

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



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City of Taylor City Council

Rod Hortenstine
Mayor
At Large

Ella Pumphrey Jez
Mayor Pro Tem
District 4

Donald R. Hill
District 1

Bernabe Gonzales
District 2

John McDonald
District 3

WHO TO CALL AT CITY HALL?

General Information
352-3675

Municipal Court
352-5977

Street Department
352-5818

Water Bills
352-2066

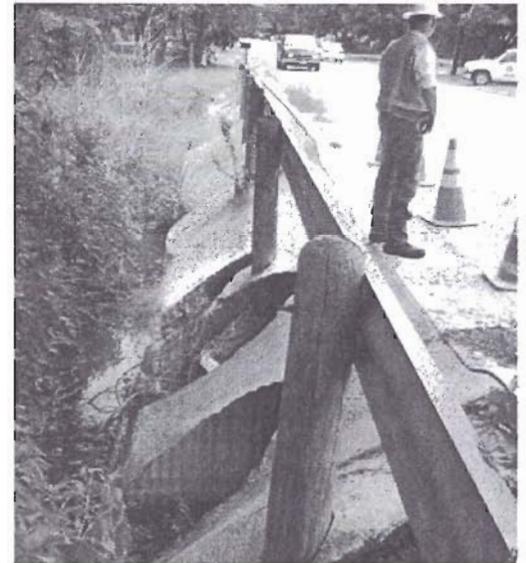
Library
352-3434

Emergency Repairs

City crews acted immediately to make emergency temporary repairs to the bridge located in the 1900 block of West Lake Drive after being alerted by a local resident of a hole that had developed in the roadway over the bridge.

It was discovered that the corrugated steel culverts located within the bridge had suffered severe rusting and damage over the years and were beginning to fail.

The City Council also took emergency action to approve a professional engineering assessment, design and permanent rehabilitation of the structure in the amount of \$244,120 with the funding coming from 2007-2008 sales tax revenues.



Culvert repair in 1900 block of West Lake Drive

Repair designs are being expedited and construction is projected to begin in late August or early September.

Downtown Neighborhood Zoning District

The City Council adopted an ordinance modifying the existing Zoning Ordinance to create a Downtown Neighborhood Zoning District that encompasses several areas near downtown, including the properties on the north side of Second to Third Streets from Sloan to downtown that are currently zoned commercial.

The Downtown Neighborhood Zoning District provides for mixed-use areas near downtown to allow for both residential and commercial uses while maintaining the historic and neighborhood character.

The purpose of the Downtown Neighborhood District is to preserve the ability of

single family residences to continue to exist and flourish and to limit automobile traffic and encourage pedestrian activity, thereby preserving and strengthening Taylor's traditional family-oriented neighborhood structure.

The Downtown Neighborhood concept was recommended in the 2004 City of Taylor Comprehensive Plan to encourage small-scale commercial development within the downtown area.

This new zoning only affects future land use in the area. It does not change the zoning of existing properties. Property owners may request rezoning for approved uses.

City Funding Approved for EWCHEC

Funding for the first building on the campus of the East Williamson County Higher Education Center (EWCHEC) is being finalized.

The City Council has approved paying \$100,000 per year over the next 20 years as the City of Taylor commitment to the funding agreement shared by the Taylor Independent School District, Taylor Economic Development Corporation and Texas State Technical College.

The funding agreement in the form of an economic development grant will assist Temple College at Taylor Foundation with debt service for the planning and construction of the first building for the new campus. EWCHEC was approved in 2007 by the Texas Legislature.

The City's funds will be paid through the general fund account for Contributions to Civic Programs.

Support for EWCHEC is predicated on its economic development potential to stimulate business and commerce and create additional employment opportunities not currently available in the City of Taylor.

Cattle Egrets Update

Pesky Cattle Egrets invaded and nested in a Taylor neighborhood this past spring. You may also know them as "cow birds." Cattle egrets are protected under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. This means that these birds or their young or their current active nests cannot be killed or destroyed while they are nesting. Heronry building usually begins about April. Disturbing the birds after the first egg is laid is a possible state or federal charge.

However, the time has come for their young to leave the nest and fly away with the adults during the day to feed and then return to the heronry in the evening. When the young leave the heronry area and there are not any Cattle Egrets there during the day you can start noise harrasment to keep them away. It may take a few days, but usually by this time the birds are almost ready to move south for the winter.

The problem is they will return next year unless the habitat is changed and made less appealing to the birds. The entire community should be aware when the egrets are in the area and keep a look out for where the birds are trying to nest and drive them away before they do. Early detection of nesting areas can alleviate potential problems. For additional information, contact Linda Tschirhart-Hejl, Wildlife Biologist, (979)845-6201 or email at linda.tschirhart@aphis.usda.gov.

Community Activities



Time Warner Presents
The Water Horse
in Murphy Park at dusk
Friday, August 1

Tuesday, August 5



Farmers Market
5th & Main Streets
3:30 - 6:30 pm Mon & Wed

City Calendar of Events for August

August 5	Special City Council @ 6 pm
August 5	Zoning Board of Adjustments @ 6 pm
August 11	Moody Museum Advisory Board @ 5:30 pm
August 12	Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
August 14	City Council @ 6 pm
August 19	Library Board @ 6 pm
August 19	Parks & Recreation Board @ 6 pm
August 20	Main Street Advisory Board @ 11:30 am
August 26	City Council @ 6 pm
August 28	Airport Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm

Agendas are posted at City Hall and at www.ci.taylor.tx.us.

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Published monthly by the City of Taylor and delivered with the utility bill each month. For more information about any story in this issue contact Jean Johnson, Main Street/Communications Manager, at 352-5448 or Susan Brock, City Clerk, at 352-3676.

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