



CITY OF HEATH UPDATE

NEW PARKS & TRAILS PROGRAM
City of Heath Park Board rolls out Parks And Trails of Heath (PATH). See back page for the details.

JANUARY
2020



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CITY MANAGER

The most wonderful time of the year is upon us, and I feel confident in speaking for all the employees at the City when I say that we are excited! This season always prompts reflection of the year behind us, and vision for the year ahead. I am grateful to each and every citizen and neighbor who continues to call Heath home, and continues to collaborate, cooperate and contribute to making Heath an amazing place to live, play and work.

Here at the City, we have so much for which to be grateful during the past year. For starters, the City has seen impressive economic expansion with the opening of the new Tom Thumb and its surrounding stores, the development of the nearly completed Southridge development that includes a new restaurant and surrounding businesses, and the inaugural year of Heath's very own Farmers' Market - bringing unique and locally-sourced vendors directly to our citizens. On top of that, we were pleased to present a budget that lowered the property tax rate while continuing to support the operations and quality of life for the community.

As the New Year approaches and we look forward to 2020, I can assure you that the staff and Council will continue their work to fulfill the mission of sustaining our Hometown Heath atmosphere, while remaining fiscally responsible, and strategic about growth and economic development that provides the best quality of life for our citizens and businesses.

I would also like to express my appreciation to all City of Heath employees and the City Council for their dedication, commitment and service to our community.

I pray that this season brings you authentic joy spent with your family, friends and loved ones with special memories that will last a lifetime. I pray that you have the ability to slow down in the midst of celebrating the holidays, so that you can remember the true meaning of the season and share it with those around you.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! - Aretha L. Adams, City Manager

NEW SERVICE:

WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Beginning in mid-January, you will be able to schedule a weekly "front porch pickup" by HHW Solutions of items such as paint, motor oil, batteries, insecticides, fertilizers, pool chemicals and other household materials. These items are not accepted by regular trash collection services and are prohibited in landfills.

In addition to collecting household hazardous wastes, citizens can also set out up to 50 pounds of electronic items to be recycled.

The cost for this new service is 56 cents per household per month to residents. You do not have to be home to have items collected.

HHW Solutions will also sponsor an annual paper shredding event, where you can bring items to a central location for shredding. Shredded paper will then be recycled.

HOW TO SCHEDULE A FRONT PORCH PICKUP:

BY 8 P.M. MONDAY - Call 972-440-2040 or go online to www.HHWSolutions.com to request a pickup. There will be a City of Heath tab on the website

BY 7 A.M. WEDNESDAY - Place items to be collected on your front porch. If you have a gated property, please place your items at the curb.

The schedule will not change, except if impacted by holidays. If you have questions, contact the City at 972-771-6228.



2019 HEATH HOLIDAY IN THE PARK DRAWS RECORD CROWD

A pretty winter's eve, sparkling Christmas lights, charming musical performances, festive activities, fabulous food trucks AND Santa all helped draw a record crowd to the City of Heath's 25th Annual Holiday in the Park on December 6 at Towne Center Park.

The City of Heath's Special Events Board thanks everyone who made the evening possible including: the Honor Choirs of Linda Lyon, Amy Parks and Pullen Elementary Schools; the Rockwall-Heath High School Jazz Band; the Cain Middle School Orchestra and Band; NCL and Rockwall Women's League for providing over 100 dozen home-baked Christmas cookies; City staff including the Public Works Department and DPS; Tom Thumb for sponsoring the trolley shuttle, and a heavenly host of valuable volunteers including RHHS and PALS students, NCL moms and daughters, The Rock Church of Heath, and Lakeside League btc sons and parents. You can see the Sponsor Appreciation highlights video and more photos at heathtx.com and on the City's Facebook page.

THANKS TO OUR 2019 SPECIAL EVENT SPONSORS



INAUGURAL 2019 HEATH FARMERS MARKET GOES OUT WITH A BANG

The Heath Farmers Market presented by Heath Golf & Yacht Club and Whittle Development finished with a bang on November 30 as Texas music legend Ray Wylie Hubbard performed a free concert at 6 p.m., followed by a fireworks display, sponsored by the Heath Economic Development Corporation (HEDC).

The Heath Farmers Market offered citizens and visitors the opportunity to experience amazing vendors offering locally-grown, fresh produce and foods, as well as a variety of unique gifts and goods.

The City thanks the Heath Farmers Market Committee for creating this new tradition. You can see photos and a video of the fireworks display on the City's Facebook page as well as the Heath Farmers Market Facebook page.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE:

HEDC/HMBC WORKING FOR YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE

SHOP LOCAL!

8 REASONS WHY SUPPORTING HEATH BUSINESSES IS GOOD FOR OUR COMMUNITY

You can make a positive impact in Hometown Heath by simply shopping, dining and obtaining services from our local businesses.

