

We are listening



The City of Lucas is here to provide essential public services to the citizens of Lucas. Should you need assistance or have an issue that you need to have addressed, there are several ways to communicate with the City: In person (City Hall is located at 665 Country Club Road), Email, Voice and Website (www.lucastexas.us)

If your concern is an emergency, please call 911. The City contracts with Collin County for both law enforcement and animal services. For non-emergency law enforcement services, please call the Collin County Sheriff's Office at 972.547.5100. For concerns related to animals (e.g. dogs running at large, barking dogs or dog bites) please contact Collin County Animal Services at 972.547.7292. For non-emergency fire or medical related matters, please call Lucas Fire-Rescue at 972.727.1242. Should you

experience a water service issue (e.g. a water line break) call the City's main number at 972.727.8999. If you need assistance outside of regular business hours, there is a prompt to report a water emergency select option 2 and leave a message with your name, location of the issue and telephone number. Your message will be forwarded to on-call personnel that will assist you.

One of the easiest ways to report a concern is through the "Report an Issue" feature on the City's website (www.lucastexas.us). Just go to the homepage and scroll down until you see Report an Issue and select it. Complete the online form and hit submit and your concern will be forwarded to City staff. Any non-emergency issue will be handled in the same manner be it an abandon car, high grass, a pothole, or a noise complaint. Once the issue is received, it will be assigned to the appropriate department and staff will go out and investigate the reported issue and respond back to the reporting party with our findings.

If you prefer to talk to a City staff member by telephone, or should the person you are trying reach not be able to answer your call, please leave a detailed voice message with your name and contact information. It is always our goal to return all telephone calls by the next business day. However, if City staff is handling an emergency water situation, our personnel will be focused on making repairs to the water system and will not be able to return telephone calls. It is best to sign up for Nixle to receive up-to-date information when the City expects to have water service restored. To sign up for Nixle, text **Lucas** to 888777 and hit send, you will receive a text confirmation that you have been added to the Nixle sign up for Lucas. This is always a great way to get notified of roadway closures and other emergencies.

There is a complete staff director located on the City's website but here is a list of key staff members who are available to assist you:

Assistant to the City Manager	Kent Souriyasak	972-912-1213	ksouriyasak@lucastexas.us
City Engineer	Stanton Foerster, P.E.	972-912-1208	sfoerster@lucastexas.us
City Manager	Joni Clarke	972-912-1212	jclarke@lucastexas.us
City Secretary	Stacy Henderson	972-912-1211	shenderson@lucastexas.us
Code Enforcement	Anthony Aguinaga	972-727-8999 ext. 3005	aaguinaga@lucastexas.us
Development Services Director	Joe Hilbourn	972-912-1207	jhilbourn@lucastexas.us
Finance Director	Liz Exum	972-912-1201	lexum@lucastexas.us
Fire Chief	Ted Stephens	972-912-1234	tstephens@lucastexas.us
Planning Coordinator (permits)	Donna Bradshaw	972-912-1206	dbradshaw@lucastexas.us
Utility Billing	Delta Moody	972-912-1202	dmoody@lucastexas.us

It's your City and we always want you to be able to reach us when you need assistance.

Bicyclists on Lucas Roadways



Any person operating a bicycle has the rights and duties applicable to a driver operating a vehicle under Texas law. Recently an organization held a bicycle race through Lucas, that initially proposed a route that would include several City streets. At the direction of the Lucas City Council, City staff worked closely with the ride organizers to find other routes that did

not include City streets. During this process, many questions and comments about how and where bicycles can be ridden in Lucas were debated among citizens, elected officials, staff, organizers, and neighboring cities. The following two requirements are specific to City of Lucas roadways and are contained in Chapter 551 of the Texas Transportation Code:

1) A bicyclist who is moving slower than the other traffic on the roadway shall ride as near as practicable to the right curb or edge of the roadway, except when passing, turning left, or avoiding a hazard; and

2) Bicyclists may ride two abreast on any City of Lucas roadway per state law. Persons riding two abreast may not impede the normal and reasonable flow of traffic on a Lucas roadway. Persons may not ride more than two abreast anywhere in the City of Lucas.

