

CITY COUNCIL PASSES RESOLUTION OPPOSING TXDOT PROPOSED DESIGN EXPANSION OF COUNTRY CLUB ROAD

On June 2, 2022, the Lucas City Council passed a resolution opposing the design schematic submitted by the Texas Department of Transportation for the realignment of Country Club Road. The Resolution in its entirety is below:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUCAS, COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS, IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED FM 1378 CONCEPT DESIGN SCHEMATIC COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS FROM FM 2514 (PARKER ROAD) TO FM 2786 (EAST STACY ROAD) BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DALLAS DISTRICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Lucas, Texas is located within Collin County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lucas has reviewed a Concept Design Schematic provided by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) regarding widening and/or realignment of FM 1378 from FM 2514 (Parker Road) to FM 2786 (East Stacy Road) which comprises 6.4 miles through the City of Lucas, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the TxDOT FM 1378 expansion is to divert traffic originating outside our community through the City rather than alleviating local traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lucas recognizes the development of Farm to Market Roads (FM designated) were designed to serve the immediate communities they lie in and not to relieve congestion from other areas. FM roads are not designated State Highways such as Hwy 75, Hwy 5, or Hwy 78.

WHEREAS, the proposed widening and/or realignment of the entire length of FM 1378 severely limits access to churches, schools, businesses, City services and eliminates our only public park with a baseball field while bringing increased traffic noise, increased air pollution, increased light pollution, and loss of property through eminent domain that disproportionately affects Lucas residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lucas is highly concerned the proposed design goes beyond what is necessary to address a few problem areas within the city and instead drives significant traffic flow from outside areas through our town that is detrimental to the city and our residents decreasing our quality of life, specifically:

The City of Lucas absolutely and adamantly opposes FM 1378 South Alternative Route B. Any road improvements should stay within the existing roadway footprints. As Seis Lagos is a SLUD district and has no financial participation in building or construction of FM 1378, the City of Lucas should have priority in determination of the route of this road.

FM 1378 South Alternative Route A should avoid any negative impact to the City of Lucas' Kenneth R. Lewis Park. This park is irreplaceable for the City.

FM 1378 - North from the intersection of West Lucas Road to Stacy Road should not be developed as a 4-lane road with wide median and sidewalks. Such development of this section of FM 1378 is not necessary as the City's Comprehensive Plan does not call for, nor does zoning allow for large parcels of commercial development. The property along this stretch of road is overwhelmingly residential. Traffic levels on this road are determined by school hours drop off and pick up; and

WHEREAS, The City of Lucas can clearly identify areas of concern on FM 1378 that could be mitigated with some additional road shoulders, additional turn lanes, and/or slight road realignments. We strongly encourage TxDOT to work with the City of Lucas to incorporate our feedback and suggestions in development of plans for FM 1378.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUCAS, COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Lucas is opposed to FM 1378 Concept Design Schematic in its entirety as presented and thus will be unwilling to participate in its construction financially.

SECTION 2. The City Council of the City of Lucas stands in support of its citizens who have expressed opposition to this plan.

SECTION 3. That the City Council of the City of Lucas requests TxDOT to keep the City included in all future communications regarding this matter and to accept this resolution as public comment on the proposed permit.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall become and be effective from and after its passage.

SECTION 5. It is hereby found and determined that the meeting at which this Resolution was passed was open to the public as required by law, and that a public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given, all as required by Section 551.041 Texas Government Code.

DULY PASSED by the City Council of the City of Lucas, Texas, on the 2nd day of June 2022.

COMMUNITY WASTE DISPOSAL

The City of Lucas will be switching trash and recycling providers beginning October 2022. Community Waste Disposal will be taking over trash and recycling services from Barnes Waste Disposal and Republic Services. Below is the breakdown of service costs for Community Waste Disposal. Please contact Assistant to the City Manager Kent Souriyasak at 972.912.1213 or email at kent@lucastexas.us if you have any questions. For more information, visit: www.lucastexas.us/cwd.

