits:** Primarily building permits related to new residential construction, but there are a wide range of permits. These charges are used to pay for the people and services provided in the building and development services departments. This revenue source is closely monitored as it is subject to fluctuation due to changes in the real estate market.

- **Fire Department:** We provide fire and emergency medical services to Seis Lagos under a contract. Additional funding is through ambulance services that may be billed to non-residents.
- **Franchise Fees:** These are payments by companies providing utility services such as electricity and telephone for the use of City easements and right of ways.
- **Water Fund charges:** This is a Payment-in-Lieu of Tax (PILOT) from the Water Fund. This is similar to the franchise fees charged other utility service providers, but is treated as a separate line item.
- **Other:** This is primarily lease income for space on our water towers, park dedication fees and interest income.

The Water Fund is an "enterprise" fund as it provides business-like services and must operate on a stand-alone basis. These services include water, trash and limited sewer services. Rates for water and sewer are set based on a third-party study of costs, while trash is outsourced. The revenue generated by this fund must cover the direct cost (such as the cost to purchase water from North Texas Municipal Water District), operating cost for maintaining the systems, such as payroll, maintenance and repairs; plus debt service as large projects are generally funded through long-term debt. The sources of funds for this next year are:

Water and Sewer	\$3,738,549	82%
Trash	\$ 576,000	13%
Water Meters	\$ 180,000	4%
Other	\$ 48,200	1%
	<u>\$4,542,749</u>	<u>100%</u>

The Debt Service Fund is the principal and interest to be paid this year on the money the City has borrowed to pay for capital projects. These payments, \$1,172,388, are made entirely from property tax, so an allocation is made each year based on the actual costs for the year. The remaining portion of the property tax goes into the General Fund.

The Capital Projects Fund is made up of funds that have been set aside for projects. These funds are from debt issued for street and water projects, impact fees and reserves. The funding in the Capital Projects Fund is based on specific projects that were outlined last month, including \$6 million in roads and \$3 million in water. We completed and funded two major street projects: the replacement of the Blondy Jhune bridges at a cost of \$1,934,930 and the Winningkoff reverse or "S" curve estimated at \$740,000. These are all part of the Capital Improvement Plan that we will discuss in a future article. Details about the City budget and finances are on the Finance page of the City's website at www.lucastexas.us/finance. Our goal is to be fiscally responsible with the sources and uses of funds. We strive for transparency which we believe is evident by the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting earned by our Finance Department for the 8th consecutive year. If you have questions or would like additional information contact a Council Member or City Staff.

TECHNOLOGY SURVEY results will be presented at the November 1 City Council meeting at 7pm. Come and see the results.



Volunteers Needed for the Clean-Up and Arbor Day Event on November 3



Keeping Lucas a beautiful place to live can be a lot of fun. Please join us on Saturday, November 3 from 8 am – 12 pm at the Lucas Community Park at 665 Country Club Road for our second annual Fall Sweep Clean-up and Arbor Day event. Volunteer check-in begins at 8 am at the pavilion. In support of Arbor Day, members of the Legacy 4-H Club will be on hand giving away tree saplings, along with a small bag of mulch. Representatives from Texas Pure will be available to talk about their products for organic gardening, and members of the Collin County Master Gardeners Association will be on hand to share information about the proper planting and care of the trees. Registration is required, and everyone is welcome to participate. Forms can be found on the City's website at <https://www.lucastexas.us/fall-sweep-clean-up-and-arbor-day-event/>.

- November 1 City Council Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm
- November 8 Planning and Zoning Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm
- November 15 City Council Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm

Join a City of Lucas Board or Commission

Would you like to serve your community and get involved? One way to do that is to serve on a City of Lucas Board or Commission. The Lucas City Council is always looking for dedicated individuals that are interested in preserving the quality of life in Lucas. To serve on the City's Boards and Commissions, all candidates must meeting the following criteria:

- Be a citizen of the City for twelve continuous months prior to appointment
- Be eighteen years old prior to the date of appointment
- Have not been convicted and are not currently charged with a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude
- Have no indebtedness to the City, such as delinquent taxes
- Be a qualified voter of the City

Visit the City's website at <https://www.lucastexas.us/apply-city-lucas-boards-commissions/> to complete the online application and review the various boards/commissions at the City of Lucas. The application deadline is November 16 and the City Council will be conducting interviews and considering appointments at their December 6 City Council meeting.

