



# CITY OF HEATH NEWSLETTER



2018  
SEPTEMBER

## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH:

*DISASTERS HAPPEN.  
PREPARE NOW.  
LEARN HOW.*



September is recognized as National Preparedness Month (NPM), which serves as a reminder that we all must take action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for the types of emergencies that could affect us where we live, work and visit.

This includes taking time to learn lifesaving skills, such as CPR and first aid, and check your insurance policies and coverage for the hazards like tornados. Make sure to consider the costs associated with disasters and save for an emergency. Know how to take practical safety steps like shutting off water and gas.

Often, you will be the first one to take action after a disaster strikes and before first responders arrive. That's why it is so important to prepare in advance to help yourself and your community.

Also, be sure you and your family members are registered for free text emergency alerts at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). For a comprehensive guide on other steps you can take to be prepared, go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

### ROCKWALL CERT SEEKS HEATH MEMBERS



The Rockwall Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) plays a critical role in disaster preparation and response for the entire Rockwall County. CERT also provides valuable support at Heath's Special Events including the Independence Day Parade and Heart of Heath 5k and Family Run. Members receive indoor and

outdoor training on disaster preparedness, fire safety, controlling utilities, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, introduction to the incident command system, disaster psychology and terrorism response. If you are interested in joining, please contact [certrockwall@gmail.com](mailto:certrockwall@gmail.com) to learn about upcoming training opportunities.

### 2018-2019 BUDGET PROCESS UNDERWAY

The City of Heath City Council and staff are preparing a budget for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Budget discussions have been held in open City Council meetings, which residents are encouraged to attend. A Public Hearing to receive citizen input regarding the proposed budget will be held at the September 11 City Council Meeting. A final budget is scheduled to be adopted by the City Council at its September 25 meeting to become effective October 1. View the proposed budget at [heathtx.com](http://heathtx.com) under the Finance Department.

### NEW HEATH FARMERS MARKET ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The City Council has appointed a Farmers Market Advisory Committee charged with exploring all the aspects of establishing a farmers market in Heath from location and schedule, to vendors, products, entertainment and booth pricing. Committee members are Jenny Timberlake Bellamy, Ryan Bierds, Keith Wesley, Mary Dichard McBride and Jason Thompson.

"We see a local farmers market as an enhancement to the quality of life our citizens enjoy by offering not only produce and products that are locally grown and sourced, but a place to gather," said Councilmember Frank New, who is the Council liaison to the committee. "The committee has already met twice and established a vision for a Heath market that is unique, charming, upscale and a little different from all the rest."

The committee's final commendations will be presented to City Council for action with the goal of kicking off in 2019. If you would like to be a Heath farmers market volunteer, please complete the City's Volunteer Application available on the front page of the City website at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com). You may also contact the city secretary at [nduncan@heathtx.com](mailto:nduncan@heathtx.com) for an application. When filling out the application, be sure to note that you want to be a farmers market volunteer.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: TOM THUMB: FULL STEAM AHEAD!

Grading on the site for the new Tom Thumb grocery store located at Laurence Road/FM 740 and FM 549 is underway. The Malouff Group, the developers representing Tom Thumb, anticipate the full-service grocer to be open by the third quarter of 2019. The Malouff Group is also working to identify ideal tenants for the additional retail space within the development.

## CITY OF HEATH PARK FEES AND RESERVATION POLICIES REVISED

At its June 12 meeting, the City Council approved a revised Park Fees and Policies Schedule recommended by the Park Board that includes a resident and non-resident fee structure. Heath residents are now permitted to make field reservations up to 10 weeks in advance and pavilion reservations up to three months in advance. Non-residents can make reservations up to two weeks in advance for fields and up to one month in advance for pavilions. You can view the fees and a map of available fields at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com) under the "Living Here" menu.

## REPORT-A-CONCERN

Now you can report and track code violations online such as high grass and weeds, junk cars, parking violations, mosquito complaints, graffiti, trash and water violations. You will find the Report-A-Concern on the front page of the City website and under the Code Enforcement Department. You'll also find other ways to keep up with City activities on the website including the ability to listen to City Council meetings, view upcoming Planning & Zoning Commission notifications and related documents, and sign-up for Notify Me to receive City Council agendas when posted.



## HEATH AND ROCKWALL WELCOME THE U.S. OPEN TRIATHLON AND 5K OCTOBER 14

Triathletes from all over the world will travel to Heath and Rockwall in October to race in the U.S. Open, the largest triathlon event in the D/FW area. They will swim 1500 meters in Lake Ray Hubbard, bike 24.8 miles and run 6.2 miles. A segment of the bike route will come through Heath. Cyclists and runners will be given the right of way on the roads that are part of the course. You can register to participate at [www.usopen-triathlon.com](http://www.usopen-triathlon.com).

### PREPARE FOR MINOR TRAFFIC DELAYS

The Triathlon is October 14 from 7 a.m. to 12 noon. Streets will start to be affected as early as 4 a.m. Certain roads in and around the bike and run routes have closures or will be traffic controlled to ensure the athletes' safety. You can view the route map at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com) under the News menu. Please allow an extra 20 to 30 minutes to get where you need to go between 6 a.m. and noon on October 14.



## CONSTRUCTION UPDATES:

### MYERS ROAD AND CRISP LANE PROJECT

The City project includes reconstruction of Crisp Lane from Hubbard Drive to Myers Road and Myers Road from Crisp Lane to Terry Lane. The new roadways will be 20-foot wide concrete streets and will not have curb and gutters. Crisp Lane will be constructed first, then Myers Road. Construction on Crisp Lane began August 13. The total construction time for Myers Road and Crisp Lane is 210 calendar days (weather dependent).

### TXDOT FM-549 AND FM-550 OVERLAY PROJECT

This TXDOT roadway improvement project includes the addition of 2-foot shoulders on FM-549 and FM-550 and the removal of the existing asphalt pavement and the installation of a new asphalt surface. The FM-549 portion of the project is from SH-205 to the FM-549/FM-550/FM-740 intersection. The FM-550 portion of the project is from SH-205 to the FM-549/FM-550/FM-740 intersection.

**FM-549:** Construction of the new shoulders and removal of the existing asphalt between Horizon Road and the FM-549/FM-550/FM-740 intersection has begun. The new asphalt pavement is scheduled to be installed by mid-September. The construction at the intersection of FM-549 and FM-3097 is scheduled to start after the new asphalt paving is complete in October.

**FM-550:** Culvert crossing construction on FM-550 has begun. Once the paving is completed on FM-549, the contractor will move to FM-550 and construct the shoulders and overlay in the same sequence as the FM-549 construction. The roadway pavement removal is expected to start by early December and the project is scheduled to be completed in October 2019.

**BOTH PROJECTS:** Expect traffic delays during construction as roadways are reduced to one lane. The TXDOT office phone number is 972-962-3617. The contractor is Ed Bell Construction, 214-358-6581.

## FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM PROGRESSIVE WASTE

Please place your items to be recycled loose in the blue recycle polycart, not in plastic bags. Although most plastic bags are recyclable, they must be separated from other recyclables because they wrap around the large rotating gears in the recycling sorting machinery. Bag drop-off locations can be found at most grocery stores. Plastic bags include: grocery bags; bread bags; shrink wrap packaging; plastic wrap such as "Saran Wrap"; and trash can liners.