The two rules listed above are specific to Lucas, because we do not have bike lanes and our City streets are generally not considered "laned" roadways.

There is a totally different set of bicycle rules when it comes to the concept of "Competitive Racing" such as the Emmitt Smith Fondo Race held in September, sponsored by Racing Systems, Inc. A sponsoring organization may hold a competitive bicycle race on a public road (including any roadway in Lucas) only with approval from the appropriate local law enforcement agencies. The local law enforcement agency in the case of Lucas would be the Collin County Sheriff's office and the sponsoring organization may agree on safety regulations governing the movement of bicycles during a competitive race or during training for a competitive race, including the permission for bicycle operators to ride abreast is allowed by Texas law. The City of Lucas is limited by Texas law in regulating bicycle use on City streets.

The City has reached out to several bike organizations reminding them that should be respectful while riding in Lucas, not impede traffic flow, and abide by the regulations required by the Texas Transportation Code.

LUCAS LEADER



A publication of the City of Lucas

www.lucastexas.us

November 2019



Mayor's Message

By Jim Olk

This month I wrestled to come up with a topic to write about. It almost came to a point where the City Secretary had to threaten to call my wife on me if I didn't get this in.

In the past several months we have addressed some really big issues for the City. Street repair and in some cases street reconstruction was one. Because of the condition of some of our streets, the City has commenced on an aggressive capital improvement plan which required borrowing several million dollars to execute the plan. All while we attempt to balance the repayment of these loans while keeping taxes in check. Taxes and the City budget, that was another recent hurdle. The City Council approved a budget that included maintaining all of the existing services and covering our debit service with a minimal tax rate increase of about \$5.00 per \$100,000.00 of taxable value.

To go on, we have addressed transportation issues with Collin County, the Regional Transportation Council, and the Texas Department of Transportation, we have expressed our concerns over airport noise, and are working with the Town of Fairview in partnership to have a bigger voice, and we have started looking at stormwater runoff in a more comprehensive way.

In addition to these business issues, the City has expanded community events. In addition to Founders Day and Country Christmas (which by the way will be December 6) we have added two Farmers Market events, an Arbor Day event (more information on those in this newsletter) and a Fall Parade.

As I was putting all this together in my mind, I thought about all the work that is done on the day to day business of keeping our community safe and water running to our homes, plus all of these complex and time consuming extras that come with municipal government. Then, I thought about how our City Staff seems to pull these off effortlessly. Now, I know it is not effortlessly on the inside, but for the number of staff members that we have, they do an outstanding job of keeping all of these balls in the air without a miss.

So, I am going just going to close by saying a big THANK YOU to the City of Lucas staff! And I encourage you, if you get the chance, please express how much you appreciate the work they do to keep Lucas the gem that it is.

Lucas Farmers Market

Next Market - November 2

The community came out in support of the first Lucas Farmers Market held on October 12, 2019. It was beautiful weather, the Community Park was decorated with scarecrows from the Scarecrow Contest, children were playing in the park and using the Farmers Market photo booth, and almost all the vendors sold out! The vendors will be out again at the second scheduled Farmers Market set for **Saturday, November 2** from 8 am to 12 pm at the Lucas Community Park. Due to the great response to the first Farmers Market, the City is creating an additional 100 parking spaces at the park which will be ready in time for the November Farmers Market.

These two markets are trial runs to measure whether local citizens and farmers will support a regularly scheduled market beginning next spring. Shoppers will be able to browse booths offering a wide variety of products including locally grown produce, honey, syrup, herbs, jams, breads, cookies, pies, salsa, beef, lamb, chicken and pork. Several vendors will offer teas, olive oils, soaps, cutting boards, and other artisan products. We are still recruiting agricultural and cottage food vendors to offer even more variety. The slots allocated for vendors of non-food products is full. To fill out a vendor application or for more information on the Lucas Farmers Market, go to <https://www.lucastexas.us/farmers-market-is-coming-to-lucas/>.





