

CITY DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING

This month, the Lucas Leader is highlighting the City of Lucas Public Works and Engineering Department. One of the most important aspects of the Public Works team is to provide clean and safe drinking water to the Lucas Community. Recently, the City of Lucas updated its Water Master Plan to ensure that every existing and future water customer receives water that exceeds the standards set by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). This Department instills a sense of civic pride by taking care of our parks and maintaining areas along our major roadways. Because of their hard work, Keep Lucas Beautiful continues to be recognized as a Gold Star Affiliate, the highest form of recognition from Keep Texas Beautiful. Public Works Supervisor Jeremy Bogle has been with the City of Lucas for 17 years and has been instrumental in improving service delivery. Our Public Works employees can be found in and around Lucas performing maintenance to public waterlines, making culvert enhancements to improve drainage, and performing general maintenance to facilities around the city such as water towers and fire hydrants. They are also invaluable to making sure special events like Founders Day and the Lucas Farmers Market run smoothly! Our highly skilled Public Works team puts countless hours into our city and are always available to respond in emergency situations.

The engineering component of this department is essential in planning for the design and construction of infrastructure improvements. Recently, the Lucas City Council approved the design and construction of a new elevated storage tank that will ensure that the city is able to meet future water demand. Our Public Works Director, City Engineer, and Capital Improvement Project Manager work on a diverse range of tasks that include project management of roadways, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and management of numerous construction and professional services contracts. Much like other departments, they use the City of Lucas Comprehensive Plan and the Capital Improvement Plan to guide projects that will help ensure a high standard of living for Lucas residents!

Public Works Director Scott Holden has been working in the public works and engineering profession for 25 years. In his position as Director, he oversees all aspects of water, stormwater drainage and public facilities, along with the daily operation of the Public Works and Engineering department. This can include water leaks in the city with the Public Works team, or managing capital projects that help improve roadways and other infrastructure alongside our Engineering team. Scott is passionate about delivering water that exceeds state and national standards to the residents of Lucas. Citizens may reach Public Works Director Scott Holden at 972-912-1208 or send an email to sholden@lucastexas.us.

PUBLIC MEETING FOR PROPOSED WIDENING OF FARM TO MARKET 1378

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to widen FM 1378 from west of FM 3286 to West Lucas Road. As a result, TxDOT will be holding a public meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2023 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Willow Springs Middle School Cafeteria located on 1101 West Lucas Road, Lucas, TX 75002. Attendees will be able to view the presentation of the project, review hard copies of project materials and ask questions of TxDOT staff and/or consultants. Project materials are available to view from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at TxDOT Dallas District, 4777 East U.S. Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150 or online at the project website at www.KeepItMovingDallas.com/FM1378. Members of the public may also submit comments to Liang Ding at liang.ding@txdot.gov, by phone at 469-428-7188 or in person at the address mentioned above. Comments must be submitted before Friday, June 9, 2023.

2022 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 2022 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/>. The source of drinking water used by the City of Lucas is purchased surface water from the NTMWD. The City of Lucas estimated that 9,789,433 gallons of water were unaccounted for during the 2022 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.

STATE VERSUS LOCAL ROADS

Did you know that most of the main roads through and around Lucas are actually State of Texas maintained highways? That's right. Estates Parkway, Country Club Road, East Lucas Road (from Country Club Road headed east) Angel Parkway, Parker Road and Southview Drive are all maintained by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). This includes all signs, pavement, publicly owned drainage and traffic signals along these roadways. You can contact TxDOT directly using their "Contact Us" portal available at www.txdot.gov/about/contact-us.html or you can call the McKinney Area Engineer at 972-542-2345.

