

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Rebecca Gleason, Assistant City Manager  
Date: September 23, 2022  
Subject: Weekly Memo, September 19 – September 23, 2022



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## Personnel Updates

We have three new hires that began their employment with the City on Monday, September 19. Dustin Haywood is our new Parks Maintenance Worker, Joseph "JC" Wilhelm will be working at Water & Wastewater as a Systems Technician, and Phillip Whitton is the new Building Maintenance & Custodial Crew Leader. We are glad to have 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 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](http://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.

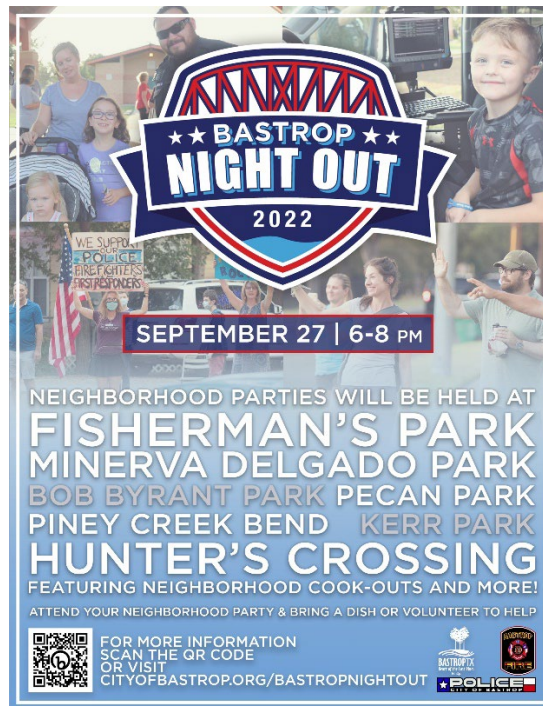
### Farm Street Opry

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.

### Women's Leadership Luncheon

This annual luncheon will be held at 11:15 am on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at the Bastrop Convention Center. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and this luncheon is an integral part of raising awareness on resources available in our community. Ann will be sending out more information soon to see if you are interested in attending.

## **Bastrop Night Out**



Bastrop Night Out is occurring next week, Tuesday, September 27, from 6:00-8:00 pm. We request that Council arrive at City Hall by 6:00 pm. Our Chiefs will greet you to proceed to the first park. Each vehicle will stop at three parks in order to deliver ice pops and spend a few moments visiting. You will also be accompanied by a fire truck so that our littlest partygoers can spend a few moments taking in the sights and sounds while interacting with our firefighters. If you have not yet confirmed your attendance, please let Ann know if you will be joining us so we can ensure we have enough seats for everyone.

## **Municipal Court**

The Municipal Court will be closed next week, Monday, October 3, through Wednesday, October 5, and again on Friday, October 7. The team will be using this time to migrate to a new software platform. The online portal will be open and available for payments to be processed during this closure.

## **Library News**

### Inventory

The Library's inventory is complete and all of our circulating materials have been accounted for. More than 47,600 items were scanned last week and over one hundred mis-shelved books were located. We are extremely proud of the team and the leadership shown by Amie Cuvlier with her thoughtful planning and attention to detail during this complicated process.

### Public Computers

The IT Department assisted the Public Library during its closure and relocated the adult public computers to create more effective use of staff through layout efficiencies. This ends the months-long project as plugs had to be relocated and additional internet drops considered. At the same time, IT installed a new network switch along with a backup battery. Additionally, new network cables and fiber connections were made to the library's lobby network switch to improve connectivity, redundancy, and stability of the system thus improving the user experience for our patrons.

### City Friends Storytime

This week's City Friends Storytime welcomed Mayor Connie Schroeder who read Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr and Eric Carle because it was her kids' favorite book when they were little. Families learned about how the mayor of a city helps everyone who lives and works there by using their eyes to spot problems and ears to listen to the community.



### **Main Street Training**

The Main Street Advisory Board traveled to our neighbor of Taylor for an all-day training event. Taylor Mayor Brandt Rydell welcomed the group to the Taylor Library and discussed downtown being a reflection of the health of your city. Per the Mayor, the Taylor downtown has been on a journey to vitality that began with their award-winning 2016 Master Plan which included plans for improving gateways, viewsheds, parking, pedestrian connectivity, wayfinding, and infill development through capital improvement projects and catalyst economic development. The board received training from the Texas Main Street Program from the Assistant State Coordinator, dug into the Retail Coach economic data from the company president, and received a tour of downtown Taylor from the Main Street Manager. The group was also

able to enjoy lunch at the new Greenhouse Craft Food while discussing next year's work plans and had free time to explore Taylor's downtown parks and shops.

