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## A Weekly Wrap Up of All Things Addison!

July 17, 2020

**Council Update** 

**COVID-19 Update** 



For 14 straight days, Dallas County has reported 1,000+ positive COVID-19 cases a day. A s of July 14, Addison has had a total of 139 positive COVID-19 reported cases since the end of March and no deaths. The Dallas County <a href="COVID-19 dashboard">COVID-19 dashboard</a>, which is updated each Tuesday and Friday, allows you to filter cases by zip code and city.

On Thursday, July 16, <u>Dallas County announced</u> that p ublic and private K-12 schools must push back their in-person start dates to after September 7. Before September 8, schools can hold classes online. Teachers and school administrators can conduct their classes on campus as long as they wear face coverings and maintain social distancing while in their buildings, school-sponsored events including clubs, sports and academic competitions, cannot take place until on-campus classes are allowed.

As a reminder, the <u>Executive Order</u> issued by Governor Greg Abbott on July 2 requiring all Texans to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth in public spaces remains in effect.

For more COVID-19 updates, please visit <a href="https://www.addisontexas.net/covid19">www.addisontexas.net/covid19</a> .

# Council Discusses Updated Projections of the Potential COVID-19 Financial Impacts

At the April 14, 2020 Council Meeting, Finance staff <u>presented initial projections</u> of the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021 for all Town funds. Staff shared the updated projections with the City Council at the July 14 Council Meeting.

You can <u>watch Council's financial impact discussion here</u> and <u>review the presentation</u> here.

Council Discusses Impact of Senate Bill 2 on Addison's Fiscal Year 2021 Tax Rate

At the June 23 Council Meeting, CFO Steven Glickman gave Council an <u>update on Senate Bill 2 (SB 2)</u> and its impact on Addison's Fiscal Year 2021 tax rate. SB 2 is also known as the Texas Property Tax Reform and Transparency Act of 2019 and was passed by the Texas Legislature in 2019. This bill is effective for tax rates adopted after January 1, 2020, and lowers the tax increase a taxing unit can adopt without requiring voter approval from 8% to 3.5%. If a city chooses to exceed the Voter Approval Tax Rate of 3.5%, that decision triggers a mandatory election to vote on the tax increase.

SB 2 also includes a disaster exemption that allows cities to calculate the Voter Approval Tax Rate at 8% instead of 3.5%. Since President Trump declared a national emergency and Governor Abbott declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19, these actions triggered the disaster exemption in SB 2. This allows a City Council to direct the designated officer or employee to calculate the Voter Approval Tax Rate at 8% instead of 3.5%.

At its July 14 meeting, Council directed the City Manager to calculate the Fiscal Year 2021 voter approval tax rate at 8% rather than 3.5% due to the Governor's statewide disaster declaration. This resolution is not intended to and does not obligate the Council to adopt a voter-approval tax rate in excess of 3.5%. Per Addison's charter, the City Manager must submit his budget to Council by midnight on July 31. Council has budget meetings scheduled for early August to discuss the proposed budget and the community will have public input opportunities in August and September, prior to the adoption of the final budget.

You can watch the Council's SB 2 discussion here and read the presentation here.

# Council Discusses Public Nuisance Concerns Along the White Rock Creek Park Trail

At its July 14 meeting, the City Council discussed residents' concerns about the homeless persons using the area under the Belt Line Road bridge. Passing over White Rock Creek, the Belt Line Road bridge, and area directly underneath, is within the City of Dallas' city limits. This prohibits the Town of Addison from enforcing its public nuisance ordinances. Staff provided an overview of the issues and discussed potential considerations to address those concerns along the White Rock Creek Park Trail. Council directed staff to move forward with gathering pricing for the first option presented, which includes making the area less desirable by adding pedestrian lighting and optical cameras along the path, illuminating under the bridge, and removing under story vegetation to improve visibility.

You can <u>watch the Council's White Rock Creek discussion here</u> and <u>read the presentation</u> here.

## **Council Discusses Postponing Charter Special Election to May 2021**

The City Council adopted Ordinance O20-04 on February 13, 2020 ordering that a Special Election be held on May 2, 2020 to consider 26 propositions to amend the Town's Home Rule Charter. In March, Governor Greg Abbott <u>issued a Proclamation</u> in response to the COVID-19 pandemic allowing political subdivisions within Texas to move general and special elections scheduled in May to November 3, 2020. In response to the Governor's Proclamation, the Addison City Council voted to postpone the Special Election to a date to be determined.

Because the May 2, 2020 Special Election was not canceled outright, the Governor's Proclamation appears to require the election to be held on November 3, 2020. A t its July

14 meeting, the City Council discussed further postponing the Charter Election until the May 1, 2021. In order to do this, the Town will need to formally request permission from the Governor's Office.

