

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Rebecca Gleason, Assistant City Manager
Date: September 16, 2022
Subject: Weekly Memo, August 12 – August 16, 2022



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Personnel Updates

We have three new hires that began their employment with the City on Monday, August 29. Keehren Baah is our new Assistant Director of Planning and Development, Philip Hanley will be working at Bastrop Power & Light as an Electric Lineman Apprentice, and Stephanie Doradea is the new Support Specialist for Visit Bastrop. We are glad to have all of them join our team.

Upcoming Training

Below are future training opportunities through the calendar year. If you are interested in attending any of the training, please notify the City Secretary and she will take care of the registration for you.

City Hall Essentials – Career Suicide?! Social Media Dos & Don'ts for City Officials

Date: September 29, 2022
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: Webinar

TML – Annual Conference and Exhibition **ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE REGISTERED**

Date: October 5-7, 2022
Time: All Day
Location: San Antonio

TML Economic Development Conference

Date: November 17-18, 2022
Time: All Day
Location: Hyatt Lost Pines

Special Events

Bastrop County Buyers & Builders Convention

The Bastrop County Business Owners Association will host a two-day Buyers & Builders Convention at the Bastrop Convention Center on September 17-18. Anyone with an interest in updating, enhancing, or creating a new look or amenity for their home will enjoy the show, as well as industry professionals. Visit buildbastrop.com for more information.

BISD Homecoming Parade

The annual Homecoming Parade will take place Wednesday, September 21, in anticipation of the football game on Friday, September 23. The parade begins at 6:15 pm.

Bastrop Music Festival

Featuring over forty performances across four days, the Bastrop Music Festival is set to run September 22-25. This music festival features performances by bands of numerous genres in venues throughout Downtown Bastrop, with a mixture of wristband-only nighttime performances as well as free daytime events, including shows for children. Visit bastropmusicfestival.com for more information.

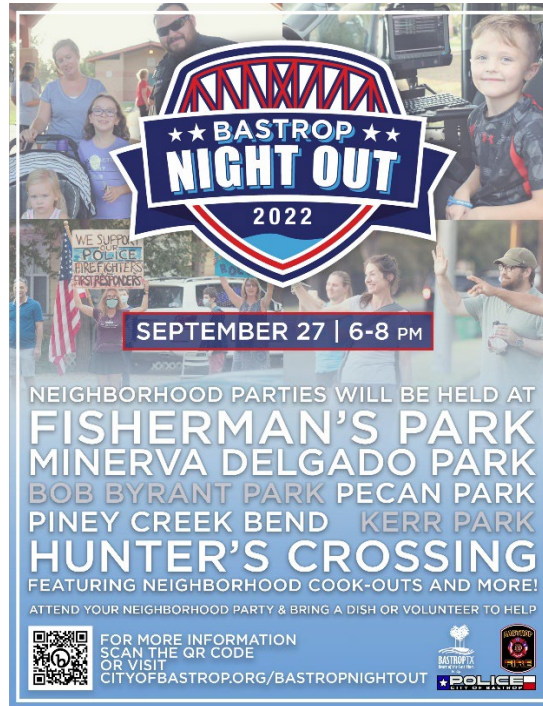
Bastrop Boo Bash

The 2022 Bastrop Boo Bash will be held at Fisherman's Park on Saturday, October 1, from 5 - 7 pm. Members of the community, businesses, and organizations will hand out treats and candy. The event is free and open to the public. Stay after the event for Movies in the Park showing Beetlejuice.

Farm Street Opry

This month's Farm Street Opry will be on October 6, at 5:30 pm with guest performers Bob Appel and Neil Kulhanek. Acting City Manager Trey Job will be MCing the event along with his wife, Joy.

Bastrop Night Out



On Tuesday, September 27, from 6 – 8 pm the City of Bastrop will be hosting our Bastrop Night Out to include block parties at Fisherman's Park, Northside Delgado Park, Bob Bryant Park, Pecan Park, Piney Creek Bend, Kerr Park, and Hunter's Crossing Park. Please let Ann Franklin know if you are able to attend and arrangements will be made with Bastrop PD for you to be escorted to several of the parties to meet with neighbors.

