



Mayor's Letter

June 15, 2019

Hello Everyone,

ROAD UPDATE. At our June 13th meeting we received the final geotechnical engineering study from town engineers Kimley-Horn. As expected, the PVR (the measure of how expansive our soils are) is moderately high as it was for the prior roads. In contrast to our Phase 1 construction, the concentration of sulfides in the soil is very low, and thus the use of a textile liner is not required. **The entire report is available on our website: www.lakewoodvillagetx.us.**

The Town Council has approved Engineering Task Order #2 (Topographic Survey). Over the next three months survey crews will be making detailed GPS maps of all utilities, obstructions, easements, property lines, and elevation contours of our drainage culverts. You won't see any survey stakes; data is collected electronically and uploaded from the base station to the various GIS/CAD engineering software. The next task order is the preliminary road design, where the exact locations will be "staked" allowing us to actually walk the proposed new roads and make any final design changes. I am confident that we can accelerate the timetable on the remaining tasks so that we will meet our contract award date of March 2020.

ROAD REPAIRS. There has been a lot of concern about the poor condition of our roads, especially around the mailboxes. As you can see, the biggest problem isn't potholes (those we can fill), it's that the road base has failed. The road has ripples and the surface has been displaced and distorted. We have no choice but to totally rebuild the roads. **This week, we approved building permits for two new houses on Green Meadow, across from the mailboxes.** With a third house on the street just beginning, we can count on about 50 concrete truck loads driving, turning, and



grinding on the road going down the hill. First it will be to pour the foundations, and later to pour the driveways and flatwork. **No matter what we do, the area in front of the mailboxes will be destroyed over and over again all summer long.** That doesn't include the five or six large new houses coming in the Shores, where the concrete and construction trucks are going to rapidly degrade Melody as well. We will try and flatten out the ridges, put down road base, and fill some potholes, but it isn't going to be pretty. I understand the issue. However, **we cannot spend money in a futile effort to fix the damage caused by fleets of concrete trucks driving on roads made out of jello.** We are working as fast as we can. Hang in there, the concrete roads will be worth it.

OVER ➤

THE TOWN COUNCIL unanimously appointed **Robin West and Larry King, CPA** as our newest members to the Lakewood Village Municipal Development District Board. They both bring impressive credentials to our Board and I am very appreciative of them stepping up to provide leadership to this important Town asset. The MDD receives sales taxes, operates the Rocky Point Water System, engages in various Town projects, all while generating a budget surplus each year. The geographic boundary of the District includes the Town and surrounding county land within one-half mile. As I have been evaluating various financing options for our new streets, it is clear that in the future, the MDD will take on more financial responsibility and support for the Town.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT. Included on your water bills is the link to the Town website where the CCR is available for you to read. This is the TCEQ mandated comprehensive annual water test that all water systems must perform. As always, our water quality is excellent.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING. Our five-year contract with Allied/Republic is up for renewal in January 2020. In preliminary discussions with Allied, it has been very interesting to learn about the economics of recycling. As you may know, the market value of recycled products (especially paper) is much much lower than in the past and is actually a money loser.

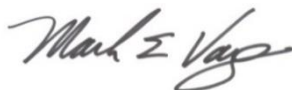
A big problem is contamination - over the last several years, purchasers are requiring very, very high-quality products. This requires all of us to change our behavior. In the past, if in doubt, you might have opted to put something in recycling rather than trash. The problem is that those dirty paper plates, napkins or paper towels can foul a 1000-pound bale of mixed paper so it cannot be sold and instead must be landfilled. **Your good intentions have actually made things much worse.** Paper can be mixed types, but it must be clean (no food waste). You don't need to wash out bottles or cans, and it's okay to crush those water bottles (it takes up less space in the truck). If you are not sure about something - the safe thing is to throw it away. I have asked Allied to put new stickers on all of your green cans to help educate everyone. **Green = Clean.**

KEY FIGURES: As we prepare our 2020 Budget, we have the following cash balances relative to a year ago.

	15-Jun-18	15-Jun-19	Change
General Fund	\$242,752	\$311,843	\$69,091
Utility Fund	\$77,487	\$138,650	\$61,163
MDD	\$22,661	\$30,765	\$8,104
Total	\$342,900	\$481,258	\$138,358

There's never been a better time to be in Lakewood Village.

Dr. Mark E. Vargus
Mayor



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