

WEST LUCAS ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

In November 2021, BCC Engineering, the City's design consultant for the reconstruction of West Lucas Road, provided a presentation regarding the median openings and drainage easements to the Lucas City Council. The current roadway pavement is asphalt containing one lane in either direction with a center turn lane. The West Lucas Road reconstruction project will create a four-lane divided roadway with pavement consisting of reinforced concrete from Angel Parkway to Country Club Road. BCC Engineering presented multiple options and defined purposes for median openings and the Lucas City Council recommended using raised medians in specified locations to enhance safety and contoured medians (at grade colored textured concrete) in areas requiring accessibility. In addition to the median openings, existing and proposed drainage easements were discussed and based on the information that was presented, Lucas City Council agreed with the needed easements. Staff was also directed to organize a neighborhood meeting for impacted property owners along West Lucas Road to review the proposed design. This neighborhood meeting is tentatively being scheduled for sometime in February 2022. Impacted property owners will be notified of the meeting date, time and location once it is confirmed.

COUNTRY CLUB ROAD (FM 1378)

The City of Lucas City Council received a presentation at the November 4, 2021, council meeting from Area Engineer Jennifer Vorster with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). TxDOT discussed their process to conduct a feasibility study to identify potential improvements (including widening) of Country Club Road (FM 1378) from Parker Road to Stacy Road. In addition, TxDOT is currently working to design a schematic of the section from the Bait Shop Intersection to the north of the City of Lucas Fire Station. At the meeting, TxDOT presented traffic volume forecasts, crash data and potentially developing what a typical section would look like, number of lanes, and environmental constraints. TxDOT will be holding public meetings in the months to come presenting proposed FM 1378 improvements and allowing for citizen input regarding this roadway expansion. It is **TENTATIVELY** set for Thursday, February 24 at Lovejoy High School. The City will have information on the website notifying residents of TxDOT meeting date, time, and location once it is confirmed. A virtual option will also be available for the public meeting.

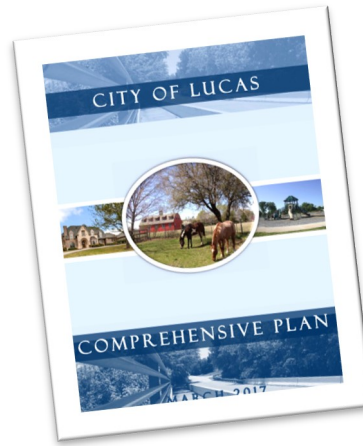
McGarity Elevated Tank Stem Replacement Required

FUTURE WATER CONSERVATION NOTICE

McGarity Pump Station and Ground Storage facility consists of two pump stations, an elevated tank, and two ground storage tanks. This pump station is located on McGarity Lane off Angel Parkway. During a daily inspection, Public Works staff noticed water on the floor and followed it to a minor pinhole water leak on the stem. A welder was hired to make an emergency patch over the pinhole. However, after further inspection, it was determined that the stem in the McGarity Elevated Tank will need to be replaced. The City has acquired the services of Interstate Contracting and Coating **XXX** to make a full replacement/repair to the stem. All Lucas residents will be updated regarding the replacement schedule in the February Lucas Leader. It will be essential that all citizens conserve water during this timeframe to ensure the City can maintain water quality standards and be able to serve all water customers while the replacement is being made.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

The Comprehensive Plan is a long-range planning tool used by the City to guide the growth and development of our community.



The original Comprehensive Plan was adopted in the 1980's and initiated the framework of the City that we enjoy so much today. The State of Texas has established laws that regulate the way incorporated cities such as Lucas can regulate land, but only if regulations are based on a Comprehensive Plan. This plan is how the City strives to guide future development while maintaining the unique character of Lucas.

The Comprehensive Plan is required to be updated every five years. In the coming months, you will notice Comprehensive Plan discussions taking place with the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewing all aspects of the Comprehensive Plan and forwarding their recommendations to the City Council for consideration. Public hearings will be held prior to Council approval. If you would like to take part in discussions regarding updates to the City's Comprehensive Plan, you may view future agendas of the Planning and Zoning Commission at www.lucastexas.us/planning-and-zoning-commission/.