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

October 12 at 3:30 pm *Bastrop Fitness Project*. Location is 301 Martin Luther King Dr
November 17 at 4:00 pm *RE/MAX Bastrop Area*. Location is 807 Main St

Cultural District Designation Recertification

At the September 8, 2022, meeting of the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA), the Bastrop Cultural Arts District was officially recertified by a vote of the TCA Commissioners. Since 2009, TCA has designated official cultural districts on behalf of the State. The intent of these districts is to harness the power of cultural resources to stimulate economic development, tourism, and community revitalization. TCA's guidelines for Cultural District Designation requires districts to report annually on activities in order to maintain their designation status. The next recertification year will be in 2032.

Texas Downtown Association President Awards

On August 5, the Main Street Program submitted two downtown businesses for Texas Downtown Association's Presidents Awards. Store House was nominated for the Best Downtown Business Award recognizing an exceptional downtown business that positively promotes the downtown or commercial district as a destination for locals and tourists alike, and actively participates in the revitalization efforts and supports downtown promotional events. The Painted Porch was nominated for Best Commercial Interior recognizing excellence in merchandising, customer orientation, and/or business functionality in an office or retail setting.

We are excited to announce that both businesses were selected as finalists in those categories. All finalists are automatically eligible for the People's Choice Awards which are selected by the people. Images will be uploaded to Facebook and fans will vote by reacting to the images between October 17 at noon and October 21 at 5:00 pm. The winners will be announced at the President's Awards Gala on November 2 in conjunction with the Texas Downtown Conference scheduled for November 1-4 in San Marcos.

Main Street Advisory Board Crosswalks Mural Project

The Main Street Advisory Board Design Committee met on Monday, September 12, to review the submissions for the crosswalk mural art call. Seven artists submitted with thirteen art renderings for the project. The committee selected three submissions and asked the artists to make changes based off feedback by Friday, September 16, at 5:00 pm. The next steps are for the RSA specialist to approve the submissions, then the Main Street Advisory Board and Cultural Arts Commission will give their recommendation to City Council. The installation is expected to take place on Friday, November 4, 2022.

Updated Winter 2021 Payment Plan

The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) has informed the City that an additional \$120,000 reduction in our Winter Storm Uri liability will be applied to our September invoice knocking off nine months of payments and reducing the liability from \$248,194 to \$128,194. This is positive news and will increase the electricity fund balance by this same amount.

TXDoT Update

The Martin Luther King Drive U-turn will be closed nightly beginning Monday night, September 19 – Friday morning, September 23. The closures are scheduled from 8:00 pm – 5:00 am.

The SH 71 main lanes and the West Bound Frontage Road will not be affected. The Lovers Lane U-turn will not be affected except no right turn will be allowed at the West Bound Frontage Road during the closure periods.

Water and Wastewater

Resident Judy Caro called City Hall and made a work order due to water standing between her and her neighbor's houses. The water crew responded within thirty minutes of the initial call. Ms. Caro later called Curtis Hancock to let him know how thankful and impressed she was with the quick response.

Future Agenda Items

October 11, 2022

- Financial Report
- Simsboro Aquifer Water Treatment Plant, Well Field and Transmission Facilities
- Street Rehabilitation Program
- Ordinance Amendment, Second Reading – “Water and Wastewater Rates and Charges”
- Certificates of Obligation Resolution
- Ordinance Amendment, First Reading – “Utilities”

Attachments

- LCRA – Winter Event Balance
- TML Legislative Update Number #37



Aug. 25, 2022

CONFIDENTIAL

Paul Hofmann
City Manager
City of Bastrop
1311 Chestnut St.
Bastrop, TX 78602

Dear Mr. Hofmann:

I am pleased to inform you that LCRA's actual fuel and power cost recovery factor was below budget for fiscal year 2022. As a result, LCRA will apply your FY 2022 managed balance to your winter event payment plan balance on your Sept. 1 invoice.

