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A Weekly Wrap Up of All Things Addison!

February 12, 2021

Council Update

COVID-19 Update



On Thursday, February 11, Dallas County reported 45 COVID-19 deaths as well as 1,020 new COVID-19 cases. As of February 9, Addison had a cumulative total of 1,262 confirmed cases.

While the state of Texas continues to prioritize health care workers and anyone 65 or older, or 16 and older with a major medical condition, [officials are encouraging all residents to register](#) whether they are eligible yet or not. The inclement weather has been impacting the hours at vaccine hubs, so please check [Dallas County's website here for updates](#).

Vaccine shipments to pharmacies are expected to beginning ramping up. You can visit the state's [Vaccine Availability Map here](#) to see if your local pharmacy is on the list.

On Wednesday, it was announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will operate two North Texas community vaccination sites. One will be located at AT&T Stadium in Arlington and the other will be located at Fair Park in Dallas.

Residents need to register to receive a vaccine but can register in more than one county. Here is a list of the area county contacts:

Dallas County

- Vaccine Registration Hotline: 469-749-9900 (*Monday-Friday, 8am to 5pm, registration assistance available in English and Spanish*) or 1-855-IMMUNE9
- [Register online](#)

Denton County

- Register by phone: 940-349-2585
- [Register online](#)

Tarrant County

- Register by phone: 817-248-6299
- [Register online](#)

Collin County

- [Register online](#)

Garland Health Department

- [Register online](#)
- The Garland Health Department (GHD) is collecting names of persons to register for the COVID-19 vaccine waiting-list. Vaccination events will be scheduled as additional vaccine supply is received.

Allen Fire Department

- [Register Online](#)

Find additional vaccine information on the Town's website [here](#).

City Council Election Deadline Closes

Friday, February 12 at 5pm was the last date to register for the May City Council Election. The city secretary is in the process of validating the petitions that are now required for candidacy. As validation is completed, applications will be made available [on the Town's website here](#) and a list of candidates will be shared in next week's newsletter.

Lights to be Added to Curtail Public Nuisance Concerns Along White Rock Creek Trail

On July 14, 2020, Addison staff made a presentation to Council regarding public nuisance concerns along White Rock Creek Park Trail. These concerns include resident observations of homeless persons utilizing the area under the Belt Line Road bridge. The area under Belt Line Road is within the Dallas city limits which precludes the Town's enforcement of Addison's public nuisance ordinances in that location.

Following the presentation, Council requested staff identify costs to increase visibility and lighting and add a security camera. At the February 9 meeting, staff presented a plan that would do the following:

- Add pedestrian lighting to increase visibility
- Direct lighting under the bridge to help illuminate the area
- Add a security camera
- Remove understory vegetation to improve visibility and reduce seclusion of the space

The estimated cost to implement these improvements is from \$26,200 – \$48,600, depending on the cost of the camera. Council gave staff direction to proceed with this plan.

You can [watch the Council's public nuisance discussion here](#) and [read the presentation here](#).

Council Discusses Addison Parks and Trails Names

The Parks Master Plan adopted by Council on April 25, 2019, included a recommendation that Council discuss park and trail naming to determine if descriptors used in park names reflect industry standard and clarify names and boundaries of trails systems and trails that have expanded over time. At its February 9 meeting, Council discussed these issues as they pertain to the following parks:

- Les Lacs Linear Park, Les Lacs Pond, the Community Garden, and the greenscape south of the Addison Grove Development
- Extensions to the Redding Trail
- Arapaho Park
- White Rock Creek Park

Based on Council direction, staff will bring back action items to Council for further discussion and consideration so that:

- Existing park signage can be updated with current terminology as required.
- Trail names and extension descriptors can be used to develop 911 trail location markers funded in the bond election.
- Future wayfinding and trailhead signage can utilize current terminology.

You can [watch the Council's park and trail naming discussion here](#) and [read the presentation here](#).

Council Approves Employee Compensation Plan for Fiscal Year 2021

During its [January 26 meeting](#), Council discussed the results of a recent Employee Compensation Market Study and recommendations developed by staff based on the study's findings. The survey, which was completed by Public Sector Personnel Consultants, reviewed salary competitiveness in relation to 13 area comparison cities of almost 100 benchmark positions.