ANNUAL STREETS MAINTENANCE

It's asphalt season in Texas and that means road construction, and the City of Lucas annual Streets Maintenance program is underway. This year's projects include repairs to segments of Estelle Lane and Honeysuckle Lane, an overlay of the intersection of Long Road and Bloom Street, and a mill and overlay of a western segment of Snider Lane. The City of Lucas selected these projects based on systemwide condition assessments and a consideration of the areas with the highest traffic. The Honeysuckle and Estelle Lane project is complete, while the Snider Lane, Long Road and Bloom Street projects are scheduled to commence by late summer. For alerts on these and other projects, subscribe to the City of Lucas Nixle at www.lucastexas.us/nixle/.

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By Jim Olk



Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of the victims along with those that were injured during the shooting in Allen. We are all so touched that this senseless act of violence happened so close to home. We are so thankful for those that responded to the crisis, and it is great to know that those brave men and women of the municipal and county public safety departments are there and ready to respond in an instant to any danger that we may encounter. Let's continue to keep our entire community in our prayers.

On a different note, the McKinney Airport Bond election failed. As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, the City of McKinney was asking its residents to support a \$200 million dollar bond to construct a four-gate commercial airline terminal at the McKinney airport. This would have brought commercial passenger planes over Lucas. The Lucas City Council opposed the airport expansion due to potential negative noise and traffic impacts on our community. Now, this does not mean the airport is going away and we will still have to deal with the air traffic the airport currently generates. I will continue to have conversations with the City of McKinney to see if there are improvements to air traffic patterns or other changes that could lessen the impact that the airport has on our enjoyment of our homes.

At a City Council meeting in early May, we received a report on the efforts to restore Streaker. No, that is not a reference to a fad from the '70s, it is our first fire engine here in Lucas. There has been an ongoing effort to restore Streaker by the Friends of Lucas Fire Rescue for many years now. At the Council meeting, I said that I would mention the extraordinary efforts of the volunteers in my newsletter article this month (especially since I skipped my article last month). You can find a more detailed explanation of the progress in this newsletter, but I sincerely appreciate all the efforts to bring Streaker back to better than its original glory and am looking forward to seeing its revival. Thanks to all that have participated and contributed to this effort!

FREE PERSONAL PROTECTION AND HOME DEFENSE CLASS PRESENTED BY

COUNCILMEMBER PHILIP LAWRENCE

SATURDAY, JUNE 10 FROM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

In today's world, personal and home protection is at the top of everyone's list. Thus, Lucas City Councilmember Philip Lawrence will be conducting a FREE Personal Protection and Home Defense seminar for local residents to learn more about how to keep themselves, their belongings and their families safe.

Some of the topics covered will be firearms safety, license to carry information, home defense, "Run Hide Fight", firearms storage in the home and Kiddos and Firearms in the Home. Councilmember Lawrence will also answer questions related to pre-firearm purchases such as "Which type of handgun should I purchase?", "What firearms are best for personal carry and home defense?" and "But my husband said!"

Councilmember Lawrence is currently Certified nationally by both the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the United States Concealed Carry Association (USCCA) as a Handgun Instructor, Firearms Safety Trainer and Home Defense Instructor. He currently works in the Corporation Security and Investigation field and works directly with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

This FREE event will take place on Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm (right after the Lucas Farmers Market) in the Community Center behind Lucas City Hall. Please RSVP by texting Councilmember Lawrence at 214-843-4628 with your name and number of attendees (Age Requirement: 18 and over). This seminar will be considered 'Full' once 30 people have registered.

LUCAS FARMERS MARKET

The warm weather is finally here, and the Lucas Farmers Market is in high gear. You can expect some great local produce, locally raised beef, pork, chicken and Wagyu beef! Have you checked out our new vendors? Old vendors that left and returned? How about all of the regulars that have new stuff? All of our vendors make our market great and we are excited to see what the rest of the Lucas Farmers Market season has to offer!

June 10, 2023 - 3rd Annual Ice Cream Crank-Off

Summer is here! Get those recipes out and dust off those ice cream machines. This contest is free to enter. All proceeds of this event support our local All Community Outreach (ACO) in Allen. To register, send an email to farmersmarket@lucastexas.us. (More information below).