Rates for Residential Solid Waste and Recycling	
Base Residential Services for All Lucas Residents	Monthly Rate
Solid Waste Service (once a week – trash cart included)	\$26.10
Recycling Service (once a week – recycling cart included)	
Unlimited Bundled Brush Collection (once a week)	
Limited Bulk and Unbundled Brush Collection (once a week)	
Doors Side Household Hazardous Waste and Used Electronics Collection (twice per year per resident)	
Senior Citizen Rate (age 65 or older) for Base Residential Services	\$23.49
Optional Residential Services for All Lucas Residents	Monthly Rate
Additional Trash Cart (each)	\$13.19
Additional Recycling Cart (each)	\$5.44
Concierge Service for Solid Waste Only (once a week – CWD cart)	
• 0 ft – 100 ft from public street to point of collection	\$30.81
• 100 ft – 300 ft from public street to point of collection	\$61.63
• 300 ft and more from public street to point of collection	TBD
Excess Bulk and Brush Accumulations Collection (per yard)	\$15.00
Manure and Stable Matter Collection (once a week – CWD cart)	\$29.00
Additional Manure and Stable Matter Collection Cart	\$19.00
Replace Lost/Stolen Trash or Recycling Cart (each)	\$76.05



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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By Jim Olk

A couple of months ago I asked for the citizens to provide your input on TxDOT plans to widen Country Club/Southview/FM 1378. A number of you did just that. Council as whole received many comments regarding the proposal. The comments that I received ranged from “If it has to be done, do it now” to “don’t let TxDOT ruin our community with that big of a road.” Each had their own perspective for their reasoning regarding the proposal and it was interesting reading the comments. There were those that would be directly impacted by right-of-way “takes” (the road actually coming on to their property), while others were concerned by the overall impact to the quality-of-life issues that thoroughfares can have on a community. The majority of the comments touched how the project would destroy the atmosphere of the City of Lucas. In the end, for every comment that was neutral or in favor there were two comments opposed to TxDOT’s plan.

In representing the community, at our June 2 meeting, the City Council did pass a Resolution opposed to the “Proposed FM 1378 Concept Design Schematic.” The Resolution touched on diversion of traffic through Lucas rather than alleviating local traffic congestion; how ‘Farm to Market’ roads were designed to move local traffic not act as highway; how the expansion would impact individual residences, churches, schools, parks, and businesses; how the proposed expansion would bring increased traffic noise, air pollution, and light pollution; and overall how the proposed “takings” would disproportionately impact Lucas residents and the ability of the City to deliver services to our residents.

The City Council recognizes that FM 1378 has issues (especially at the intersections) and is willing to work with TxDOT in an effort to address those issues provided they are

in keeping with the atmosphere of the City of Lucas. We will continue to look for opportunities to improve our community for the benefit of our residents and will keep you posted as things progress.

2021 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER REPORT

Each year the City of Lucas and the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) produce a report to inform our water customers about the quality and safety of our drinking water. The 2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) can be found on the City’s website at the following link: <https://www.lucastexas.us/drinking-water-quality-report-ccr-latest/> after July 1, 2022. The source of drinking water used by the City of Lucas is purchased surface water from the NTMWD. The City of Lucas estimated that 34,073,884 gallons of water were unaccounted for during the 2021 calendar year. Unaccounted water use is attributed to leaks, hydrant flushing, water works maintenance, and fire-rescue operations. For more information contact Public Works Director Scott Holden at 972.912.1208 or by email at sholden@lucastexas.us.

BUDGET WORKSHOP SET FOR JULY 21 AT 6:00 PM

The City Council will hold a budget workshop on Thursday, July 21 at 6:00 pm to discuss the budget for the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

The City Council would like to encourage interested citizens to attend this important meeting. The Workshop will be held at City Hall located at 665 Country Club Road in the Council Chambers.

Upcoming Events

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/>.