CONTRACTOR ACTIVITY IN THE CITY

Many of you have called the City regarding contractors working in your neighborhood some of which are boring underground to install fiber and some placing fiber onto existing electrical poles. While this is expected to improve internet service, it can also be messy during construction and there are also potential hazards. If you are a recipient of the City's Nixle Alerts, some of the hazards you may have noticed recently is damage to several water lines and even some issues involving gas lines in our community. These contractors are required to obtain a permit from the City and to request locates to ensure all utilities have marked their buried lines to avoid damage prior to construction. Contractors are required to restore and/or repair any damage to the property.

For this reason, all contractors are required to submit a right-of-way permit and provide insurance to the City before starting work. How can you help? Do not remove flags that are there to identify and protect buried lines. The City has gone out and marked its water lines only to find all the flags removed the next day. Remember, these flags serve as way to protect your water line from damage. You can also call the City to verify that the contractor working in your neighborhood has in fact obtained the proper permit.

To be clear, these are not city-owned or funded projects, it is typically a subcontractor for telecommunication company, but staff routinely monitors all active permit holders for safety and orderliness within the public right-of-way and public easements. City staff considers it our duty to advocate for residents wherever possible, but staff cannot assign liability or file a claim on someone's behalf. If you believe a contractor has damaged your property and need contact information, feel free to contact Management Analyst Patrick Hubbard at 972.912.1209 or phubbard@lucastexas.us.

LUCAS LEADER

A publication of the City of Lucas

www.lucastexas.us

January 2022



Mayor Jim Olk

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By Jim Olk

Season's Greetings!!! To close out the year, I thought I would provide a "year in review"...

We started 2021 still battling COVID and all the implications that brought with it. We modified City Staff schedules, went to remote meetings for the City Council as well as all of the Boards and Commissions. It wasn't a flawless transition, but in the end I

think we have a way for more of our citizens to be heard. City Council and boards/commissions are now back to meeting in person but now all of our public meetings have video conference ability. The public can watch and participate via video conferencing at all of our meetings. Additionally, we record our meetings and then index the recording so if someone wants to just view a specific agenda item, you can go right to that item and watch what happened. Overall these were some positive changes that keep the City's actions as transparent as we can possibly make them and encourages public participation.

As y'all may remember we had a little issue with an Icemageddon in February. This caused quite of bit of disruption in all of our lives. I don't have an exact count of the number of homes that were damaged in Lucas, but Fire-Rescue had to run off their emergency generator for three days as well as responding to over 100 weather related and emergency response calls. Our Public Works staff responded to over 150 service related calls just that week alone. Hopefully we won't see that type of weather-related event again before ERCOT has the grid issues resolved.

On the financial side, we paid off some 2011 Certificates of Obligation (debt) early and for the 10th year in a row the City of Lucas Comprehensive Annual Finance Report was recognized as outstanding by the Government Finance Officers Association. Additionally three Firefighter/Paramedic/EMT positions (one for each shift) were approved along with the creation of a Water Rescue Program that will allow our Fire-Rescue Department to assist with water rescues in Lake Lavon. (So yes, we will be buying a boat. Isn't that supposed to be one of the best times... when you purchase and then sell that boat?)

Next month I will talk about what is ahead of us, but some of the ongoing things that happened were... All of our Community Events. We received a report earlier this month that the City had over 10,000

people visit the Lucas Farmers Market in the 12 markets that were held. Our Farmers Market Committee has done such an excellent job of running and advertising the market that it just keeps getting better and better. We had somewhere between 1,500 and 2,000 residents attend Lucas Country Christmas earlier this month, activities included a tree lighting, ice skating, a seasonal farmers market, free burgers from In-N-Out Burger as well as a visit from Santa Clause. Founders Day was also a fun time with activities like stick horse rodeo, farmers market, miniature golf, hot dogs and hamburgers, and a host of other events.