June 24, 2023 - Fall Garden Prep / Tomatoes Tasting

Interested in creating raised beds for your fall garden? Join our Fall Garden Prep with Master Gardener Sherrian Jones at the Lucas Community Center! This session will be complimented by a tasting of various heirloom and hybrid tomatoes at the pavilion in the Community Park.

Liquid Agriculture

This year, the Lucas Farmers Market is offering liquid agriculture! The market will host several local North Texas wineries and craft beer vendors. *Selling only, consumption is limited to tastings.*

Market Date	Special Event
June 10, 2023	Ice Cream Crank Off
June 24, 2023	Fall Garden Prep—Tomatoes Tasting
July 8, 2023	Raptor Display / How to Build a Birdhouse
July 22, 2023	Chef Demonstration
August 12, 2023	Back to School Event
August 26, 2023	Texas Parks and Wildlife Presentation
September 9, 2023	Lucas Fire-Rescue 9/11 Ceremony
September 23, 2023	Robotics Competition
October 14, 2023	Pumpkin Decorations / Mushroom Foraging Part 2
October 28, 2023	Bee Demonstration / Sidewalk Art Contest

JOIN THE CENTURIES-OLD ICE CREAM CRANK-OFF TRADITION WITH THE LUCAS FARMERS MARKET

The Lucas Farmers Market will host the third annual Ice Cream Crank-Off on June 10, 2023. Ice cream enthusiasts everywhere are invited to participate in this century-old American tradition.

The history of ice cream crank-offs can be traced back to the late 19th century, when the hand-cranked ice cream churn was invented, making ice cream more accessible to the average person. Today, ice cream crank-offs have become a beloved tradition in many communities, including ours, often serving as a fundraiser for local charities or organizations. This year's Lucas Farmers Market Ice Cream Crank-Off will benefit All Community Outreach (ACO), and participants will compete to make the best homemade ice cream. The judges will award prizes for categories such as taste, texture and creativity.

One of the highlights of ice cream crank-offs is the creativity that participants bring to their recipes. While traditional flavors like vanilla and chocolate remain popular, some award-winning recipes have included more unusual ingredients like crispy bacon pieces, lavender, or even beer. These ingredients might not appeal to everyone, but those willing to experiment can create award-winning ice cream creations that are both unique and delicious.

So dust off your ice cream maker, bring your creativity and join us for the Lucas Farmers Market Ice Cream Crank-Off. To enter, email farmersmarket@lucastexas.us with your name, contact information, and the flavor of ice cream you plan to make.

APPLY NOW FOR A CITY BOARD OR COMMISSION

The City of Lucas is accepting applications from residents who are wanting to serve the community on a Board or Commission. The City has several boards and commissions whose duties and tasks range on various topics important to the citizens and everyday functions of the City.

If you are interested in volunteering for a Board or Commission, visit our website to apply at www.lucastexas.us/boards-commissions-volunteer-application/, stop by Lucas City Hall at 665 Country Club Road or email eflores@lucastexas.us to learn how to apply.



All meetings are held at Lucas City Hall located at 665 Country Club Road in Lucas. To watch City of Lucas public meetings via livestream, go to <https://www.lucastexas.us/departments/public-meetings/>

June 1	City Council Meeting City Hall 6:30 pm
June 8	Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall 6:30 pm
June 15	City Council Meeting City Hall 6:30 pm
June 28	Board of Adjustment Meeting City Hall 6:30 pm

HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY TO LUCAS FIRE-RESCUE!

June 11, 2023 will mark 50 years of service for Lucas Fire-Rescue. In celebration of this milestone, Lucas Fire -Rescue would like to invite the Lucas community to celebrate our 50th Birthday during the two events listed below:

On Saturday, June 10, 2023, Lucas Fire-Rescue will be at the Lucas Farmer’s Market giving away freebies and serving “50th Birthday Cake” flavored ice cream, hand-crafted by our firefighters. We will also have a photo backdrop set-up with fun & silly props for everyone to enjoy. Come meet our firemen and enjoy some fellowship with those dedicated to serving your community.