- July 7** City Council Meeting
City Hall | 6:30 pm
- July 14** Planning and Zoning Meeting
City Hall | 6:30 pm
- July 21** City Council Meeting
City Hall | 6:00 pm
- July 26** Parks Board Meeting
City Hall | 6:30 pm
- July 27** Board of Adjustment
City Hall | 6:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 9** Lucas Farmers Market
Community Park | 8:00 am - Noon
- July 23** Lucas Farmers Market
Community Park | 8:00 am - Noon

LUCAS FARMERS MARKET

The volunteers, City Staff, and all the vendors at the market are having a great time and it is creating a wonderful atmosphere at the Lucas Farmers Market. The Chicken Talk with Cathy Gleason, the plant sale with Bluebonnet Country Garden, kids spitting watermelon seeds, the Ice Cream Crank-off contests, and kids construction projects are just a few of the family fun events taking place at the different markets. If you have not had the chance to come to one of the Farmers Market events this year do not worry as there will be plenty more events coming up soon.

2ND ANNUAL ICE CREAM CRANK-OFF

The 2nd annual Ice Cream Crank-Off event took place at the June 11 market and saw six excited contestants, nine delicious ice creams, and an outpouring of generous donations to the All Community Outreach. In total, the event raised \$526.69.



This years winners are:

- 1st:** Team Fisher - Oreo Extravaganza
- 2nd:** Super Scoopers - Horchata with Chirro
- 3rd:** Lucas Fire-Rescue - Peach

UPCOMING MARKET EVENTS

July 9: Back by popular demand, a fun and games event will be held during the first market of July. This event will have special food items including hot dogs and watermelon as well as corn hole games and more.

July 23: Sous Vide - The How's and Why's of Sous Vide. The word sous vide is a French word that translates to "under vacuum," and revolves around cooking in a temperature-controlled water to achieve restaurant quality food. A demo on cooking roast beef and reverse seared sea scallops will be held during this event.

ATTENTION LUCAS QUILTERS!

(EMAIL CORRECTION)

An organizational meeting will be held based on response of Lucas residents who would be interested in getting together for the love of quilting. For anyone interested, please contact Kathleen LoSapio at gigilosapio@yahoo.com (corrected email address). A meeting date and place will be determined after responses have been received.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES AND GOLF CARTS PROHIBITED ON LUCAS ROADS

There seems to be some confusion regarding whether it is legal to drive off-highway vehicles and golf carts on city streets. Although it appears that recent changes in Texas law now allow golf carts and most off-highway vehicles to be operated on public roadways, their operation is restricted to certain conditions. For the purposes of this article, an "off-highway vehicle" includes all terrain vehicles (ATVs), recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs), utility vehicles (UTV's), and sand rails.

The following are the conditions illustrated where golf carts and off-highway vehicles may be operated on public roadways:

- A county or municipality approved master plan community that is a residential subdivision as defined by Section 209.002(9) of the Texas Property Code containing a set of HOA/POA rules or restrictive covenants; or
- A public or private beach approved for vehicle or travel; or
- A roadway for which the posted speed limit is not more than 35 mph, and the vehicle is operated during daytime hours in an area not more than two miles from the location where the vehicle is usually parked and used for transportation to and from a golf course.

Therefore, based on the above-reference conditions, it is still illegal to drive your golf carts and off-highway vehicles on City of Lucas roadways unless you are operating the golf cart within a master planned community. This would include neighborhoods with a mandatory association that is governed by restrictive covenants.

Also, the Texas Attorney General's office has stated that the requirement to possess a valid driver's license to operate a vehicle on a public roadway applies to the operation of golf carts and off-highway vehicles while on a public road. Yes, an operator of a golf cart or off-highway vehicle must possess a valid driver's license (or learners permit with adult present) to drive on a public roadway.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES RECEPTION



The City will be holding an opening reception for Art in Public Places on July 6, 2022. This reception will be held from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at City Hall, 665 Country Club Road. The incredibly talented student artwork will be on display for the public to view and enjoy throughout City Hall. Each display features

different amazingly crafted student artwork representing each grade and school in the Lovejoy Independent School District. The City would like to acknowledge Lovejoy High School visual arts students (pictured, left to right) Karlee Williams, Ella Reaugh, Simi Fadel, and Lane Beller for their help in curating the artwork at City Hall. Please join us at the opening reception to acknowledge these students as well as other talented students whose artwork are on display for this year's Art in Public Places.