The City has ongoing street/transportation/thoroughfare items that I will touch on next month as well as drainage issues. City Council has been working on these and is trying to formulate a sustainable plan that can help improve this critical infrastructure. The Council will want to hear from you as we start formulating these plans. More to come on these. As we close out the year, I do want to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year, and thank you for allowing us to serve you - the citizens of Lucas.

CITY OF LUCAS 2022 GENERAL ELECTION

Candidate Filing Begins January 19

The City of Lucas general election will be held on May 7, 2022. There will be two City Council seats on the ballot; City Council Seat 5 and City Council Seat 6. Each City Council seat serves a three year term. Applications for a place on the ballot will be available from the City Secretary's office beginning January 4, 2022. Candidates may file an application with the City Secretary beginning Wednesday, January 19 through Friday, February 18, 2022. Please note that electronic application submittals will not be accepted.

To be eligible for office, the City Charter states the following criteria must be met:

- Resident of the City for twelve (12) continuous months
- Qualified voter of the City
- Have never been convicted or not currently charged with a felony or crime involving moral turpitude
- 18 years of age
- Not delinquent on ad valorem taxes due to the City

More election dates and information can be found on the City's website at www.lucastexas.us/elections. For elections questions, contact City Secretary Stacy Henderson at 972.912.1211 or shenderson@lucastexas.us.

January

The City continues to use Zoom to allow for remote public participation. To download a video conferencing link, go to <https://www.lucastexas.us/zoom-link-for-city-council-board-meetings/>.

- January 6 City Council Meeting (CANCELLED)
- January 13 Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall | 7 pm
- January 20 City Council Meeting City Hall | 7 pm
- January 25 Parks Board Meeting City Hall | 7 pm
- January 26 Board of Adjustment Meeting City Hall | 6:30 pm

COMMUNITY GENEROSITY SHINES THROUGH

This year's Holiday Donation Drive was a huge success and it is due to the generosity of our Lucas residents. The City received an abundant amount of food donations for All Community Outreach (ACO), toy donations for Collin County Toys for Tots, gift cards and household supplies for Family Promise of Collin County, pet food for the benefit of the Lucas Veterinary Hospital, monetary donations to benefit the Ol' Streaker restoration for the Friends of the Lucas Fire-Rescue, and special gifts for the Lucas Senior Angels at Sparks Loving Care Home. Santa made a special delivery to the Lucas Senior Angels and they were ecstatic to see him.

The Lucas community has shown tremendous generosity during the Holiday Donation Drive and we are grateful to have such caring residents who give back to the community.



2022 SEASON LUCAS FARMERS MARKET

"The mission of the Lucas Farmers Market is to create a safe and pleasant social experience for our community and visitors by providing access to local farmers, food producers and artist"

Mark your calendar for the second and fourth Saturday in April through October with all markets being held in the Community Park (next to City Hall) from 8 am until Noon:

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| April 9 | April 23 |
| May 14 | May 28 |
| June 11 | June 25 |
| July 9 | July 23 |
| August 13 | August 27 |
| September 10 | September 24 |
| October 8 | October 22 |

Note: Friday, December 2, a special Holiday Market will be held in conjunction with Country Christmas beginning at 6 pm.

VENDOR APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2022

Having quality vendors is critical to the success of the market and creating the best possible experience for our citizens. Do you know of any vendors that would want to be part of this FUN market? Vendors are divided into four main categories:

- Agricultural Producers
- Value-Added Producers
- Artisans
- Ready to Eat Foods

Refer to the 2022 Rules and Regulations regarding vendor guidelines at lucasfarmersmarket.com or the City's website at lucastexas.us/lucas-farmers-market/. The Parks and Open Space Board and Lucas Farmers Market Committee is especially interested in recruiting produce vendors.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you want to be a part of creating this experience? We always need volunteers to assist the day of the market with operations and logistics. Complete the Volunteer Registration Form on the City of Lucas website at lucastexas.us/volunteer-registration-form/.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Events will be expanded for the 2022 season to enhance the atmosphere and experience for market customers. More information will be published in upcoming editions of the Lucas Leader. Of course, we will continue the Market Share program, Youth Booth, live music and Lucas historical exhibit.