### **Cultural Arts Commission Gathering**

The Cultural Arts Commission hosted their second Gathering event on September 21, at the Bastrop Opera House. Over fifty artists of all sectors attended to network and enjoyed music from Liberty Dance ballerinas as well as a BSD choir student. The Commission discussed information on their upcoming mini-grant opportunities, Visit Bastrop shared information on promoting cultural events through their site, and the City was there to explore opportunities for collaboration with recreation and downtown. The next event will occur in the Spring. The Gathering is part of the Cultural Arts Master Plan action of building a creative economy through the building across-the-arts collaboration and nurturing perceptions of a shared responsibility among the community for the promotion of Bastrop as a cultural arts destination.

### **Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings**

October 12 at 3:30 pm *Bastrop Fitness Project*. Location is 301 Martin Luther King Dr

October 27 at 4:00 pm *HOTWORX*. Location is 494 Hwy 71 W, Ste 108

November 17 at 4:00 pm *RE/MAX Bastrop Area*. Location is 807 Main St

### **Tesla Charging Station**

Bastrop Power & Light has completed the installation of three Tesla V3 Supercharger cabinets and twelve V3 charge posts on the southeast side of Buc-ee's parking lot. The transformer was energized on Monday, September 19, and the charging stations are now open for use. It should be noted that currently these charging stations can only be used on Tesla brand electric cars as other manufacturers cannot yet support the supercharging feature. Other models are currently able to charge at Basin RV Resort, Covert Chevrolet, and Sames Ford.



### **Ozone Action Day**

September 23 was issued an Ozone Action Day by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). We posted to social media with information about the atmospheric conditions and steps that citizens are being asked to take, along with links to additional resources. We will continue to monitor the Air Central Texas pages in the coming days. More information can be found here: [Ozone Action Days - Air Central Texas](#)

## **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”
- Piney Ridge Section 1 Block A Lot 11 Replat – Variances Appeal
- Piney Ridge Section 1 Block A Replat Appeal
- Parks & Recreation Master Plan Resolution

## **Attachments**

- City of Bastrop Community Newsletter
- TML Legislative Update Number #38

Hi everyone, Please review the newsletter and let me know if there are any changes or additions. Thank you,  
Candice Butts

Volume 3 | September 26, 2022



## City of Bastrop Community Newsletter

The City of Bastrop's newsletter helps keep residents and businesses connected to all that is going on in and throughout the City. You can connect with us and learn more about our community, cultural events, celebrations, and important news. Keep up to date with all the exciting happenings by reading this newsletter, visiting our website at [cityofbastrop.org](http://cityofbastrop.org), and following us on our social media channels listed at the bottom of this email. We look forward to connecting with you!

**Lost Pines Christmas Parade Packet**

**Fiscal Year  
2022 3rd  
Quarter  
Report**

*The City of Bastrop presents*



**2022 Lighted Christmas Parade**  
December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 6PM until 8PM  
Historic Downtown Bastrop

Bastrop's fanciful, fantastic, fun—and even famous—annual **Lost Pines Christmas Parade** will light up the night skies as it makes its way down Main Street on **Saturday, December 10th**.

If you were in on the fun last year, you know first-hand it's an experience not to be missed, or—if you were a participant—it's not too early to gear up for this year's fun. If you missed last year, we've got an experience that you, your family, and your friends will remember for a lifetime.

It's Bastrop's famous Lighted Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 10th, an absolute highpoint of the Lost Pines Christmas season. More than 100 entries—from fanciful floats to fire trucks, from Honey Bears to longhorns, from Santa's helpers to the man himself—will light up the Main Street night for this joyful holiday tradition, produced by the City of Bastrop.

With festive lights blazing and music in the air, this year's parade taps your vision—celebrating the message, magic, and memory of Christmas through your eyes: what Christmas means to you. Sugarplums and sparkles, sights and sounds, cherished moments of Christmas past, or bright hopes for the future – it's yours to express.

**We are holding a spot just for you!**

As in the past there are no participation fees; **however, this year you must pre-register**. This will help us plan for space needed for lineup on the night of the parade. Email your completed registration form to our Special Events Manager Kathy Danielson at [kdanielson@cityofbastrop.org](mailto:kdanielson@cityofbastrop.org). You will still come to the check-in and line up at the staging point on the north side of **Bastrop High School**. Line up will still be on a first come basis. Please bring a copy of your registration that was submitted for pre-registration. Be sure everyone involved in your entry has been informed of the logistics regarding the event.