Council has a three-fold employee compensation philosophy:

- To encourage excellence in service by tying salary increases to job performance
- To reward employees for their efforts and job performance
- To remain competitive with other metroplex cities in regards to the Town's compensation program by paying employees better than the average of our comparison cities

Council discussed employee compensation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 again at its February 9 meeting and adopted the following:

- Adjust pay ranges and salaries for sworn police and fire positions to reflect a position of market + 1%
- Adjust pay ranges and salaries for civilian positions to reflect a position of market + 1%
- Pay 2% merit increase based on FY 2020 Performance
- Implement on a go-forward basis

The total cost of implementing the plan for FY2021 is roughly \$1,150,000. Approximately \$780,00 is earmarked for market adjustments and \$370,000 for merit increases. Increases are not retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year.

You can [watch Council's employee compensation discussion here](#) and [read the presentation here](#).

Council Extends CARES Funding for Metrocrest Services

In July 2020, the City Council created three programs to distribute nearly \$900,000 in CARES Act money allocated to Addison from Dallas County for pandemic-related expenses.

These programs and their estimated funding are:

- **Addison CARES Lease Mortgage Assistance Program** (\$500,000 allocated): \$319,000 was given in the form of grants to Addison businesses during three different phases.
- **Resident Assistance Program (RAP)** (\$200,000 allocated): \$181,000 was administered by Metrocrest Services to assist eligible Addison residents with rent, food, and utility assistance.
- **Public Health and Compliance Program** (\$200,000 allocated): \$327,000 was used to fund Town facility disinfection and virus protection efforts, medical supplies, and telework equipment and services.

The original deadline for the program was December 31, 2020. At that point, Addison had expended all but approximately \$66,000 and was planning to submit an invoice for a 10% administrative fee (which is allowed under the program guidelines) to obtain the outstanding funding. On December 27, 2020, the Act was amended to extend the performance period by an additional year.

At the February 9 City Council meeting, Metrocrest Services Chief Executive Officer Tracy Eubanks shared that from April 1 to December 31, 2020, the agency provided food and rental assistance to 288 Addison residents through the \$181,000 in CARES act funding provided by the Town. The CARES Act dollars have certain eligibility requirements which include a monthly assistance maximum of three months and a cumulative assistance maximum. Metrocrest Services is seeing many of its clients, including Addison residents, who need assistance above and beyond what is currently allowed by the program so they have provided those services by utilizing other funding sources. Mr. Eubanks indicated that they expect to spend more than \$300,000 to support Addison residents in need during the 2021 calendar year.

Given the ongoing need in the community, the City Council directed staff to allocate the remaining \$66,000 funds to the Metrocrest Services to continue resident assistance.

You can [watch Council's CARE Act funding discussion here](#).

February 9 Proclaimed Gary Thomas Day in Addison



DART President Gary Thomas is retiring after nearly 30 years of service. At the February 9 meeting, Council proclaimed the day to be Gary Thomas Day in Addison and presented Mr. Thomas with a plaque recognizing this ongoing commitment to Addison and regional mobility. You can [watch the Council's Gary Thomas recognition here](#) and [read the proclamation here](#).

Around Addison

[Dallas County Vaccine Registration Event a Big Success](#)



On Monday, February 8, more than 75 people came to Addison Circle Park to register with Dallas County for the COVID-19 vaccine. Thank you to Dallas County Commissioner J.J. Koch and the Dallas County Health and Human Services Department for selecting Addison for this event. Another big thank you to our volunteers who staffed the registration tables.

Dallas County is asking *all residents* [to register](#) whether they are eligible yet or not. The state of Texas continues to prioritize health care workers and anyone 65 or older, or 16 and older with a major medical condition. You can [register online](#) or by calling the Vaccine Registration Hotline: 469-749-9900 (*Monday-Friday, 8am to 5pm, registration assistance available in English and Spanish*) or 1-855-IMMUNE9

Stainability Day Donations Presented to Metrocrest Services



On Tuesday, February 9, Mayor Joe Chow, Environmental Health Manager Sandra Long, and Stormwater and Operations Manager Shawn Cheairs presented a check for \$1,751 to Metrocrest Services Chief Executive Officer Tracy Eubanks. The funds were raised as part of the drive-thru recycling event Addison hosted for Sustainability Day in the fall. Many thanks to our residents who contributed to the effort. This donation will provide 10,507 meals for your neighbors experiencing food insecurity during the pandemic.

DART Quarterly Silver Line Community Meeting Recap



DART hosted a virtual quarterly meeting to review the progress of the DART Silver Line on Thursday, February 11.

The presentation included:

- Project facts and updates
- Design-build progress update
- Betterments Program progress
- Station design progress
- Construction progress and safety update
- Identification of contacts for FAQs and community feedback

You can find a [link to the presentation video here](#) or [read it here](#).

