

Mayor's Letter

January 15, 2020

ROAD UPDATE. On December 18th, I called a special meeting of the Town Council to review the "30 percent" road design schematics. These engineered drawings show the concrete part of the project - the location (right and left) and vertical elevation of the new roads. The next designs ("90 percent") will add details on the underground pipes and conduits, as well as the drainage plan. **The meeting was held at the Kimley-Horn offices in McKinney.** We considered the proposed engineering for each street. The most significant issues discussed involved the underground drainage improvements at Melody and Carrie lanes; the realignment of the wandering Highridge Drive; Utility line relocations; the Woodcrest "curve"; and the replacement of the lift-station at Highridge and Woodcrest.



PRIOR TO THE MEETING, Councilman Bushong, Mayor Pro-Tem West and myself met with engineers to determine the size and location of our future water and sewer mains. Beginning in the next few weeks we will be laying new 12-inch water mains across Highridge. We will also be extending new lines at the Peninsula, Parkword, and Green Meadow intersections to install new fire hydrants. These improvements are time critical. It is easy to see that all future development in LWV is the wooded area to the WEST of Highridge. Of course, our wastewater plant and water wells and storage tanks are on the EAST side of Highridge. We must install these lines now prior to paving Highridge. **There will be periodic detours along Highridge over the next 6 weeks. The detours will be short - you will have to use Shoreline and simply go around the block. Please watch for the construction crews working along the streets.**



OUR JANUARY 8TH SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING. The Council approved the Resolution of the Notice of Intent to Issue Certificates of Obligation. This is the first legal step in issuing bonds to finance our new roads. Mark McLiney of SAMCO (our financial advisors) discussed the timeline and the various steps. On January 13th, I submitted the response to our bond attorney's first RFI (Request for Information) which included our first quarter financial statements as well as supplemental biographical information and qualifications of our council members. I have begun the extensive preparations with SAMCO for our scheduled ratings conference call with Standard and Poor's New York credit analysts on February 10th.

MAILBOX AREA. We are continuing to work on the temporary parking area surrounding the mailbox facility at Town hall. After several "fails" exiting the driveway, we have added more road base, moved the culverts, and added reflectors. The parking lot will be paved as part of the road project. We will also be moving the fence once we complete the new water main installations. **We also have a nice new bulletin board in front.** The project's design and construction were done by our own Lynn and Barry Burkhardt. Their work, along with all of the volunteers who decorate the bulletin boards are greatly appreciated.



This is a great example of how citizens can help to make our Town better. Often there are good ideas about improvements that we should do but we just don't have the time and staff to accomplish it. We have the money - we just need people willing be part of the solution. And in this case, it was even better, we used our Chase rewards points to pay for the board and materials - so it didn't cost the Town at all. It just took Lynn and Barry to step up. Thank you.

OUR COUNCIL. At the January 8th meeting, **I called a special meeting for tomorrow, January 16th** to be held in McKinney at the Kimley-Horn offices to review the 90 percent road designs. I also notified the Council members that in 2020 we would be meeting **twice a month**, and weekly in some instances. We have a lot of important work to do. In addition to the largest construction project in our history we have at least six different developers throwing potential projects at us looking for feedback. As Mayor, long hours come with the territory. **However, the work effort and time commitment I am asking from the councilmembers is unprecedented.** So, if you see Darrell, Serena, Matt, Clint, or Eric around town, give them some encouragement, as they juggle jobs, family, and the large responsibilities of setting our Town's future.

The year 2020 will bring many challenges to our Town. We're dedicated to getting things done right. There's never been a better time to be in Lakewood Village.

Dr. Mark E. Vargus
Mayor

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