- From Hwy 95, go west on Gordon Street and follow the signs.
- Line-up assistants will direct you to the staging area.
- Bring a copy of your pre-registration application with you.
- Only completed floats will be allowed in the staging area.



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[www.LostPinesChristmas.com](http://www.LostPinesChristmas.com)



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Want a status update from a particular project the City is working on? Check out the third Quarter Report for Fiscal Year 2022. This report gives a status update on all City projects during April through June 2022.

These reports are updated and presented to council quarterly. **Click the graphic to read more.**

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## Overheard At City Hall

Enjoy the official podcast of the city of Bastrop. All episodes can be found at the links below:

[Apple Podcast](#)

[Spotify](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Facebook](#)

[City Website](#)





## Bastrop Fire Department

Episode 6 of the Official Podcast of the City of Bastrop features a visit to Bastrop Fire Department's Station 1 and conversation with Firefighters Ben Gonser and Morgan LeBaron, and Captain Chris Stone.

## Bastrop Public Library

Join City Manager Paul A. Hofmann on a visit to the Bastrop Public Library! Paul talks with Carmen Serna, Children's Services Associate and Veronica (Ronni) Nunez, Executive Administrative Assistant about the success of the 2022 Summer Reading Program, how important volunteers are to the library, and the vital role the library plays in our community.

## Season 2 Finale

The Season 2 Finale features City Manager Paul A. Hofmann, Acting City Manager Trey Job, and Assistant City Manager Rebecca Gleason. Enjoy Paul's farewell episode, full of laughs, a look at big projects, challenges, and initiatives coming up for the City, and bit of reminiscing as Paul says goodbye.

## October Events



### Docent Tours

Monday 12:30pm - 4:00pm

Thursday 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Saturday 12:30pm - 3:00pm



### Museum Scavenger Hunt

Monday - Saturday



### Coffee With Catherine

every Wednesday

4:00pm - 6:00pm

Bastrop Public Library

1100 Church Street

Bastrop Museum & Visitor Center

904 Main Street



### Storytime

Wednesday & Fridays

10:30am

Bastrop Public Library

1100 Church Street

Bastrop Museum & Visitor Center

904 Main Street



### Teen Thursdays

Thursdays

4:15pm - 6:15pm

Bastrop Public Library

1100 Church Street



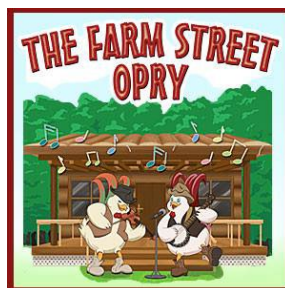
### Boo Bash

October 1, 2022

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Fisherman's Park

1200 Willow Street



## Recreation Youth Disc Golf Clinic

Wednesdays October 5 -  
November 9,, 2022

5:30pm -6:30pm

Bob Bryant Park

600 Charles Blvd

## The Farm Street Opry

October 6, 2022

(Every 1st Thursday)

7:00pm

Bastrop Convention Center

1408 Chestnut Street

\$7.50 Admission

## Main Event's First Friday Art Walk

October 7, 2022

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Main Street



## Art After Dark

October 8, 2022

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Lost Pines Art Center

\_\_\_\_ Chestnut Street



## Storytime - Fire Safety

October 12 & 14, 2022

10:30am - 11:30am

Bastrop Public Library

1100 Church Street



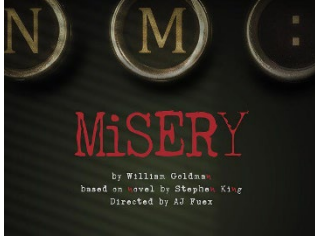
## Recreation's Party in Pink

October 14, 2022

5:30pm - 8:00pm

Bob Bryant Park

600 Charles Blvd



### Misery

October 14 - 30, 2022

Bastrop Opera House

711 Spring Street

[Tickets](#)



### Intro to Stained Glass

October 15, 2022

11:00am

Lost Pines Art Center

1204 Chestnut Street

[Tickets](#)



### Leggo Club

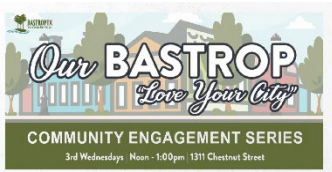
October 18, 2022

(every third Tuesday)

3:00pm

Bastrop Public Library

1100 Church Street



### Our Bastrop - Police Department

October 19, 2022

City Hall

1311 Chestnut Street



### Blow Your Own Glass - Pumpkins

October 22, 2022

10:00am

Lost Pines Art Center

1204 Chestnut Street

[Tickets](#)



### Women's Leadership Luncheon

October 25, 2022

11:15am

Bastrop Convention Center

1408 Chestnut Street



## Art Matter of Balance

Tuesdays & Fridays

October 25 - November 18,  
2022

2:00pm - 3:30pm

Senior Center

1209 Linden Street



## Coffee with Catherine Assembling kits for Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October 26, 2022

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Bastrop Public Library

1100 Church Street

For more events, go to [www.visitbastrop.com/events/](http://www.visitbastrop.com/events/).