Save the Date

- October 20 - Scarecrow Contest Display
November 3 Community Park
- October 28 - Early Voting in November Election
November 2 Community Center
- November 3 Fall Sweep Clean-Up/Arbor Day
Community Park | 8 am - Noon
- November 22 - City offices closed for
November 23 Thanksgiving holiday
- December 7 Country Christmas
Community Park | 6 - 9 pm

November 6 Elections

The City of Lucas will once again be a temporary voting location during the November 6, 2018 election. The Community Center will be available for voting October 28 through November 2 and on Election Day, November 6. For sample ballots, go to the Collin County Elections website at www.collincountytx.gov/elections/Pages/default.aspx. The Community Center will be open for voting on the following dates and times:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Sunday, October 28 | 1 pm - 6 pm |
| Monday, October 29 | 7 am - 7 pm |
| Tuesday, October 30 | 7 am - 7 pm |
| Wednesday, October 31 | 7 am - 7 pm |
| Thursday, November 1 | 7 am - 7 pm |
| Friday, November 2 | 7 am - 7 pm |
| Tuesday, November 6 | 7 am - 7 pm |

Welcome to the Team Kent



The City of Lucas would like to introduce you to Kent Souriyasak, the City's Special Projects Coordinator/Executive Assistant. Kent received his Bachelors of Arts degree from University of Arkansas and his Masters in Public Administration from the University of North Texas. Kent served as an intern to the City Manager's office and a Human Resources Assistant for the City of University Park. You may reach Kent at 972.912.1213 or by email at ksouriyasak@lucastexas.us.



Blackland Prairie Raptor Center

Ribs N Raptors Fundraiser Event

November 10, 2018 | 11:30 am

Enjoy BBQ, local craft beer, live and silent auctions, and help support the rescue and rehabilitation of the birds of prey of Texas. The Ribs N Raptors fundraising event takes place on November 10 from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center

located at 1625 Brockdale Park Road in Lucas. Register for the event by Tuesday, November 6 at www.bpraptorcenter.org/ribsnaptor.

LUCAS COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

December 7 | 6 - 9 pm

Please join us on Friday, December 7 from 6 – 9 pm at the Lucas Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road as we ring in the holiday season country style. Lucas Country Christmas is an old-fashioned fun event for the whole family. In addition to lots of hot chocolate, popcorn, and roasting marshmallows by the fire, we will have an ice-skating rink for all ages, a ride around the park aboard Santa's festive train for the little ones, and freshly cooked hamburgers courtesy of In-N-Out Burger. Come out and listen to holiday music as we wait for Santa and his Elf to arrive. Bring the family and enjoy an evening with your neighbors as we light our holiday tree and celebrate the many joys and blessings of being part of the Lucas Community.



COLLECTING TOYS DURING
COUNTRY CHRISTMAS EVENT

December 7 | 6 - 9 pm

The City of Lucas will be holding a toy drive benefitting the Collin County Toys for Tots campaign for **one evening only**, Friday, December 7 from 6 – 9 pm. Unwrapped gifts can be dropped off at City Hall during our annual Country Christmas celebration.

This year gift collection will be focused on collecting for older kids, ages 11-18 that can often be overlooked during this gift giving time. Gift suggestions for older kids include sporting equipment/bags/balls, board games, backpacks, books, purses, wallets, bath gift sets, radio control cars, bicycles, clothes, curling irons and hair dryers. Thank you for giving this holiday season and help an older child have a happy holiday season as well.