If the Town cannot get approval for the May 2021 election date, the Council has until August 17, 2020 to order the November 2020 election. The Council will reconsider this issue at the its August 11 meeting.

You can <u>watch Council's Charter Special Election discussion here</u> and <u>review the presentation here</u>.

# Council Approves Amendment to the Oncor License Agreement for Redding Trail

In January 2020, staff presented an overview of Oncor's plans to replace transmission towers along a 1.3-mile line that spans Carrollton, Farmers Branch, and Addison. Within Addison, the transmission towers to be replaced are located in the Redding Trail and Redding Trail Dog Park corridor. Oncor owns the land upon which these Town facilities exist and use of the land by the Town is authorized through separate license agreements dated in 1985 and 2006.

When Oncor initially approached the Town about the project, Oncor indicated it was their intent to bring the corridor closer to compliance with their current Hike, Bike and Trail Guidelines, established in 2014. The referenced guidelines are very different from what was allowed in the 1985 Redding Trail license agreement. The current guidelines do not allow ornamental trees, screening shrubs taller than 4', irrigation, seating areas (which include bike racks and drinking fountains), signage and pedestrian lighting. The 1985 license agreement also requires that vegetation be maintained in a manner to not exceed 15' in height and there are screening shrubs and ornamental trees within the corridor that exceed that height.

Staff shared concerns with Oncor and worked out a compromise that will help protect assets in the corridor from construction impacts, allow exceptions to some of the site elements, and limit removal of vegetation. This compromise was presented to Council in January. Council requested that what was agreed upon be documented in a manner that both parties are clear on the direction and requested the license agreement be updated, where applicable, to reflect exceptions that are allowed. Council approved the revised license agreement at its July 14 meeting.

You can <u>watch Council's Oncor license discussion here</u> and <u>review the presentation here</u>. The Oncor tower replacement schedule can be found on the website here.

## **Council Adopts Fiscal Year 2021 Strategic Pillars and Milestones**

Since 2016, the City Council has participated in an annual special work session on strategic planning facilitated by Strategic Government Resources (SGR). At the <u>strategic planning session held on June 15, 2020</u>, Council reviewed and reaffirmed the Strategic Pillars for Fiscal Year 2021. These are:

- Entrepreneurship and Business Hub
- Excellence in Asset Management
- Excellence in Transportation Systems
- Gold Standard in Customer Service
- Gold Standard in Financial Health

- · Gold Standard in Public Safety
- · Optimize Addison Brand

Council also identified Milestones that indicate progress toward achieving these Strategic Pillars and selected <u>10 priority Milestones for Fiscal Year 2021</u>. The Council formally adopted these Pillars and Milestones at its July 14 meeting.

## **Council Approves Three CARES Act Programs**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund and appropriated funds to be used to make payments for specified uses by state and local governments. The State of Texas set aside \$1.85 billion to distribute to cities and counties that had not already received a direct allocation from the U.S. Treasury. This amounts to approximately \$55 per capita for each city, which means Addison is eligible for \$894,465 in reimbursements. At its July 14 meeting, the City Council approved three CARES Act reimbursement programs made possible through an interlocal agreement with Dallas County.

**Public Health and Compliance Program (Town Reimbursement Program) - \$115,000:** This program was developed to reimburse the Town for COVID-19 expenses such as personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, etc.), public space disinfection, and enhanced telework capabilities.

Resident Assistance Program - \$285,000: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, local non-profits have experienced an increase in demand for services from Addison residents. In a letter dated May 1, 2020, Metrocrest Services CEO Tracy Eubanks stated that Addison families visited the Food Pantry 189 times in April. This was a 302% increase over last year. Their rent assistance program served 22 Addison families in April. This was a 144% increase over last year. In response, Council approved emergency funding to Metrocrest Services on May 15, 2020 in the amount of \$85,000. Funding for the Resident Assistance Program includes reimbursement to the Town for the initial \$85,000 to Metrocrest Services and an additional \$200,000 to Metrocrest Services for rent, food and utility assistance services for Addison residents.

Addison CARES Lease/Mortgage Assistance Grant Program - \$500,000: The Addison Economic Development and Tourism Department developed this business assistance program to establish a fund in the amount of \$500,000 to be used to award eligible businesses 75% of their gross lease or mortgage payments for two months for a maximum grant award of up to \$10,000 per company.

You can watch Council's CARES discussion here.