November

- November 7 City Council Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm
- November 12 Technology Committee
City Hall | 7 pm
- November 14 Planning and Zoning Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm
- November 21 City Council Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm
- November 28 City offices closed for
November 29 Thanksgiving holiday

Upcoming Events at the Community Park

Arbor Day Event

November 2 @ 8 am - 12 pm

Farmers Market

November 2 @ 8 am - 12 pm

Country Christmas

December 6 @ 6 pm - 9 pm



Let's brighten the holiday season by decorating your neighborhood with festive lights for the entire City to enjoy. A neighborhood can be one house, a group of homes, or a subdivision.

What do I need to do to participate?

- Once you have your "neighborhood" defined, visit the City's website at www.lucastexas.us to register your neighborhood. Registration for this fun event will be from **November 22 through December 12**.
- Once decorating is complete, take some pictures (a maximum of three is allowed) and submit to City Secretary Stacy Henderson at shenderson@lucastexas.us who will post it on the City's website.
- The Parks and Open Space Board will judge the submitted pictures and select a winner.

What does the winner receive?

A special delivery from Santa Claus himself!!! Santa Claus and the Grinch will deliver delicious hot chocolate to the "Light Up Lucas" winning neighborhood on Friday, December 20 in the early evening.



Holiday Donation Drive

November 11 - December 6

The holiday season is upon us and there are several opportunities to give back to your community. This year, the City will hold a holiday donation drive beginning **November 11 through December 6** to support Collin County's Toys for Tots, Allen Community Outreach, Agape Care Home and Loving Care Home. All donations can be dropped off at City Hall during the donation period and at Country Christmas.

Toy Drive for Toys for Tots

You can help support the local Toys for Toys campaign by donating gifts for children up to 12 years old and teenagers up to 16 years old. Toys for Tots does not publish a list of appropriate toys to donate in order to avoid a limited selection of items to distribute throughout the community. Toys for Tots encourages donors to consider what might be an appropriate gift for their own child or relative, purchase the item, and donate to Toys for Tots. Toys for Tots will not accept realistic looking weapons, gifts with food or used merchandise. Suggested donation items for older children and teenagers include sporting equipment, bags, backpacks, books, cosmetics, purses, watches, wallets, bath gift sets, board games, radio control cars and trucks, hand-held electronics, skateboards, helmets, curling irons, hair straighteners, and hair dryers.

Food Drive for Allen Community Outreach

This is your opportunity to help feed families in the community throughout the holiday season. Allen Community Outreach (ACO) was founded in 1985 by a group of caring community members who offer essential human and social services such as food and case management for families in crisis located within Lucas, Allen, and Fairview. This year's suggested donation items are stuffing mix, salad dressings, instant potatoes, gravy (canned/dry packet), canned fruit, canned milk (evaporated/condensed), cranberry sauce, canned corn, flour (up to five pounds), sugar (up to five pounds), cream of mushroom or chicken soup, cooking oil (small bottles), cake mix, cornbread mix, Bisquick baking mix, and canned mixed vegetables.

Senior Angel Tree

Agape Care Home and Loving Care Home are residential assisted living facilities for senior citizens, both are located 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 donate a gift to one of our beloved seniors, stop by City Hall beginning November 11 to get started. Donors may select an angel from the Senior Angel Tree to help guide the gift purchase. Please drop off all new and wrapped gifts at City Hall during the donation period. Santa will be personally delivering the gifts to our seniors just in time for Christmas.

Pet Food Drive for Local Shelters

Lucas Veterinary Hospital

The City is also supporting Lucas Veterinary Hospital in their annual pet food drive to benefit local animal shelters. Please donate any unopened bags or cans of pet food at City Hall and help Lucas Veterinary Hospital ease the stress our local shelters feel in keeping a consistent food supply for all of the animals who need it. The City will be accepting donations **November 11 through December 6**. The Lucas Veterinary Hospital will also be accepting donations during this time and through the end of December. Donations can also be dropped off at Lucas Veterinary Hospital located at 800 Country Club Road.

Board and Commission Open House

January 16, 2020 @ 6 pm

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. Come to the Board and Commission Open House on January 16, 2020 to learn more about how you can serve your community. This is a great opportunity to get to know your elected officials and City staff.