CWD to Collect Trash/Recycling on Presidents' Day if Weather Permits



Community Waste Disposal.com
Since 1984

Monday, February 15 is Presidents' Day and a holiday for many people. Town offices, including the Athletic Club, are scheduled to be open and CWD is planning to collect trash and recycling per the normal schedule. However, the National Weather Service is calling for a significant winter weather event on Monday. Addison will post any street or office closures on the town's website at www.addisontexas.net. CWD will post any trash/recycling delays or cancellations [on its website here](#).

Cold Weather Ahead - Protect Your Pets and Your Pipes



The weather turned bitterly cold this week and the cold snap is expected to continue through next week. The Town will take care of preparing the roads for the cold weather (any necessary road closure notices will be posted on the [Town of Addison website](#), Facebook, and Twitter pages), but we want to remind residents to take care of their pets and their pipes.

Pets

Did you know that the winter's dry, cold air and chilly rain, sleet, and snow can cause chapped paws and itchy, flaking skin for your pet? Dangerous chemicals from ice-melting agents can also cause problems when pets lick it off their paws. The [American SPCA](#) has some other important safety tips to help prepare your pets for the winter weather.

If you have questions about protecting your pet from the elements, please contact Addison's Animal Control team at 972-450-2845.

Pipes

According to our Public Works team, built-up pressure in pipes during winter months can cause a pipe to burst or fracture at its weakest link. As the water in the supply line freezes, it expands, pushing against all the water between it and your home. Allowing a faucet to drip can help mitigate any potential trouble you may experience from a pipe freezing.

Here are some other things you can do to protect your pipes:

Inside

- Open the cabinets under the sinks in your kitchen and bathrooms to allow heated air to circulate around the water pipes.
- Set your thermostat at a minimum of 55 degrees, especially when you are gone for the day or away for a long time.
- Let indoor faucets drip, but do not run a heavy stream of water (remember, it only takes a small drip).

Outside

- Protect faucets, outdoor pipes, and pipes in unheated areas with pipe insulation. In a pinch, wrapping them with rags, newspapers, trash bags, plastic foam or even bubble wrap can add needed protection.
- Cover any vents around your home's foundation.
- Drain water hoses and store them in a garage or shed.
- Drain irrigation water supply lines.
- Protect outdoor electrical pumps.
- Make sure you know where your home's water shut-off valve is and how to turn it on and off.
- Consider turning off your water at the shut-off valve if you leave town. Leave your faucets on when you turn the water off to drain the pipes. Make sure you turn the faucets off before you turn the shut-off valve back on.
- If you drain your pipes, do not forget to turn off the power to your water heater if it is electric and turn of the gas supply line the water heater if it is a gas appliance.

If you have questions on weatherproofing your home, please contact Addison's Public Works and Engineering Department at 972-450-2871.

Expect Lane Closures on Midway Road During Non-Peak Hours



You may have noticed that the Midway Road construction project signs have been installed. Construction will begin at the intersection of Midway Road and Belt Line Road in 2-3 weeks. Town staff is in the process of working with its contractors to finalize the phasing and traffic plans. Once we have the final plan in place, we will be able to share a more definitive schedule for lane closures and traffic switches. We will place variable message boards around the intersection **one week** before any permanent lane closures are implemented.

In the meantime, there will be some non-peak hour temporary lane closures to install temporary traffic signal system components and locate buried utility lines.

There are several ways you can stay updated on the project:

- Visit www.AddisonTexas.net/Midway
- Subscribe to emails here.
- Text "Midway" to 888-777
- Follow @TownofAddison on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/TownofAddison) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/TownofAddison)

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

- www.addisontexas.net/Midway: Find information on the Midway Road Revitalization Project and subscribe for project email and text updates.

Social Media:

- [Addison Facebook](#)
- [Visit Addison Facebook](#)
- [Addison Twitter](#)
- [Visit Addison Twitter](#)
- [NextDoor](#)

Addison Newsletters: For a description of and to subscribe to all of Addison's newsletters, click [here](#).

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:

CORONAVIRUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FEVER ● COUGH ● SHORTNESS OF BREATH ● SYMPTOMS APPEAR 2-14 DAYS AFTER EXPOSURE
FLU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FEVER ● COUGH ● SORE THROAT ● HEADACHES ● FATIGUE (TIREDNESS) ● MUSCLE OR BODY ACHES ● RUNNY OR STUFFY NOSE
ALLERGIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SNEEZING ● ITCHY, RUNNY OR BLOCKED NOSE ● ITCHY, RED, WATERING EYES

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

[Request Bulk Trash Pickup](#)

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](#)

[Report a Problem with Addison FixIT](#)

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