

# Construction Update

## NORTH PUMP STATION WATER TOWER

Staff is reviewing final plans scheduled to begin construction in April or May on the new 500,000-gallon water tower and new pump house. The schedule for this project will be determined by the contractor after letting.

## PARKER ROAD 12-INCH WATERLINE PHASE 1

*Stinson Road to Enchanted Way*

The final grading and sod work was delayed due to the rain during the fall. We are planning to have all work done by early spring.

## PARKER ROAD EIGHT-INCH WATERLINE PHASE 3

*McCreary Road to Stinson Road*

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) installed a new eight-inch waterline from McCreary Drive to Stinson Road as part of their Parker Road widening project at no cost to the City. This represents a cost savings to the Lucas water customers of \$250,000. The waterline is scheduled to be operational by the end of January.

## BLONDY JHUNE ROAD

*West Bridge to Winningkoff Road*

Staff anticipates awarding the project out for construction in February/March and is estimated to last about a year and a half. Eastbound traffic will be maintained during the project. Westbound traffic will not be maintained. The goal is to provide access to all homes within the project from the eastbound direction.

## ESTATES PARKWAY/COUNTRY CLUB ROAD INTERSECTION

TxDOT contractors will be working on installing new traffic signals at this intersection. The timber pole and span wires are being removed and a steel pole with mast arm style traffic signals is being constructed. Their projected completion date is May 2019.

## FM 1378 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

FM 1378 is known as Country Club Road, W. Lucas Road, and Southview Drive in Lucas. TxDOT is planning to let a project in mid 2019 with three main objectives: 1) add narrow three-foot shoulders, 2) improve drainage, and 3) resurface the main lanes with high-friction asphalt. When TxDOT widened the White Rock Creek bridge just south of Forest Grove Road on FM 1378, these three objectives were accomplished north of the bridge. This new project is six miles long from the White Rock Creek Bridge to Parker Road, and estimated to cost \$5.5 million. Preliminary engineering and surveying is under way for this project.

## LUCAS ROAD/SOUTHVIEW DRIVE INTERSECTION

In May of 2017, Collin County and the City of Lucas purchased the 2.2-acre lot on the north side of Lucas Road. This land has been made available to TxDOT for the improvements to the "Bait Shop" intersection. TxDOT is analyzing the traffic flow of various roadway configurations and started the preliminary study to obtain the federally required environmental clearances. When the configurations are released by TxDOT, the variations will be posted on the City website. After the public involvement phase, TxDOT is estimating that the roadway construction will start in late 2020 and should be completed in 2022.

## PARKER ROAD (FM 2514) WIDENING

*Murphy Road to Southview Drive*

In June, TxDOT awarded the Parker Road (FM 2514) project from Murphy Road to Southview Drive to Mario Sinacola & Sons Excavating, Inc. The start date for the non-utility work is projected to be sometime during the first two weeks of January. Clearing of the right-of-way and utility relocations have been underway for the past seven months. The estimated completion is in Spring 2020.

## STINSON ROAD

*Parker Road to Bristol Park*

Staff anticipates awarding the project out for construction in February/March. During the project, the southbound traffic will be maintained. Northbound traffic will not. Through traffic will not be possible on Stinson Road during the construction.

## WEST LUCAS ROAD/COUNTRY CLUB ROAD INTERSECTION

TxDOT contractors will be working on the installing new traffic signals at this intersection. The timber pole and span wires are being removed and a steel pole with mast arms style traffic signal is being constructed. Their projected completion date is May 2019.

## WINNINGKOFF ROAD

*Forestview Drive to Snider Lane*

Construction will not start on this project until the construction along Blondy Jhune Road is completed in 2020. Staff anticipates awarding the project out for construction in February/March of 2019 at the same time as the Blondy Jhune and Stinson roadway projects. The traffic control plans for this project will maintain northbound traffic during the project. Southbound traffic will not be maintained. The goal is to have access to all homes within the project. Through traffic will not be possible on Winningkoff Road during the construction.

*For the safety of the traveling public, the only access into a construction area that will be allowed will be to those citizens that live in the restricted area.*

## Street Maintenance Projects

Staff will be placing street maintenance projects for 2019 on the January 3, 2019 City Council agenda and will request that priority be given to the following projects:

- Forest Grove/Orr Road – This will be the detour route when we close Blondy Jhune for reconstruction. The maintenance area includes approximately 400 feet of Orr Road from Forest Grove Road to the south and approximately 300 feet of Forest Grove Road from Orr Road to the west.
- East Winningkoff Road - Staff is seeking a temporary fix by milling up the existing pavement and adding base at various locations along East Winningkoff Road. The developer of Logan Ford Ranch will be responsible for reconstruction of East Winningkoff from Welborn Lane to the east when 75% of the permits are issued.
- Brockdale Park Road – Staff received a concern from a Lucas citizen regarding the section of Brockdale Park Road that is east of Lakeshore Boulevard. Staff is seeking a temporary repair by milling up the existing pavement and adding base until asphalt can be laid in the Spring.
- Snider Lane – Various locations need maintenance and staff will be filling potholes until development of Lakeview Downs is substantially complete and then it may be scheduled for more extensive maintenance.
- West Lucas Road - Significant deterioration in front of Willow Springs Middle School. The geotechnical coring of the pavement has been completed and we expect the report in a couple of weeks. Maintenance will occur from Country Club Road to the west side of Willow Springs Middle School.

## Styrofoam Recycling Opportunity

A local advocacy group called *Save Lucas Recycling* is offering to recycle your Styrofoam. Bring your clean Styrofoam food containers, packing materials, and other Styrofoam products (no packing peanuts) to their monthly recycling drop off.

**When:** First Saturday of the month

**Time:** 1- 3 pm

**Where:** Starbucks parking lot  
2680 W. Lucas Road

*This is not a City of Lucas sponsored event.*

# LUCAS LEADER

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January 2019



## Mayor's Message

By Jim Olk

As 2018 comes to a close, it's a great time to reflect on all the accomplishments Lucas has seen in the last year. The City continues to be financially stable and has received two Transparency Star awards for Debt and Finance from the Texas Comptroller's office, along with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. Security applications were implemented to protect the City against fraudulent banking activity, and online bill pay was established for utility payments, making things a lot easier for you to pay and check your utility bill.

After a few months of participating in the monthly recycling drop-off program, curbside recycling was implemented with Republic Services in April. To have a better understanding of the City's internet services and providers, a technology survey was completed; and from that a Technology Committee was created to research issues and encourage affordable access to city-wide technological services. The City also upgraded the searchability function on the website and now includes audio recordings of all City Council and Board and Commission meetings.

Residential development continues to be strong in Lucas with Hendrick Farms developing 35 lots on Blondy Jhune and Country Club, and Lakeview Downs developing 109 lots on Snider Lane. The City also experienced some commercial development on Angel Parkway with the completion of Lucas Plaza occupying two dentist offices and a nail salon. Lucas Plaza, Phase 2 is expected to be completed by February 2019. Wolf Creek Village Center, Phase 2 on Country Club is under construction and nearing completion, and the Village Center South on Jessica Lane will begin construction in 2019. The City also made several upgrades to the Lucas Community Park, Kenneth R Lewis Park, and constructed a new pavilion and a new sports court at Forest Creek Park.

As always, the City is busy working on infrastructure improvements with the completion of intersection improvements at Country Club/West Lucas Road, and Stinson/West Lucas Road. White Rock Trail improvements were completed this year, along with the widening and overlay of West Lucas Road. The City's meter replacement program is underway with 1,304 meters installed out of 2,596.

Lastly, the City increased its law enforcement contract to include two deputies patrolling the City. The Fire-Rescue Department upgraded its dispatch system to make responding to calls as efficient as possible and funds were budgeted to purchase a new fire engine.

It has been a busy year for Lucas, and things are not slowing down anytime soon. I wish you and your family a happy new year, and look forward to another year of serving this great community.

## On the City's Ballot in May 2019

The City's general election will take place on May 4, 2019. The 2019 election ballot includes City Council Seat 5 and City Council Seat 6, along with the continuation of the Lucas Fire Control, Prevention and EMS District, and the option to continue allocating a portion of the City's sales tax to the Lucas Fire Control, Prevention and EMS District. The City receives two percent (2%) of the sales tax collected, where one percent goes into the City's General Fund, 0.5 percent is allocated towards street maintenance and the remaining 0.5 percent is allocated to the Fire District. The sales tax allocated to the Fire District helps to fund EMS and Fire Department expenses.

If you would like to file for a place on the ballot in the May 4, 2019 election, candidate filing begins January 16 through February 15, 2019. Candidate applications will be available online and at the City Secretary's office beginning January 2, 2019. For more information on elections visit the City's website at [www.lucastexas.us/elections](http://www.lucastexas.us/elections) or contact City Secretary Stacy Henderson at 972.912.1211 or [shenderson@lucastexas.us](mailto:shenderson@lucastexas.us).