[City Council Meetings](#)

[Boards and Commissions](#)

[Recreation](#)

[Bastrop Public Library](#)





September 23, 2022  
Number 38

## **Comptroller Proposes Revised Local Sales Tax Sourcing Rule for Internet Orders; Public Hearing on October 17**

[Previously reported](#) in the *Legislative Update* last month, a district court judge sided with six cities who challenged the sales tax sourcing rule on internet orders adopted by the comptroller in 2020. In a [letter ruling](#), the judge found that the comptroller’s office failed to comply with proper administrative procedure in adopting 34 Texas Administrative Code Sec. 3.334(b)(5).

In response to that ruling, the comptroller has re-proposed changes to Sec. 3.334. The entire rule proposal, including background information, can be found [here](#). Of primary interest, Sec. 3.334(b)(5) is revised to read as follows:

“(5) An order that is not received by a salesperson is received at a location that is not a place of business of the seller. Examples are orders received by a computer server through a shopping cart software program and orders received by an automated telephone ordering system.”

Although not identical to the previously proposed language, the newly proposed Sec. 3.334(b)(5) likely doesn't represent a major practical difference from the previous language that is subject to the legal challenge. Under this proposal, just as the last, local sales taxes on orders not received by salespersons are sourced to the location where the order is fulfilled or the delivery location, depending on the exact circumstances.

The revised rule includes additional changes beyond the relevant language on orders not received by salespersons. Among these changes are modifications to the definition of "place of business of the seller" along with clarifying language providing that forwarding previously received orders to a distribution center, warehouse, or similar facility for fulfillment does not make the facility a place of business for sales tax sourcing purposes.

The comptroller will hold a public hearing on **Monday, October 17, 2022** to receive comments on the revised rules. The hearing will take place at 9:00 a.m. in Room 170 of the Stephen F. Austin Building, 1700 Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78701. Interested city officials may sign up to testify beginning at 8:30 a.m. on the day of the hearing, and testimony will be heard on a first come, first served basis. Everyone wishing to testify will have ten minutes to present their testimony and are required to also provide their testimony in writing prior to their oral testimony.

In addition, interested city officials may submit comments to Jennifer Bureson, Director, Tax Policy Division, P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-3528 or to the email address: [tp.rule.comments@cpa.texas.gov](mailto:tp.rule.comments@cpa.texas.gov). Comments must be received no later than 30 days from the date of publication of the proposal in the *Texas Register*, which means the comment deadline falls on Sunday, October 23, 2022.

## **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.

## **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 Homeland Security (DHS)**

Last week, DHS [announced](#) the availability of \$185 million for the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2022 to support state and local efforts to address cyber risk to their information systems. This round of funding is part of a total of \$1 billion in funding under the IIJA over the next four years. The program specifically is designed to “fund efforts to establish critical governance frameworks across states and territories to address cyber threats and vulnerabilities, identify key vulnerabilities and evaluate needed capabilities, implement measures to mitigate the threats, and develop a 21<sup>st</sup>-century cyber workforce across local communities.”

The current round of funding is only for states and territories, not cities. However, cities will receive sub-awards through the states. The IIJA requires states to distribute at least 80% of the funds to local governments, with a minimum of 25% of the allocated funds distributed to rural areas.

The deadline for applications for this round of funding is November 15. More information on the program, including access to the Notice of Funding Availability, can be found [here](#).

### **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 IIJA. 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 IIJA funding opportunities.

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



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

## **House and Senate Committee Interim Hearings**

The Texas House and Senate Committees are underway studying interim charges outlined by Speaker Phelan and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick.

Below is a full list of committee hearings set to hear certain city-related charges. All hearings will be held at the Texas Capitol unless otherwise indicated. If a committee has newly posted notice and was not included in last week's edition of the *Legislative Update*, it is indicated as such.

### **House Committee on Transportation**

The committee will meet on Thursday, October 6 at 9:00 a.m. in Corpus Christi to hear the following joint interim charge:

Study the impacts that increased federal funding, formula changes, and new programs authorized in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will have on state transportation projects. Evaluate strategies to ensure Texas communities can maximize receipt of federal grant funds.

Information on the hearing, including how to submit electronic comment, can be found [here](#).

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