## Addison Airport Receives \$1,475,000 TxDOT Grant

The Addison City Council formally accepted a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Aviation Division in the amount of \$1,475,000 at its July 14 meeting. The grant will fund a runway designation change and the application of surface preservation treatments to the runway, and various taxiways.

Runways are designated by a number from 1 to 36, which is the magnetic heading of the runway in degrees, divided by ten. A runway numbered 9 points east (90°), runway 18 is south (180°), runway 27 points west (270°) and runway 36 points to the north (360° rather than 0°). Changing the runway designation requires repainting the runway designation numbers at both ends of the runway, along with replacement of numerous airport

guidance sign panels. Additionally, it requires changes in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) aeronautical charts, approach plates, airport diagrams, the airport's master record.

The grant also includes funds for the application of surface preservation treatments. Asphalt surface treatments are a preventative maintenance procedure applied to the asphalt surface to seal and protect the asphalt pavement from environmental conditions such as sunlight and rain. Surface preservation treatment will be applied to the runway, Taxiway Alpha, and the asphalt connecting taxiways (Charlie, Delta, Echo, Foxtrot, Golf, Hotel, and Juliet).

The \$1,475,000 grant amount will be a 100% grant with no local matching funds required. Any costs incurred over the grant amount will be subject to the usual 90%-10% split requiring a 10% matching share from the airport (with the 90% being the Federal/State grant share).

## **Council Approves Special Use Permit for Mendocino Farms**

Prestonwood Place shopping center will be welcoming a new restaurant tenant early next year. At its July 14 meeting, the City Council approved a special use permit for California-based Mendocino Farms. The family-owned fast casual restaurant features a rotating menu of seasonal salads and sandwiches and is sure to become a lunch-time favorite destination. The restaurant hopes to open in February 2021. Welcome to Addison!

You can watch the Council's Mendocino Farms discussion here .

## **Upcoming Public Hearings**

The following public hearing will take place at the July 21 Planning and Zoning Meeting, which will be held virtually beginning at 6pm. The agenda will be posted <a href="here">here</a> three days prior to the meeting. If you would like to comment during the public hearing, you can either email your statement to Charles Goff at <a href="mailto:cgoff@addisontx.gov">cgoff@addisontx.gov</a> by 3pm the day of the meeting or <a href="mailto:follow-the-instructions-listed-here">follow the instructions listed-here</a> to participate by audio conferencing.

<u>Case 1815-SUP/Pie Tap:</u> Public hearing on a recommendation regarding an ordinance changing the zoning on property located at 5100 Belt Line Road Suite 796, which is currently zoned PD, Planned Development, through Ordinances O12-002 and O20-08, by approving a Special Use Permit for a new restaurant with the sale of alcoholic beverages for on premises consumption only.

## **Business Pulse**

# Addison Launches CARES Lease/Mortgage Assistance Grant Program

The Town of Addison has established a Lease/Mortgage fund in the amount of \$500,000 to provide grant assistance to local small businesses who have been financially distressed by the COVID-19 pandemic . Each award grant is valued at 75% of a business' gross lease or mortgage for two months, for a maximum grant award of up to \$10,000 per company.

The goal of the program is to improve the sustainability and longevity of the most vulnerable companies who maintain operations in Addison. The program offers relief to Addison businesses who have not had an opportunity to receive funding through other COVID - 19 relief programs such as the Payment Protection Program, SBA Loans or other funding sources intended to curb the financial impact of the pandemic.

<u>Applications</u> must be postmarked no later than Friday, July 31. Eligibility criteria and the grant application can be found <u>here</u>.

## **Around Addison**

#### **Addison Weekend Drive-In**



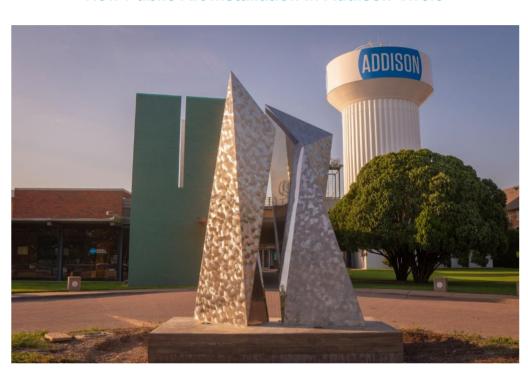
The first Addison Weekend Drive-In starts Friday, July 17 and Saturday, July 18 at 8:30pm just south of Addison Circle Park. Get out for a night of fun and safely watch a free concert from the comfort of your car. This event offers back to back nights of fun music featuring popular DFW bands All Funk Radio Show and D City Rock. Gates open at 7:30pm so arrive early to get a great viewing spot. Music will be transmitted by speaker or you can tune in on your radio. Visit our website at <a href="https://www.visitaddison.com/drivein">www.visitaddison.com/drivein</a> for all the details.