2022 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The 2022 Agrilife photography contest is taking place between June 1, 2022 and July 31, 2022. Photos need to be uploaded prior to the deadline of July 31, 2022. To participate in this event and upload photos, visit: <https://collin.agrilife.org/events/collin-county-photography-contest/>

WILD HOG MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension will be hosting a workshop on how to manage wild hogs. The workshop costs \$15 and will be held Friday, September 16, 2022. To register for this event, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wild-pig-management-workshop-tickets-349584806567>.

THIS FOURTH OF JULY, LET THE PROS LIGHT THE SKY

The City of Lucas wants everyone to have a safe Fourth of July, but please do not include discharging fireworks as part of your festivities. We want to remind everyone that the use of fireworks is prohibited. More importantly, the City of Lucas prides itself on being animal friendly and fireworks can be very dangerous to our pets and livestock. Discharging fireworks can also cause problems for our veterans and families with young children as well. Using fireworks is prohibited by City ordinance in the city limits of Lucas. Law Enforcement and Code Enforcement Officers will be out patrolling throughout the Fourth of July holiday weekend and person found in violation will have their fireworks confiscated and may also receive a citation. Here are some helpful tips about the use of fireworks.

Q What should I do if my neighbor is setting off fireworks?

A Call 972.547.5100 and press option "2" to reach the non-emergency dispatch operator.

Q Can I shoot fireworks from land that I own in the City of Lucas?

A No. This is a violation of City ordinance.

Q Can I shoot fireworks from a public roadway, public park, or U.S. Corps of Engineer property?

A No. This is a violation of City ordinance and/or U.S. Corps 36 CF R 327.13(b) and a citation may be issued.

Q I have lived in Lucas for years and discharged fireworks, is this a new regulation?

A No. Fireworks have been prohibited since November 6, 1979.

Q What will happen if I start a fire by shooting fireworks?

A If the fire is found to be started intentionally and damages the property of another, you may be subject to the charge of Arson. If the fire is found to be started accidentally and damages the property of another, you may be subject to a fine. In either case, you may be held civilly liable for damages.

Residents are encouraged to celebrate the Fourth of July without the use of fireworks. There are many Independence Day celebrations that include a professional fireworks display nearby. Should you have any questions regarding fireworks within the City, contact the City's Code Enforcement Officer at 972.912.1215.

LOCAL 4-H CLUB TAKES STATE



The local Legacy 4-H club claimed top honors in the Texas State Roundup Family and Consumer Health (FCH) Quiz Bowl state championship tournament held recently in College Station. The four-member team, including Lucas residents Elizabeth Esposito and Audrey Rathgeb, advanced undefeated in the tournament, answering questions ranging from food and nutrition to healthy living

topics. Qualifying to participate in the Texas State Roundup is a great honor for the 4-H club. Winning in any category in this event is truly a great achievement!

Winning the state championship qualifies the FCH Team for the Western National Roundup to be held in Fort Collins, Colorado. The Team has already started fundraising with their flower and vegetable booth at the Lucas Farmers Market, but has a ways to go before they can afford the trip to Colorado. Anyone interested in assisting the team with financial support is encouraged to reach out to Kathrin Esposito at kathrin.esposito@gmail.com.

Legacy 4-H meets right here in Lucas and is a non-profit, youth organization for ages 9-19 that offers a variety of projects including food and nutrition, public speaking, horticulture, sewing and more. Working closely with City government, 4-H undertakes many local initiatives, including the creation of a seed library, distributing free trees and mulch through the annual Arbor Day event, preparing meals for Loving Care elder care facility, beautifying Lucas through City clean-up events, selling flowers and produce at the Lucas Farmers Market, and organizing the silent auction and cake walk at Lucas Founders Day.

Any young person interested in joining Legacy 4-H can plan to attend the upcoming Learn About 4-H event at Lovejoy High School on August 22 at 7:00 pm.