Then, on Sunday, June 11, 2023 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm we will be hosting a huge birthday bash with all living, former Fire Chiefs and a multitude of current and former members to look back on the last 50 years of the department's history and celebrate this incredible milestone! Guest speakers will include former Fire Chief Richard Morris and the grandchildren of Lucas Fire-Rescue's founding member and first Fire Chief, Frank H. Hamlin. In addition, our very own Councilmember and City Historian Debbie Fisher will have her famous historical display set up for everyone to view and look back on the last 50 years of Lucas Fire-Rescue history. We are excited to see you there!

50 FOR 50 - SUPPORTING OLE’ STREAKER

The City of Lucas invites you to help restore history!

The Friends of Lucas Fire-Rescue is a local non-profit organization that supports Lucas Fire-Rescue. In 2019, the “Friends” began the process of restoring Ole’ Streaker, a 1949 Ford F7 Detroit General Fire Engine that once served Lucas and its residents. With a total restoration cost of approximately \$128,000, the Lucas community has been actively raising money and donating time to bring Ole’ Streaker back to its original glory. In 2022, at the very first Lucas Car Show, Tony Purch with Homes by J Anthony and Rich Verbal with Legacy Classic Cars raised \$25,000 towards this cause. Many volunteers have donated nearly 3,000 hours of labor towards the project. This said, the “Friends” still need to raise another \$50,000 to complete this historically significant fire engine.

The “Friends” are asking, in celebration of 50 years of service, to raise \$50,000 for Ole’ Streaker. 50 for 50! Here is how you can participate:

- Mail a check made payable to Friends of Lucas Fire-Rescue at P. O. Box 1868, Allen, Texas 75013
- Attend the Lucas Car Show on Saturday, May 20, 2023 at Creekwood United Methodist Church (corner of Stacy and Country Club) from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm and stop by the “Friends” booth.
- Attend the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Lucas Fire-Rescue on Sunday, June 11 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm and stop by the “Friends” booth.



FIVE REASONS TO AVOID FIREWORKS IN LUCAS

(1) - **Fireworks are *illegal* in the City of Lucas** - That’s right! The City of Lucas has adopted an amended version of the International Fire Code that prohibits the possession and use of fireworks.

(2) - **Likelihood of Injury** - No one is surprised to hear about an injury from a firework, but everyone is surprised if they get injured by one. In fact, thousands of people are injured every year by sparklers and firecrackers, which many people would consider nearly harmless. Children aged 10-14 years were most likely to go to the emergency room from firework injuries; the second most likely group was adults between 20-24 years old. These injuries are typically burning to the hands or fingers, but burns and impact injuries to the head, neck and eye area are also common. Who wants to leave the party to spend the night in the emergency room? Think twice before allowing anyone in your household to light up the night.

(3) - **Fire Risk** - Fireworks cause significant property loss and damage. Every year, fireworks cause approximately 18,500 fires. More fires are reported on July 4 than any other day of the year, so let’s try and break that tradition.

(4) - **Pollutants** - Fireworks create airborne microscopic toxins that can be harmful to the environment. Individuals with asthma or chemical sensitivities may also experience negative effects from firework materials regardless of any specific chemical toxicity.

(5) - **Veterans, Pets, & Children** - When you are blasting off fireworks on your own schedule, it can be very frightening to veterans, kids and fur-kids and cause them to be anxious and sleepless. You might be depriving a baby (and their parents) an entire night of sleep while all the neighborhood dogs cry and cower. Consider the golden rule before subjecting your community to an unscheduled and illegal fireworks display.

All of the major safety organizations agree. If you are looking for fireworks safety tips, the first thing you will find is the overwhelming recommendation *not* to use fireworks at home. Enjoy a professional display instead. These displays employ complete safety protocols and commercial-grade pyrotechnics for a superior show. The City of Lucas wishes safe and fun summer celebrations to all!

