



HEB Richmond Market on Berry Parkway

Richmond Is Poised for Growth

Richmond laid the foundation for growth in the development of its Comprehensive Plan, adoption of the Unified Development Code, and preparation of the Trails and Parks Master Plans. In addition to the development plans, Richmond, through its voters, had the foresight to establish an Economic Development Corporation funded by sales taxes. The Development Corporation of Richmond works with the City Commission to fund projects to foster the local economy. With this foundation, the City is working with Developers to assist them in bringing desirable projects to life.

The Del Webb Sweetgrass community, with 1177 homes, continues its popularity and has been joined by the Veranda community, currently at 102 homes completed, being developed by Johnson Development. These new residential communities are growing fast and adding population to the area. Veranda's success has led to the plans to expand the development to include the Fort Bend Country Club. In response, commercial developments are occurring.

Retail development is happening throughout Richmond and its extra territorial jurisdiction. Most recently, HEB opened in January in the Berry Tract development at I-69 and FM 762. This full-service supermarket serves the City and its surrounding community. Last summer, the River Park West commercial tracts (Williams Way and I-69) began opening with a variety of retail outlets. Soon to come at that location is a CVS. The Liberty Center is under development on Williams Way near Golfview, adjacent to the County's Justice Center.

The FM 359 and FM 762 corridors continue to develop to serve the expanding population. Properties are requesting annexation to receive the services that they will need to provide a wide selection of outlets.

(cont'd on pg 5)



Liberty Center on Williams Way



River Park West Commercial property

CITY GOVERNMENT



Commissioners Jesse Torres, Barry Beard, Carl Drozd and Josh Lockhart

The City of Richmond operates under the commission-manager form of government, per the city charter. The voters elect the City Commission which hires a city manager to administer the city's day to day affairs. The commission serves as the legislative body and is final authority on all policy decisions which determine the scope and functions of the city government. The City Manager is responsible for directing workforce and programs of the city and is accountable to the commission for the proper conduct of all municipal operations.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Evalyn Moore- Mayor of Richmond
emoore@richmondtx.gov

Commissioner Jesse Torres, Position 1
jtorres@richmondtx.gov

Commissioner Barry Beard, Position 2
bbeard@richmondtx.gov

Commissioner Carl Drozd, Position 3
cdrozd@richmondtx.gov

Commissioner Josh Lockhart, Position 4
jlockhart@richmondtx.gov

City Administration:

City Manager- Ms. Terri Vela
tvela@richmondtx.gov

ON THE AGENDA:

- City Commission meetings are the 3rd Monday of the month at 4:30 pm
- Development Corporation of Richmond (DCR) meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm
- Building and Standards Commission meets 4th Monday of the month, every other month, at 5:30 pm.
- Parks and Recreation Board meeting is the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 pm
- Planning & Zoning Commission meets the 1st Monday of the month at 5:00pm, and as it is an application driven commission, may not meet monthly.
- Richmond Historical Commission Meeting is 3rd Tuesday of month at 8:00 am.
- Zoning Board of Adjustments meets the 1st Thursday of the month, 5:00 pm, and is also an application driven board.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Evalyn Moore

Spring is in the air which means our winter snow and ice are thankfully behind us. The coming of Spring brings new growth of flowers, green fields of grass and spring ball at George Park with opening season just around the corner (you will find dates listed in this newsletter).

Spring is also a time for cleaning out and KRB's Shred Event on Saturday, April 14th is a great opportunity to shred your documents for free. KRB (Keep Richmond Beautiful) is looking for volunteers to assist on April 14th with the Shred Event and planting projects around the City to replace tired plants from winter.

We are also excited about the opening of HEB's Richmond Market and look forward to future development of the area. The cover story in this newsletter refers to Richmond's commercial growth, so certainly, spring in Richmond this year brings growth by different definition!

CITY OFFICES
ARE CLOSED
GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH
MEMORIAL DAY,
MONDAY MAY 28TH
INDEPENDENCE DAY,
WED, JULY 4TH



CITY'S NEW EMPLOYEES

Meet the Development Corporation of Richmond's (DCR) new Executive Director



Richmond's Development Corporation (DCR) Board appointed Cameron Goodman as Executive Director December 18th, 2017. The mission of the DCR is to serve the community by promoting private and public investments that will generate multiple public revenue streams to fund quality of life enhancements and activities that preserve and capitalize on Richmond's heritage.