#### **Addison Cancels Addison Oktoberfest 2020**



On Tuesday, July 14, the Town announced that Addison Oktoberfest, scheduled September 17 – 20, has been canceled due to the COVID-19 crisis. The health and safety of attendees, vendors, volunteers, staff, and the local community was a primary driver in the difficult decision to cancel the event.

Recognized as one of the most authentic Oktoberfest celebrations outside of Munich f or over three decades, the multi-day German festival has drawn both local and international crowds of up to 50,000 people annually. Addison hopes all of our Oktoberfest fans will make plans to join us when Addison Oktoberfest returns September 16, 2021.



#### **New Public Art Installation in Addison Circle**

The Town of Addison and Addison Arbor foundation (AAF) are proud to announce the eighteenth public art installation sponsored by AAF. *Tango Fantasia* is the creation of local Dallas artist Art Fairchild and can be found in front of the Addison Conference and Theatre Centre in Addison Circle. The sculpture consists of two 15 foot-tall stainless steel geometric columns with a beautiful swirl pattern on the exterior surfaces and two interior mirrored sides. Special lighting, which will be installed soon, will highlight the angles and patterns embedded in the sculpture. Thank you to the AAF for their ongoing commitment to supporting public art in Addison.

#### Join the Conversation about Trails in Addison!



Addison is creating the community's first City-Wide Trails Master Plan, the guide to how we connect places and build trail facilities to serve the community for the next ten years and beyond.

Mark your calendar to join us online for a visioning workshop on July 30 to help identify trail needs and establish a vision for the future. After a brief presentation, the workshop will feature a fun and interactive polling exercise. Participants will respond to vision themes and view a series of images of potential trail improvements. Their feedback will be shared by using their smartphones as "clickers" to respond to questions. Facilitated discussion will follow. Community input from the workshop will help shape the recommendations in the Master Plan.

The Master Plan kicked off in March 2020 and will conclude in early 2021. We want to hear from you!

Date: Thursday, July 30, 2020

**Time**: 6pm to 7:30pm

**RSVP**: Zoom Meeting: <u>bit.ly/AddisonTrailsWorkshop</u>

Place: In the comfort of your home, neighborhood park or wherever you have Wi-Fi.

Note: The meeting will be capped at 300 electronic devices. If you cannot make the meeting or prefer to provide your comments differently, you may view the recorded meeting at <a href="https://addisontexas.net/parksrec">https://addisontexas.net/parksrec</a> beginning on August 3. Then, you will have until August 17 to complete the associated visioning comment form.



### It's Not Too Late to Complete the 2020 Census!

Completing the Census is quick, easy, and important! While you are practicing social distancing at home, please take a few minutes to fill out your Census. Once you receive your invitation, you can respond by mail, telephone, or online at <a href="may2020census.gov">my2020census.gov</a>. Addison's current response rate is 55.5% while the Texas rate is 57%.

## **How to Stay Informed**

Addison shares information with the community in a number of different ways. Here are some ways you can stay updated on the latest news:

#### Website:

- www.addisontexas.net: Find alerts and updates on the homepage and department specific updates on department pages
- www.addistontexas.net/covid19: Find specific COVID-19 updates and resources

#### Social Media:

- Addison Facebook
- Visit Addison Facebook
- Addison Twitter
- Visit Addison Twitter
- NextDoor

Addison Weekly Digital Newsletter: Emails are sent weekly, or more frequently as needed.

If you have specific questions, please contact Addison's Marketing Department at marketing@addisontx.gov.

## Follow CDC Social Distancing Guidelines

The Town of Addison is taking action to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We would like to encourage everyone to join us. The CDC has encouraged the community to practice social distancing, but also to follow these steps to minimize the spread of any disease:

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and help young children do the same. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve (not your hands).

Below are some symptoms to be aware of:



If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact Dallas County directly at 972-692-2780 (Hours: 9am - 3:30pm, Monday - Friday).

For additional resources, visit the Town's website here.

**Important Numbers and Websites** 

**Town Hall:** 

972-450-7000

**Non-emergency Police Dispatch:** 

972-450-7156

Missed Trash:

972-392-9300, Option 2

**Athletic Club:** 

972-450-7048

**Addison Website** 

Sign up for Addison Alerts

Volunteer

**List of Restaurants** 

**Addison News** 

**Community Crime Map** 

**Watch City Council Meetings** 

Addison's PEG Channel

(channel 99 for AT&T subscribers, channel 16 for Spectrum subscribers)

Register your Security Alarm

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