# January Events

January 3	City Council Meeting City Hall   7 pm
January 10	Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall   7 pm
January 16 - February 15	Candidate Filing for General Election City Secretary's office   City Hall 8 am - 5 pm
January 17	City Council Meeting City Hall   7 pm
January 22	Parks Board Meeting City Hall   7 pm
January 31	Art in Public Places City Hall   5 pm

## Upcoming Events

February 19	City of Lucas 60th Anniversary Celebration Open House City Hall   5 pm
April 6	Texas Trash Off/Spring Cleanup Lucas Community Park   8 am
May 11	Founders Day Event Lucas Community Park   12 Noon

## Lucas is Celebrating its 60th Anniversary

On February 19, 2019, the City of Lucas will host an open house from 5 - 7 pm to celebrate the City's 60th Anniversary. As part of the celebration, the City will be decreeing a time capsule on display that will be later opened on the City's 100th Anniversary in 2059. We are asking the Lucas Community to be a part of this historic moment as we determine which items will be placed in the time capsule. Suggested time capsule items must be pertinent to the City of Lucas and its community.

If your local neighborhood, school, or organization would like to be a part of this event, please fill out the application on our City Website at [www.lucastexas.us/news](http://www.lucastexas.us/news). For questions regarding the 60th Anniversary event, contact Special Projects Coordinator Kent Souriyasak at [ksouriyasak@lucas.texas](mailto:ksouriyasak@lucas.texas) or 972.912.1213.

## Welcome New and Returning Board Members

On December 6, the City Council considered board appointments and reappointments to the various City of Lucas boards and commissions. Four existing board members were reappointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission, as well as three existing board members to the Parks and Open Space Board, those members included:

**Planning and Zoning:**  
Andre Guillemaud  
Joe Williams  
Tim Johnson  
Tommy Tolson

**Parks and Open Space Board:**  
David Rhoads  
Chris Vanhorn  
Tommy DeWitt

The City Council also appointed the newest board member Christol Parish to the Parks and Open Space Board to fill a vacant alternate position. The City Council will be considering Board of Adjustment reappointments and Technology Committee appointments at their January 3 City Council meeting.

## Thank You for Holiday Giving



This year's Holiday Giving has come to an end. Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's donation drive. We received a tremendous amount of donations for Toys for Tots, Allen Community Outreach, Family Promise of Collin County, and the Senior Angel Tree benefitting Agape Care Home and Loving Care Home. All the organizations are very grateful for your generosity in helping individuals and families in need during this holiday season. We are truly thankful to have such caring residents who give back to the community.

## Santa's Workshop at City Hall



Santa's Workshop took place inside City Hall on Friday, December 7. Although all outdoor activities for Country Christmas were canceled due to inclement weather, we were happy to provide Santa's Workshop for the community. Thank you to all the families who attended the event to visit and take pictures with Santa, Elf, and The Grinch. It warmed our hearts to see all the families and children enjoying Santa's Workshop.

## Have you Checked Your Chimney This Season?

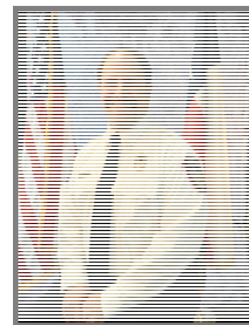
As the weather gets colder, its time to check your chimneys before lighting any fires this winter season. The leading factor contributing to home heating fires was failure to clean chimneys. So what can we do to reduce the risk for chimney fires?

- Inspect your chimney annually
- Ensure the damper is in working order and stays open before the fire is built
- Use wood which has been dried enough to burn completely
- Ensure the fire has enough air to burn properly, closing off the fireplace with glass shutters or not having the damper open wide enough will not move the smoke out
- Gas burning chimneys should also be checked annually

## Audio Recordings of Board/Council Meetings Now Available on Website

The City is excited to announce that updates to the City website agendas/minutes page are now available. The pages have been reformatted to create a more user friendly experience allowing for easy search of City Council and Board meetings and minutes. Also included in the update are audio recordings of each Board and City Council meeting since October 18, 2018 that you will be able to hear in their entirety. To view the public meetings page go to <https://www.lucastexas.us/departments/public-meetings/> or click Find Agendas/Minutes from the City's homepage.

## Celebrating Lucas Fire-Rescue Volunteers Operations Chief Craig Zale



Operations Chief Craig Zale has been a volunteer with the City of Lucas Fire-Rescue for over 22 years joining the department in October of 1996. He currently serves as the Operations Chief and is a certified Firefighter/EMT holding many other certifications combined with his 22 years of experience. Chief Zale has been recognized multiple times including the Meritorious Service Award and Officer of the Year Award. He currently oversees the department's radio program which includes the purchase, maintenance, and programming of the City's mobile and portable radios. He also oversees the Active 911 alerting system for all emergency responders. In addition, Chief Zale serves as one of the night incident commanders. Chief Zale was instrumental in bringing EMS to Lucas which began in April 2014.