As Executive Director of the DCR Board, Cameron's primary duty is to implement the long-term strategic vision of the Board of Directors. This includes working to attract primary jobs and quality development to the city, marketing Richmond as a location for investment, serving as a liaison to developers and business owners, and conducting the daily operations of the DCR.



City Manager Terri Vela and Mayor Evalyn Moore with Cameron Goodman

The City's Development Corporation usually meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at City Hall Annex, 600 Morton St. at 6 pm. These meetings are open to the Public and are posted on the City's website calendar.

photos by Laura Scarlato

PUBLIC WORKS POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS

Streets Department Promoted Two Individuals in December 2017:

Mr. Kenneth Jansky
promoted to
Street & Drainage
Superintendent



photo by Laura Scarlato

Mr. Jason Bartos promoted to Street Foreman

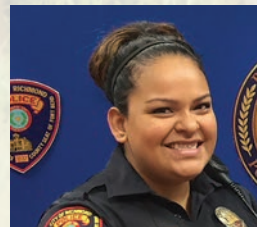


Richmond Police Department Promoted Three Officers January 2018:



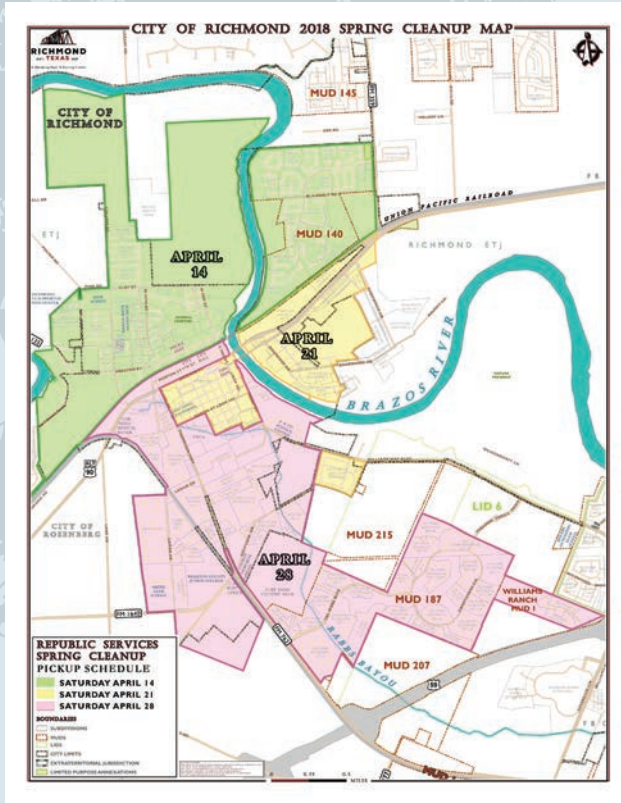
Mr. Andrew Runge
promoted to Detective

Mr. Ramon Morales
promoted to Patrol
Corporal



Ms. Jaime Garcia
promoted to
Patrol Corporal

Bringing citizens 2018 Spring Clean Up (Household Items) on three Saturdays in April - April 14th, 21st, and 28th, 2018. Refer to the City website <http://www.richmondtx.gov/departments/public-works/sanitation> for more information. Map herewith provides visual of areas covered on which weekend.



Keep Richmond Beautiful (KRB) and the City of Richmond will be sponsoring two (2) document shred trucks on Saturday, April 14th- the first weekend of the Spring Clean Up Campaign. This free event gives residents the opportunity to shred documents on site for Free, from 9 am to Noon. Residents must show ID- City of Richmond water bill stub is best. For more information see City's website calendar at www.richmondtx.gov/home for April 14th.

KRB will have volunteers on site for your assistance. KRB always welcomes volunteers to join the group working on projects which beautify the City of Richmond. For interest in volunteering contact Barbara Johnson at 281-342-4114.



SURFACE WATER TREATMENT PLANT FULLY OPERATIONAL BY MARCH 2018



Richmond's Surface Water Treatment Plant, located at 5600 Riverwood Drive, should be fully operational by end of March 2018 and treating and supplying up to 2 million gallons of water a day. The City is currently meeting the 2016 mandate for 30% reduction in groundwater usage through accumulated credits. The City has been receiving credits through educational partnerships with the Water Wise program in the schools and with reclaimed water from our wastewater treatment plant for selected irrigation sites and amenity lakes.