You can find out more about the Lucas Farmers Market at the following locations:

- Facebook: facebook.com/lucasfarmersmarket
- Instagram: [@lucastfarmersmarket](https://instagram.com/lucastfarmersmarket)
- Twitter: [@LucasFarmersMkt](https://twitter.com/LucasFarmersMkt)
- Website: lucasfarmersmarket.com
- City's Website: lucastexas.us/lucas-farmers-market
- Email: lucasfarmersmarket@lucastexas.us

BARN QUILTS CAN HELP RESTORE "OL' STREAKER"

The "Friends of Lucas Fire Rescue" (FOLFR) is kicking off the new year with a new and fun way to contribute to "Ol' Streakers" restoration. In keeping with the "Keeping it Country" theme, the FOLFR is now selling Barn Quilt Blocks.

What, you may ask is a Barn Quilt Block? A quilt block is a patterned segment of a quilt. A Barn Quilt Block is a large piece of wood or sign board that's been painted to look like a quilt block. Early American farmers painted distinctive quilt block patterns on their barns for decoration and as a means for travelers to find particular families.

Barn Quilt Blocks experienced a revival in 2001 when an Ohio woman mounted one on her barn to honor her quilting mother. This "Folk Art" movement soon took off and Barn Quilt Blocks were reborn. There are even "Barn Quilt Trails" around the country for folks to enjoy. Sharing a love for quilting, honoring a loved one or a family's heritage, or merely for decoration, Barn Quilt Blocks are a piece of rural Americana.

Plano based VOOM Express Group, owned by Lucas resident Erich Schlarb, graciously offered to fabricate and nationally market Barn Quilt Blocks, and donate 40% of all sales to the FOLFR.

Rob Garcia, owner of Lucas Farmers Insurance purchased and donated a Barn Quilt Block that was raffled off at the recent Lucas Country Christmas. Congratulations to raffle winner Steve Duke, who said his Barn Quilt Block will be prominently displayed in his green house. The FOLFR would like to thank those who purchased raffle tickets and the community for its generosity and support.

If you would like more information on designing and purchasing your own barn quilt block in various sizes, please visit <https://voomexpress.com/barn-quilts/>.

Remember, **40% of your purchase will be returned to our community** in support of "Ol' Streakers" restoration and your Barn Quilt Block display will help with "Keeping it Country".

LUCAS COUNTRY CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CHEER

The 2021 Country Christmas was a fantastic event to remember with families and friends who came out to celebrate the holiday season with the Lucas community! Country Christmas was held at the Lucas Community Park on December 3. The event kicked off with the holiday tree lighting ceremony followed by the arrival of Santa. Santa and his friends (Elf and The Grinch) made appearances at Country Christmas to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. Santa's Workshop provided an in-person opportunity for families to take pictures with Santa and Elf. The Grinch introduced the special Movie in the Park presentation of Dr. Seuss' The Grinch. This year's Country Christmas also featured an ice skating rink where many families enjoyed ice skating in Lucas.

The Lucas Farmers Market held a special holiday market featuring vendors with holiday-themed items where visitors could shop for unique local items. The City would like to thank the Lovejoy ISD shuttle bus drivers for providing exceptional service in transporting visitors to and from the event. The City would also like to extend an appreciation to In-N-Out Burger Texas Cookout Team for their in-kind donation and volunteering their time to provide free meals to the Lucas community. Country Christmas was an amazing time to enjoy the holiday season with loved ones. We look forward to seeing everyone at next year's event! Happy Holidays!



Pictured are members of FOLFR from left to right, Tim Johnson, Erich Schlarb, Robert Garcia, Ray McKee (President), Raffle Winner Steve Duke, Kathleen LoSapio, (Secretary) and David Rhoads (Treasurer).