Country Christmas

The City of Lucas will be hosting its annual Country Christmas event on **Friday, December 6** from 6 pm to 9 pm at the Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road. There will be a Christmas tree lighting, ice-skating for all ages, pictures at Santa's workshop, train rides, and holiday music. In-N-Out Burger will also be providing free food for Lucas residents to enjoy. In addition, the Lucas Farmers Market will be holding a special holiday themed market inside the Community Center during Country Christmas. Bring out the entire family for an evening with your neighbors as we light the holiday tree and await the arrival of Santa and his Elf, and the Grinch. Come celebrate a joyful holiday season with the Lucas community.

Arbor Day Celebration at the Farmers Market

Arbor Day is an annual holiday that celebrates the role of trees in our lives and promotes tree planting and care. This year, Arbor Day will be held along with the Lucas Farmers Market at the Community Park from 8 am to 12 pm on **Saturday, November 2**. In support of Arbor Day, members of Legacy 4-H Club will be giving away tree saplings along with a small bag of mulch courtesy of Texas Pure while supplies last. The Collin County Master Gardeners and Guardians of the Earth will also be participating in the event. Republic Services will be available at Arbor Day to encourage best recycling practices and sign up any residents who do not currently have curbside recycling. We look forward to seeing the community come out for Arbor Day and the Lucas Farmers Market. Arbor Day is a great opportunity to promote tree planting, sustainability, and the beautification of Lucas.



Accepting Nominations for Service Tree Awards

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 planting and dedicating a living tree at the Lucas Community Park in the recipients honor. All nominees will be reviewed, and finalists selected by the Lucas City Council, with Service Tree Awards presented to the recipients during the Lucas Founders Day event on May 9, 2020. To submit a nomination, an online application can be found on the City's website at <https://www.lucastexas.us/service-tree-program/>.

Nominations must be submitted no later than **January 10, 2020** to City Secretary Stacy Henderson at shenderson@lucastexas.us. Nominees should meet the following criteria:

- Actions should benefit the City/residents in a significant way.
- 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.
- 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.

November 5, 2019 Elections

The City of Lucas Community Center will be a voting location during the upcoming November 5, 2019 Texas Constitutional and general election. Collin County has purchased new voting equipment that will be used for the first time during this election. The new system will work like this:

- After checking in, voters are given an activation card to insert into the ballot-marking machine that pulls up the correct ballot for each voter;
- Voters make their selections on the touch screen and, when they are finished, the machine prints out each voter's record which can then be verified for accuracy;
- Voters will take their paper record to a scanner, where their vote is cast and tabulated. The paper ballot is kept as backup in case a recount is needed.

To view sample ballots for this election, you may go to the Collin County Elections website at www.collincountytx.gov/elections/election_information/Pages/default.aspx. The Community Center will be open for voting on the following dates and times:

Monday, October 21	8 am - 5 pm
Tuesday, October 22	8 am - 5 pm
Wednesday, October 23	8 am - 5 pm
Thursday, October 24	8 am - 5 pm
Friday, October 25	8 am - 5 pm
Saturday, October 26	7 am - 7 pm
Sunday, October 27	1 pm - 6 pm
Monday, October 28	7 am - 7 pm
Tuesday, October 29	7 am - 7 pm
Wednesday, October 30	7 am - 7 pm
Thursday, October 31	7 am - 7 pm
Friday, November 1	7 am - 7 pm
Tuesday, November 5	7 am - 7 pm (Election Day)

Trash Service and Water Rate Increase

Beginning with your next monthly statement due November 10, Lucas residents will see an increase in trash services provided by Barnes Waste Disposal. Basic Service will now be at a rate of \$22.35 monthly; Expanded \$27.28 monthly; and Expanded Plus \$32.21 monthly. Should you have any questions regarding your trash service, please contact Barnes Waste Disposal at 972.734.3333.

Water rates will increase beginning with the monthly statement due December 10. Ordinance 2017-08-00864 approved a five-year water rate increase that began Oct. 1, 2017. This is year three of the five-year rate increase. The new water rates effective October 1, 2019 can be found at <https://www.lucastexas.us/water-rates/>.