With the surface water treatment plant, and ongoing wastewater reuse, the City will be meeting the groundwater reduction requirement up to the next deadline set by the Fort Bend Subsidence District- 60% reduction in groundwater use by 2025.

The Surface Water Plant lead team is made up of City employees Kenneth Bartling, Phillip Graham and Santana Edwards (shown in picture) who will oversee the surface water treatment process that will blend with the City's groundwater before it is made available to residents.

Richmond Is Poised for Growth (cont'd from cover)



Veranda entrance

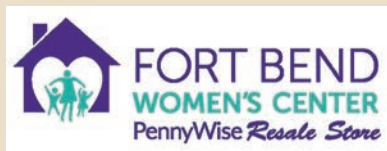
The hotel industry has taken notice of Richmond. LaQuinta is under construction in the Buccee's development, and will complement the various restaurants and other community services offered along Crabb River Road. Across I-69, the Hilton Homes2Suites is underway, joining new office development and Rudy's, Freddy's, Taco Bell, El Rancho, and the retail stores along I-69.

Fairfield Marriott has submitted plans for review to join the River Park West commercial development.

Dapple Grey Co. Boutique is the newest business to join Richmond's downtown. A new art gallery, Gallery Baroness and Unwine'd Wine and Cheese Lounge have added new interest in the Richmond nightlife.

With the solid foundation for development in place, contacts are being made to bring new and exciting opportunities to Richmond.

ANNUAL SHARE THE WARMTH PROGRAM GROWS FOR 3RD YEAR



The City launched the 3rd Annual Share the Warmth Program in 2017, donations period during the month of



October, to assist those in our community needing blankets and jackets to prepare for winter. The donation portion of the program expanded this year, from three City locations for drop off, to include three area churches - St. Johns UMC, Calvary Episcopal, and First Baptist Church.

The City then partnered with Fort Bend Seniors to help identify those senior citizens within the City of Richmond. A second partnership was forged with Fort Bend Women's Center Pennywise Resale, for assistance with distribution. The very generous nature of area citizens provided for blankets and jackets/ coats to 'warm up' approximately 75 in need in our community.

Republic Services 2018 Schedule Shows Normal Collection Schedules For Most Holidays

HOLIDAY	DATE	SCHEDULE
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 15	Regular collection
Good Friday	Friday, March 30	Regular collection
Memorial Day	Monday, May 28	Regular collection
Independence Day	Wednesday, July 4	Regular collection
Labor Day	Monday, September 3	Regular collection
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 22	Thursday's collection will occur on Friday. Friday's collection for trash and recycling will occur on Saturday.
Christmas Day	Tuesday, December 25	Tuesday's collection will occur on Wednesday. Wednesday's collection for green waste will occur on Thursday. Thursday's collection will occur on Friday. Friday's collection for trash and recycling will occur on Saturday.
New Year's Day	Tuesday, January 1, 2019	Tuesday's collection will occur on Wednesday. Wednesday's collection for green waste will occur on Thursday. Thursday's collection will occur on Friday. Friday's collection for trash and recycling will occur on Saturday.



RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The Richmond Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (RCPAAA) sponsors an annual banquet each winter honoring employees and citizens who show dedication and commitment to the mission of the Richmond Police Department throughout the year. Honorees for 2017 were:

The honorees for 2017 are pictured from left to right:



Kneeling: Rookie of the Year Officer Ruben Robles / Top Gun Division Winner Officer Robert Oliver / Business Sponsor of the Year Pastor Brian Sosa of The Church

Standing: Co-Detective of the Year Detective John Dawson / Top Gun Division Winner and Overall Champion Sergeant Steven Rychlik / Co-Detective of the Year & Top Gun Division Winner Detective David Childs / Top Gun Division Winner Detective Andrew Runge / Employee of the Year Officer Vladimir Golovine / Telecommunicator of the Year Danell Gaydos / Business Sponsor of the Year Doug Cave of The Church / Officer of the Year James Williams / Citizen of the Year Josh Landry

CITY'S ANNUAL ASPHALT OVERLAY PROJECT RECEIVES ASSISTANCE FROM CONTRACTOR



The City of Richmond's Street department has a wide variety of projects they are annually responsible for along with the standard street maintenance. Streets deteriorate at different rates and must be maintained. The condition of the asphalt helps determine what type of repair is needed. Asphalt overlay is just one of the methods used to maintain Richmond's streets. A 'mill & overlay' is a street maintenance technique that requires the removal of the top surface of a street, by the grinding of 2 inches of the asphalt surface with a milling machine, and replacing with 2 inches of new layer of asphalt.