City of Bastrop's outstanding winter event balance is projected to be paid off in June 2023. \$120,610 of the managed balance was applied to your ending payments. This charge will continue to be shown on the Other Services tab of the wholesale power invoice.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Lowell Ogle at 979-451-9546.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randa Stephenson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Randa Stephenson
Chief Commercial Officer

TML LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



September 16, 2022
Number 37

Resolutions Submitted for Consideration at 2022 Annual Conference and Your City Delegate

Several cities submitted legislative resolutions for consideration at the 2022 TML Annual Conference in San Antonio. The topics relate, among other things, to:

1. Policy Summit Report
2. Ballot Propositions
3. Hotel Occupancy Taxes
4. Zoning/Super Majority Requirements
5. Municipal Utility Districts
6. Competitive Procurement
7. Emergency Service Districts
8. Affordable Housing

The full resolutions packet can be found [here](#). The resolutions will be debated at the TML business meeting on October 6 at 3:30 p.m. Additional resolutions relating to member service fees and

meeting procedures under the TML Constitution may be added to the packet after a Tuesday TML Board meeting at the Conference.

Each city is entitled to one voting delegate at the business meeting. The delegate isn't required to have any expertise, and an elected official delegate is encouraged but not required. The delegate can sign up electronically [here](#) prior to the meeting or sign up in person at a table outside of the meeting room. Cities are encouraged to sign up their delegate early using the link above.

All city officials are welcome to attend the meeting, whether or not they are a voting delegate.

TML Testifies at Committee Hearings

Last week, TML testified at hearings of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Local Government Committee on interim charges relating to [S.B. 2](#) (2019) and [H.B. 2404](#) (2021 legislation that created an online database of local economic development agreements).

In addition, the League submitted [written testimony](#) to the Senate Local Government Committee on the interim charge relating to the extraterritorial jurisdiction, heard on September 13.

Interested city officials can view the hearings by clicking on the September 8 Ways and Means hearing [here](#), and by clicking on either the September 13 or the September 14 Local Government hearing [here](#).

Federal Infrastructure Bill Update

In November 2021, the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was signed into law. The IIJA is altogether a \$1.2 trillion bill that will invest in the nation's core infrastructure priorities including roads, bridges, rail, transit, airports, ports, energy transmission, water systems, and broadband.

The League will monitor state and federal agencies and work with the National League of Cities (NLC) to access the latest information relating to the IIJA. We will be providing periodic updates in the Legislative Update on resources for Texas cities on how to access IIJA funding for local infrastructure projects.

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

DOT's Federal Rail Administration recently [announced](#) the availability of over \$1.4 billion in [Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement](#) (CRISI) grant funding. Funding of the program under the IIJA is more than triple the amount in previous years. The program is designed to fund projects that modernize freight and passenger rail infrastructure. The Notice of Funding Availability for the CRISI program can be found [here](#). Applications for funding are due no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on December 1, 2022. The Federal Transit Administration recently extended

the application period for the [All Stations Accessibility Program](#) (ASAP) to October 7. The purpose of the ASAP grant program is to provide funding to states and local governments to help finance capital projects to upgrade the accessibility of rail public transportation systems for persons with disabilities. The law limits ASAP to legacy rail fixed guideway public transportation systems with stations or facilities for passenger use that are not already accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities, including wheelchair users.

National League of Cities (NLC)

The Local Infrastructure Hub, sponsored by NLC and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, among others, is now live. The Hub is designed to help city officials navigate the funding programs made available by the IJA. Interested city officials can sign up for the mailing list, attend virtual learning events, and access articles and other resources on some of the key IJA funding opportunities.

[Upcoming events](#) on the Local Infrastructure Hub include:

- September 27, 2022 – Delivering Results: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities

Comptroller to Send \$665.7M to Cities in Sales Tax Revenue

Last week, Comptroller Glenn Hegar [announced](#) that he will send cities, counties, transit systems, and special purpose taxing districts \$1.04 billion in local sales tax allocations for September 2022. Of that, cities will receive \$665.7 million – an 11.8% increase from September 2021. The allocations are based on sales made in July.

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