



CITY OF HEATH UPDATE

HEATH
REMEMBER TO
SHOP LOCAL
In Town & Online

SEPTEMBER
2020



CITY AND HEDC/HMBC LAUNCHES MASK CAMPAIGN: **HEATH HEROES WEAR MASKS**

As the global COVID-19 pandemic became local in March, the Heath City Council and Heath Economic Development Corporation (HEDC)/Heath Municipal Benefits Corporation (HMBC) moved swiftly to bring aid to Heath businesses with a stimulus program that tapped up to \$500,000 of the HMBC fund to provide monetary relief.

During Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the program, well over \$350,000 has already been provided in the form of forgivable loans to businesses within the City of Heath that are experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly restaurants, salons and health care providers.

Now, the focus is expanding to help get customers safely back to supporting Heath businesses with the *Heath Heroes Wear Masks* campaign. This is in addition to marketing support efforts that include the City's Business of the Day social media campaign and print advertising in the City's newsletter and local publications.

"This mask campaign is to get all Heath citizens to become Heroes by supporting our businesses' requirements of customers to wear masks so that all customers feel safe," said HEDC/HMBC President David Lane. "This is a requirement, but it's time for Heath citizens to take the lead and make sure everyone complies with this mandate and prop up our local businesses. We feel like this is an active way for all of us to be local Heroes in which we can provide support, and get the message going viral via our Heroes along with the City's communication and marketing resources."

In addition to providing *Heath Heroes Wear Masks* posters, the HEDC/HMBC provided "high touch" businesses with a supply of Heath-branded masks to offer free-of-charge to customers who may need one. The masks



Above: The City and HEDC/HMBC have launched a "Heath Heroes Wear Masks" campaign. Helping out are Heath's own heroes including DPS Officer Wiedeman, far left, and Officer Adams, far right, with from left, Mayor Kelson Elam, past HEDC/HMBC President Tom Johnson, President David Lane, Vice President Vicki Wallace and board members Sandra Doyle and Cynthia Allen.

can also be purchased online. Go to shopallsportsusa.com and select Heath under the Shop Local tab. Mask are \$12 each or \$20 for two.

"Our businesses can trust that we will remain their partner through the Stimulus Program well into the future," said Heath Mayor Kelson Elam. "Our goal is to now increase their customer base so that they can prosper into a new way of doing business within these dynamic and unprecedented times."



TOM THUMB TRAIL EXTENSION PROVIDES LOOP IN “HEART OF HEATH”

The Park Board held a virtual ribbon cutting for the new Tom Thumb trail extension on July 15. The extension completes a connection from the new trail in the retail center at FM 740 to the trail running along Chris Cuny Boulevard to Smirl/FM 1140 and through Towne Center Park.

MARSHA’S HAPPY HAVEN AT TERRY PARK:

A PLAYGROUND FOCUSED ON INCLUSION

Despite pandemic challenges, many good works continue. That includes the tireless efforts by Heath residents, Ginny Jackson and Gini Seely, to bring an inclusive haven where children can play and caregivers can rest to Terry Park.

In August 2019, the Heath City Council dedicated a .54 acre parcel of land at the waterfront park for a beautiful all-abilities playground that will be privately funded. The playground has been designed by Robert Luna of Middleman Luna Architects, who designed Morgan’s Wonderland, the all-abilities amusement park in San Antonio.

Luna’s concept design is situated on a small footprint on the north end of Terry Park, but it packs in a ton of fun with play structures and features that are wheelchair accessible, sensory friendly and safe for all. The features also allow wounded war veterans to enjoy some of the attractions and take part in playing with their children.

Unique elements include musical instruments, a platform with more than 50 items such as

The extension was funded by the Heath Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) and Heath Municipal Benefits Corporation (HMBC) in support of the vision for a walkable/bikeable town center. The HEDC/HMBC dedicates 25 percent of its annual revenue to Park and Trail Capital Improvement Projects that enhance the quality of life and image of Heath.

From left front row: Park Board Vice Chairman Katie Dyer; Chairman Mark King; Council Liaison Rich Krause; 2nd row Park Board Members Cameron Slocum; Patrick Cummins; Jim Chester; and City Manager Aretha Adams.



periscopes, and activities that answer every kid’s love for climbing. Attractive shading and secure fencing that enhances the lakefront setting will surround the playground to ensure each child’s safety and every caregiver’s peace-of-mind.

Mr. Luna is now working on the construction documents so that the \$1.2 million project can move forward once the private donations have been raised.

“Due to COVID-19, we suspended all public fund-

raising events out of concern for the safety of our community and respect for the significant challenges so many individuals and families are facing right now,” said Mrs. Jackson, noting that personal outreach to potential donors is ongoing.

Learn more about the park, the inspiration behind its name, and make a contribution at the non-profit’s website, marshashappyhaven.com. You can also make donations in person at Heath City Hall, or contact Mrs. Jackson with questions or ideas at jacksonvirginia615@gmail.com.