HERE ARE 8 REASONS WHY:

- 1. More of your money will be kept in our local economy**
For every \$100 you spend at local businesses, \$68 will stay in the community*. Local sales taxes also help keep your property taxes from rising.
- 2. Your local sales tax dollars are re-invested in Heath**
Spending locally instead of online or in another city ensures that your sales tax dollars are re-invested where they belong - in Heath! In the past 5 years, the HEDC/HMBC has invested \$687,669 of your sales tax dollars in community improvements such as the new street signs and numerous park and trails improvements. In its 2019-2020 annual budget, the HEDC/HMBC committed 25% of its annual sales tax revenue back to more community improvements. Your local spending increases the funding available for these investments in Heath, all of which contribute to our quality of life, enhanced property values and lower property taxes.
- 3. You create local jobs**
Local businesses mean local jobs for your family, friends and neighbors.
- 4. You nurture community**
Local businesses care about our community and generously support our schools, churches, city events and activities, and Heath's first responders. For example, Tom Thumb provided Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for the Heath DPS officers on duty on these holidays and many local businesses also sponsor the City of Heath's Special Events and countless RISD activities and programs.
- 5. You help the environment**
Buying locally conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and all that packaging that comes with an online purchase.
- 6. You invest in entrepreneurship**
Entrepreneurship is what the American economy is founded upon and a driving force in Heath with many citizens owning and operating their own businesses here.
- 7. You make our community a destination**
The more interesting and unique our community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This benefits everyone!
- 8. You take advantage of local expertise**
Local owners are friends and neighbors who have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you and a passion for doing so!

*Source: Civic Economics – Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.

United States®
**Census
2020**

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The New Year brings the 2020 Census! Here's are the facts and why it's essential that everyone in Heath is counted.

- The U.S. Constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country. The first census was in 1790.
- Census data determines how more than \$675 billion are spent to support national, state and local programs.
- The results of the census ensure fair representation. Results are used to reapportion the U.S. House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.
- State officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts.
- Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.
- Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices, stores and restaurants, which create jobs.

Taking part in the 2020 Census is a required part of your civic duty. By federal law, your census responses are confidential and can be used only to produce statistics. You will be able to respond to the census online or in print. Learn more about the 2020 Census including employment opportunities at [census.gov](https://www.census.gov).

FRIENDLY REMINDERS FROM CUSTOMER SERVICE

CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS

Beginning December 1, 2019, the City of Heath will charge a 3% convenience fee for credit card transactions.

ALARM PERMITS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31

Any one responsible for the operation of or in possession of an alarm system in the City of Heath is required to obtain an annual permit for operation of such system. The permit is good for a calendar year and a penalty of \$200 may be assessed if an alarm system permit is not current. The fee for a residential permit is \$35 per year. You can also register or renew your residential or commercial alarm permit online at [heathtx.com](https://www.heathtx.com) under the Department of Public Safety page.

DOG REGISTRATION

Dog registrations also expire December 31 each year. Please bring current rabies certification to City Hall to update or obtain your dog's registration tag. The annual cost is \$10 for intact dogs and \$5 for those that have been spayed or neutered.

PARKS AND TRAILS OF HEATH (PATH)...

GROWING A GREAT SYSTEM TOGETHER!

BECOME A PATH CHARTER MEMBER

Great parks, trails and green spaces have the power to increase the quality of our life and strengthen our community. They are a welcoming place to gather, play, relax, connect with nature, and encourage mental and physical health. Great parks promote community engagement and generate economic benefits, including stronger home values.

The Parks and Trails of Heath (PATH) program will enable trail connections and park improvements that will benefit our whole community.

PATH membership only costs a few dollars per month, or can be achieved with a one-time donation. Several support levels are available and as a charter member, you will receive additional membership rewards.

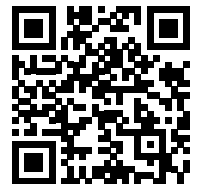
CHARTER MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

PATH MAKER: \$5/Per Month | PATH FINDER: \$10/Per Month
PATH PAVER: \$500 One-Time Donation | PATH FUNDER: \$1,000 One-Time Donation
PATH BUILDER: \$5,000 One-Time Donation | PATH PATRON: \$10,000 One-Time Donation



CHARTER PATH FUNDER DONORS AS OF DECEMBER 2019

PATH PATRON
\$10,000 Donation



PATH FUNDER
\$1,000 Donation



PATH PAVER - \$500 Donation
Kathy Farrington

PATH MAKER - \$5 per Month
Randy & Lana Dodgen
Candy Smith

PATH FINDER - \$10 per Month
Mark & Suzanne Brooke
Jim & Beatrice Chester
John & Katie Dyer
Robert & Dana Hensley
Wes & Sarah Keith
Councilmember Richard Krause
Ruth Miller
Tony & Councilmember Donna Rolater
Cameron & Michelle Slocum

HOW TO BE A CHARTER MEMBER OF PATH:

VISIT HEATHTX.COM/PATH TO FIND CHARTER MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AND SIGN UP ONLINE, OR SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE.

By Mail: return the response card from last month's newsletter
In Person: Go to Heath City Hall during normal business hours

All contributions to a municipality are tax deductible in accordance with Section 170(c) (1) of the Internal Revenue Code if made exclusively for a public purpose such as the City's park system.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Heath is great place to LIVE and WORK. Keep up with employment opportunities close to home at heathtx.com.