Chief Zale's wife, Tina, also serves Lucas Fire-Rescue as part of REHAB. They have been married for 29 years. They have two children, Garrett and Cassady. Cassady is a graduate from Lovejoy High School and is currently finishing up her college degree at UNT. Garret is currently a sophomore at Lovejoy High School. The family has lived in Lucas for 19 years. Chief Zale is the owner and operator of Craig's Car Care off of West Lucas Road in Lucas. He has been in business since 1996. Craig was born in Dallas, and attended college at UTI in Houston, Texas where he received his degree in Automotive Engineering, class of 1988. When Craig isn't volunteering at Lucas Fire-Rescue or managing operations at Craig's Car Care, he enjoys hiking, hunting, camping, and fishing with his family. He also enjoys watching his kids work on their own vehicles from the things they've learned from him over the years. Craig also serves on the Business & Industry Leadership Team for Collin College as well as the North Texas Business Development Group. Craig says he is passionate about working in the fire industry because he loves to be able to serve his community that he lives in and to be able to help whenever help is needed. "It has been amazing watching Lucas grow and an honor to be a part of it. Great leadership and citizens all working together for a positive future." – Craig Zale

Chief Zale has made an incredible impact on Lucas Fire-Rescue over his 22 years of service. He has helped make Lucas Fire-Rescue what it is today and been a mentor to everyone associated with Lucas Fire-Rescue. We are forever grateful and appreciative of the countless hours of service Craig has committed to the department and we are incredibly blessed to have him as a part of the Lucas Fire family.

## Maintaining "Dark Skies" in Lucas

What is light pollution? Light pollution is any adverse effect of artificial light at night, including sky glow, impaired visibility from glare, light trespass, energy waste, and more. Poorly designed or installed outdoor lighting leads to light pollution. Light pollution is light that is too bright, misdirected, or shining where it's not wanted. Why is it a problem? Because light pollution:

- Produces glare that limits our ability to see at night
- Creates light trespass (light shining where it isn't wanted)
- Wastes money when we light unnecessary areas, including the sky
- Obscures our view of the stars and planets
- Impacts the health of all life, both human and animal

The Bortle Scale rates how well you can see celestial objects in a certain place, considering light pollution and sky glow. Lower numbers indicate darker skies. For example, Big Bend Ranch State Park has a Bortle Scale rating of 1, while Cedar Hill State Park, near Dallas, has a Bortle rating of 8. Light pollution wastes energy and disrupts wildlife and ecological balance. It interferes with our ability to enjoy the beautiful view of our starry nights in Lucas.

The City adopted what is termed a dark sky ordinance requiring all light fixtures installed after January 1, 2008 to be a full cut-off light fixture. A full cut-off operates at a forty-five-degree angle directed toward the ground to limit the amount of lighting that protrudes outward. Fixtures that do not meet this standard must be turned off before midnight, unless it is essential for security lighting. As a courtesy to neighbors, please use caution to ensure your security and landscape lighting is not "trespassing" on neighboring property. Should you have any questions regarding security or landscape lighting trespassing from other properties, please contact Code Enforcement at 972.912.1206 or [aaguinaga@lucastexas.us](mailto:aaguinaga@lucastexas.us). The City also does not require street lights unless the street lights are deemed essential by the City Engineer for safety purposes. This is another way to assist in maintaining natural dark skies in Lucas. If you have any questions regarding the need for street lights in your neighborhood, contact City Engineer Stanton Foerster at 972.912.1208 or [sfoerster@lucastexas.us](mailto:sfoerster@lucastexas.us).



Painting by Madeline Sanders of Lovejoy High School

## Art in Public Places

The City will host an Art in Public Places event on Thursday, January 31, 2019. The event will be held throughout City Hall from 5 to 7 pm. During this time, we invite the community to stop by and view local student artwork from Lovejoy ISD and Allen High School on display at City Hall. The artwork will be displayed throughout the year on a rotating basis with new local art. Thank you to Lovejoy ISD and Allen ISD for partnering with the City on this event. We look forward to having local art at City Hall and supporting all the talented students in our community.

## Service Tree Nominations

The application deadline to submit nominations for a Service Tree Award is January 31, 2019. The City of Lucas established a Service Tree Award Program that allows for recognition of an individual, business, youth/civic group who has contributed a significant service to the community. The award consists of planting a living tree at the Lucas Community Park and presentation of a plaque by the Mayor that will be placed by the tree. The presentation will take place during the City's annual Founders Day event on May 11, 2019. To nominate a candidate, fill out the Service Tree nomination form at [www.lucastexas.us/news](http://www.lucastexas.us/news). Forms can be submitted to City Secretary Stacy Henderson at [shenderson@lucastexas.us](mailto:shenderson@lucastexas.us) or at City Hall, 665 Country Club Road.