THE HEATH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TRIPLE-CERTIFIED TO PROTECT AND SERVE 24/7

A big part of what makes Heath so special is the peace of mind residents and businesses have knowing that the Heath DPS is protecting and serving our community 24/7 with first responders who are triple certified as police officers, fire fighters and EMT's.

It takes a unique kind of professional to achieve this level of training and mindset, and the Heath DPS is made up some of the best in Texas who are not only dedicated to staying at the forefront of each discipline, but to the community they serve.

Heath is consistently ranked among the Top Safest Cities in Texas

because our officers genuinely care about each other, and every citizen, business and visitor. Heath DPS is a department where professional expertise must be balanced by a servant's heart and future-focused thinking to adapt to a growing community.

In an emergency, citizens trust that they will receive prompt and exemplary service!

RECYCLING REMINDER FROM WASTE CONNECTIONS

Waste Connections is asking Heath customers to remember to please place trash and recyclables in the correct polycarts: trash goes in the green; recycling goes in the blue. If trash co-mingles with recyclables in the blue polycart, the entire load has to go into the land fill instead of being recycled. Also, plastic bags such as grocery bags cannot be mixed with recyclables without ruining the load. You can find more information about your waste/recycling collection services at heathtx.com under the Living in Heath/Trash Collection menu.

HEATH DPS CITIZENS CONNECT: FOLLOW HEATH DPS ACTIVITY ONLINE

Heath DPS embraces technology and has introduced numerous new programs including Heath DPS Citizens Connect, a live online tracking system that shows patrol and incident activity. You can find the link at heathtx.com under the Department of Public Safety tab.

"Citizen Connect is great way to keep residents informed about our activity in the community," said Chief Brandon Seery. "It is easy to use and a great way to help ensure our department's transparency."

HEATH REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCAL In Town & Online

When you support local businesses, your sales tax stays at work in Heath. That includes shopping, dining and receiving services at "brick and mortar" locations in town, as well as shopping online. Just be sure to input "Heath" as the city and your zip code when completing the billing and shipping information for online purchases.

REPORT-A-CONCERN AT HEATHTX.COM

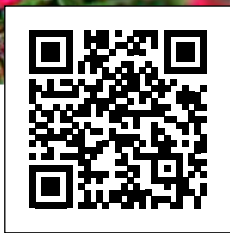
Just a reminder that you can report and track code violations online such as high grass and weeds, junk cars, parking violations, mosquito complaints, graffiti, trash and water violations. You will find the Report-A-Concern on the front page of the City website and under the Code Enforcement Department. 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.



PARKS AND TRAILS OF HEATH (PATH) ARE AN ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY ASSET

Now, more than ever, parks and trails are playing a critical and essential role in the quality of life in every U.S. community as citizens get out for those much-needed walks, runs or bike rides. Through the PATH program, the citizens of Heath can help ensure our parks and trail system continues to expand to provide refreshing, healthy outdoor recreation.

If you are in a position to become a Charter Member in 2020, you can learn more and join online at: heathtx.com/path.



CHARTER PATH DONORS AS OF AUGUST 12, 2020

PATH PATRON
\$10,000 Donation



PATH FUNDER
\$1,000 Donation



RHONDA HOLLOWAY

**HEATH FLAG SERVICE
BURROW FAMILY**

PATH PAVER
\$500 Donation

Ernie & Becky Burkett
Chris & Angela Cass
Russell & Patricia Clark
Dennis Close
Tom & Margaret Davidson
Jon-Paul & Crystal Dixon
Kathy Farrington
Rich Koepke
Mark & Lisa Misheck
Rick & Kathy Spletter

PATH FINDER - \$10 per Month

Gary & Tracy Allen
Councilmember John Beaman
Anthony & Julie Berg
Ernie & Becky Burkett
Dean & Christine Brand
Mark & Suzanne Brooke
Jim & Beatrice Chester
Patrick & Lindsey Cummins
John & Janie Curtis
Ralph & Mary DeMott Family
John & Katie Dyer
Mayor Kelson & Brenda Elam
Kevin and Tracy Enoch
Ryan & Ashley Farha Family
David & Laura Gartling
Mark & Toni George

Ken & Lorrie Gray
Robert & Dana Hensley
Ken & Ginny Jackson
Lorrie Kasper
Wes & Sarah Keith
Kathryn Klepak
Councilman Rich Krause
David & Debbie Lane
Brian & Lea Lashley
Ruth Miller
Bob Petka
Bryan Ramey
John & Janet Reed
David Roe
The Farha Family
Tony & Councilmember Donna Rolater
Justin & Jennifer Saunders

Gini Seely
Cameron & Michelle Slocum
Tom & Diane Smith
Lillian & Councilmember Brent Weaver
William & Wendy Wilbanks
Michaela Wood
Craig & Julie Zurek

PATH MAKER - \$5 per Month

Gary & Kellie Anderson
Randy & Lana Dodgen
Calvin and Linda O'Glee
Candee Smith

Charlene & Tom Norris - \$250

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