The City's annual asphalt overlay projects are sometimes outsourced so the street teams can keep up with other necessary street repairs.

GEORGE PARK READY FOR 2018 SPRING SEASON

George Park is ready for the 2018 Spring season as additional parking has been added for the Rose-Rich Softball fields located to the western side of George Park! The Rose-Rich softball season Opening Day ceremonies are Saturday, February 24th and Lamar Little League's Opening Day ceremonies are Saturday, March 24th.



POLICE DEPARTMENT'S SANTA BEHIND THE BADGE PROGRAM

The Richmond Police Department held its 23rd annual Santa Behind the Badge event December 14th, 2017 with purpose of bringing a little holiday spirit to more children in the Richmond community. Several Richmond families benefited this year, as the program involves officers identifying families who need some help in providing a better Christmas to their children.

Many in the community are involved in this effort- Richmond Walmart on FM 1640, Sacred Heart Catholic Church who offers their Family Life Center, Calvary Episcopal Church and their students who hold a Toy drive and then wrap all gifts, and the Richmond Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (RCPAAA).

Special recognition goes to Officer Vladimir Golovine who spearheads this event in recent years. Santa Behind the Badge is a program exemplifying what happens when the police and community come together to change lives.... "Together we can make a difference."



SNOW IN RICHMOND

The Houston area had not seen more than an inch of snow since 2009, so it had been 8 years since snow really stuck to the ground.



FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTS WITH COMMUNITY



The area served by Richmond Fire Department is more than 50 square miles and the Department has the only active dive team in Fort Bend County, which means they take the lead on area water rescues. With recent water emergencies, it became necessary to have a second boat designed for water rescues. Assistant Chief, Derek Brown, discovered a grant through Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, applied for it and was awarded, thereby adding a second boat for Fire Department Rescue teams. Richmond Fire Department now can better serve the citizens during emergencies, such as what Hurricane Harvey recently presented.



Austin Elementary Show Choir Caroling At Central Fire Station

Sharing the magic of holiday music, guided by Choir Director Ms. Laura Brown.



Fire Station No. 2 Getting New Home

Identified by temporary sign at corner of Williams Way and Ransom Rd, due to begin construction Spring 2018.



Richmond's new Fire Engine 41 Received a Traditional Dedication

with an old fashioned Wipe Down and Push In ceremony when finally taking residence in the firehouse.

TRAIN SAFETY IN THE RICHMOND COMMUNITY

Union Pacific Railroad's No. 1 priority is Safety, which is why they have a program promoting public safety in all communities- UPCARES, where communities learn how to behave safely near railroad tracks.

A particular problem we see in Richmond- particularly in downtown- taking photos on and near train tracks. This is not only illegal, but can be deadly. Stay off train tracks as you cannot hear an approaching train because most of the sound is largely behind the train, so by the time you hear it may be too late.

- Only cross train tracks at designated railroad crossings, where the street intersects with the tracks.
- Avoid distractions such as loud music, texting, or talking on a phone when crossing tracks- remain alert.
- Never walk between the rails or cross tracks in areas that are not train track crossings.
- Crossing arms aren't just for vehicles, but also pedestrians. Never go around crossing arms.
- Do not cross tracks immediately after a train passes as trains come from both directions and another may be coming.
- In cases of emergency, call Union Pacific's Response Management Communications Center (RMCC) number at 1-888-877-7267.



SMOKE ALARMS ARE KEY PART OF A HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly. FACT- 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or the alarms are not working.



Safety Tips

- Install smoke alarms inside and outside each bedroom and sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home.
- A smoke alarm should be high on a wall or on the ceiling and away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms.
- There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires and Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use both types of alarms in a house.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms so when one sounds, they all sound.
- People hard of hearing or deaf can use special alarms with strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month (press test button to see if working).
- Replace old smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