LUCAS SENIOR ANGEL TREE



Agape Care Home and Loving Care Home are residential assisted living facilities to senior citizens, and both are located right here in Lucas. Each year the City of Lucas sponsors a Senior Angel Tree to show our senior citizens who reside at these homes some "Lucas Love" over the holidays. If you would like to be a Santa to one of our beloved seniors, stop by City Hall beginning November 12 to get started.

Select an angel from the Senior Angel Tree to help guide your gift purchase, and then drop off your new, wrapped gift at City Hall by Friday, December 7, and Santa and his elves will make their special delivery to our seniors the following week.

Spirit of GIVING

ALLEN COMMUNITY OUTREACH
FAMILY PROMISE OF COLLIN COUNTY

November 12 through December 7

The City of Lucas will again be holding a food drive benefitting the Allen Community Outreach Food Pantry and also collecting gift cards to support Family Promise of Collin County. Allen Community Outreach provides services to those facing financial crisis in Allen, Fairview, Lucas, and Branch. Donations of canned foods and dry goods can be dropped off at City Hall located at 665 Country Club Road between November 12 through December 7. Food items needed for the Allen Community Outreach pantry include:

Canned Foods:

- Tomatoes and pasta sauce
- Vegetables and fruit
- Beans, soups, chili, ravioli, Spaghetti-O's

Dry Goods:

- Cereal and oatmeal
- Spaghetti, mac and cheese, Hamburger Helper
- Instant potatoes, rice
- Sugar, flour, coffee, creamer
- Jelly and peanut butter
- Ketchup, mustard, sauces, spices

Family Promise of Collin County has been serving Collin County residents since 2011 providing services to homeless families with children as they regain sustainable independence. Most needed items this year include gift cards to Walmart and Target and gas gift cards to Race Trac and QT. Any denomination will be accepted but \$25 cards are best. Gas cards are used as weekly rewards to families for meeting assigned goals and assist parents get to job interviews, get their kids to school, and to the churches where they sleep. All donations can be dropped off at City Hall.



CITY OF LUCAS

Service Tree Award

Accepting Nominations through January 31, 2019

The City of Lucas has established a Service Tree Award Program that allows for annual recognition of an individual, business, youth or civic group who has contributed a significant and useful service to the community. The award consists of the planting a living tree at the Lucas Community Park and presentation of an award plaque by the Mayor that will be placed by the tree. The presentation will take place during the annual City of Lucas Founders Day event on May 11, 2019. The recipient will also be featured in an article in the City's monthly newsletter, the Lucas Leader.

To recommend an individual, business, or group for recognition please fill out the Service Tree Award Nominating Form below. Additional forms can be found on the City's website at www.lucastexas.us or at Lucas City Hall. Nominations must be submitted no later than **January 31, 2019** to City Secretary Stacy Henderson at shenderson@lucastexas.us or at City Hall, 665 Country Club Road.

Nominees to be selected for recognition should meet the following criteria:

- Actions being recognized should benefit the City of Lucas or its residents in a significant manner.
- Nominee may be individual, youth, church group, civic or neighborhood group (ex: HOA, garden club), youth group (ex: Boy or Girl Scout troop, 4-H Club), local business, local charity or other organization.
- The individual must live in the City of Lucas or have lived in the City of Lucas corporate limits during the time the service was performed. If a business or church, they must be located within the City of Lucas.
- All nominees will be reviewed, and finalists selected by the Lucas City Council at the February 7, 2019 City Council meeting. The City of Lucas Service Tree Awards will be presented to the recipients during the annual Lucas Founders Day event scheduled for May 11, 2019. The recipients will be notified in advance to allow family and friends to attend.

Name of individual/group being nominated:	
Address:	Phone Number:
Description of accomplishment/action that benefited the City of Lucas:	
Why do you believe this award is merited by this individual/or group:	
Submitted by:	Date Submitted:
Address:	Phone Number:

The nominator confirms that to the best of their knowledge, the nominee has not received remuneration for any professional services rendered in performing the community services described above nor was the service performed as part of court ordered community service program. Further, nominee knows and approved of this nomination.