River Oaks News

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From River Oaks News Staff Writers

River Oaks Park Board to Consider Butterfly Garden Plans, Park Improvements at Aug. 6 Meeting

The River Oaks Park Board will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6, in the City Council Chamber at River Oaks City Hall, 4900 River Oaks Blvd.

Among the items on the agenda is a request from Jim Bynum seeking approval of plans to bring back the butterfly garden at Heritage Park. Board members also are scheduled to receive an update on McGee Park, including the park sign, mid-year maintenance, next quarter maintenance and operations improvement plans presented by Public Works Director Todd Henderson, and a park bench dedication fundraiser.

The board also is expected to:

- Approve minutes from the July 20 special meeting.
- Receive a report from City Council liaison Leigh Ann Turner.
- Consider approval of the city's July financial report.
- Select the July Yard of the Month winner.

Additional discussion items include marketing and publicizing this year's North Texas Giving Day, planning for the remainder of the year's events, and updates on the city's National Fitness Campaign fitness court planning, the 2026 Texas Parks and Wildlife grant application and a funding request submitted to the Texas Rangers organization. *(continued on page 6)*

See Page 6 for Castleberry ISD Back-to-School Bash info!

From North Central Texas Council of Governments

Transportation and Regional Planning Meeting Aug. 10

The North Central Texas Council of Governments invites the public to provide input on transportation funding initiatives, a stormwater infrastructure study and walking and biking initiatives during a hybrid public meeting at noon on Monday, Aug. 10.

The meeting will be held at the NCTCOG offices, 616 Six Flags Drive in Arlington. Those unable to attend in person can view the meeting online at PublicInput.com/nctcogAug26. North Texans can also participate by calling 855-925-2801 and entering code 6009. Public comments will be accepted through Tuesday, Sept. 8.

NCTCOG will provide recommendations from the Transportation & Stormwater Infrastructure Study to reduce future flood risks in the growing Dallas-Fort Worth region. Staff members will also present proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Public Transportation Programs of Projects funded through four Federal Transit Administration programs, along with funding recommendations for improvements at US 67 and Chisholm Trail Parkway/Nolan River Road in Cleburne.

Finally, an overview of efforts encouraging schools across the region to participate in Walk & Roll to School Day on Oct. 7, will be presented. The Transportation Improvement Program, which lists funded transportation projects through 2030, will also be available online for public review and comment.

Residents planning to use transit to attend the meeting can take advantage of $6 roundtrip rides from the CentrePort/DFW Airport Station to NCTCOG via the Arlington Transportation app, which can be downloaded at ArlingtonTX.gov/ondemand.

For special accommodation related to disabilities or language interpretation, call 817-695-9109 or email kcadena@nctcog.org at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

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Mistakes in stories or ads must be reported by Friday at 4 p.m. following Thursday's edition for corrections. Advertising payments are due by 10 a.m. Monday.

I-30 WEST

From I-820 to Camp Bowie Boulevard
CSJs: 1068-01-213/0008-15-057
Tarrant County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Fort Worth District is proposing to reconstruct and widen I-30, from I-820 to Camp Bowie Boulevard in Tarrant County, Texas. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting an online virtual public hearing on the proposed project, with an in-person option. **The virtual hearing will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components.**

The presentation will be posted online by Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2026, at 10 a.m. and will remain online through Wednesday, Sep. 2, 2026, 11:59 p.m. During this time, view the virtual public hearing or project materials at the following web address, or scan the QR code at the top of this page:

www.txdot.gov

Search Keywords "I-30 West Public Hearing"

Additionally, TxDOT is providing an option for individuals who would like to participate in person. **The in-person option will be held in a "come and go" open house format**. Attendees will be able to:

- **View** the same **pre-recorded presentation** delivered in the online public hearing, which will be playing on a screen.
- **Participate** in the project development process by reviewing hard copies of project materials and details.
- **Ask questions** of the project team.
- **Submit** written comments and feedback.

The in-person option will be held on:
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2026. Come and go anytime from 5 – 7 p.m.
At the Education Service Center, Region 11 - 1451 S. Cherry Lane, White Settlement, TX 76108

The purpose of the project is to modernize the corridor to current design standards, reduce congestion, improve mobility, and accommodate anticipated future traffic demand for all users. As proposed, the project would reconstruct and widen I-30 from I-820 to Camp Bowie Boulevard, spanning approximately 8.86 miles through the cities of Benbrook, Fort Worth, Westover Hills, and White Settlement in Tarrant County, Texas.

Improvements along I-30 include widening the roadway from six to eight 12-foot-wide general-purpose lanes, with 10-foot shoulders. Discontinuous frontage roads would be connected and reconstructed, forming continuous frontage roads and providing a minimum of two and up to four 12-foot lanes in each direction. The project also includes a 10-foot shared-use path along the frontage roads for bicyclists and pedestrians, as well as ADA accommodations at street crossings.

Additional improvements are proposed along I-820 from Chapin Road to Westpoint Boulevard. These include operational improvements between Chapin Road and I-30, as well as reconstruction and widening from six to eight mainlanes between I-30 and Westpoint Boulevard. Frontage roads in this area would be upgraded from discontinuous to continuous four-lane roadways.

Further improvements extend along SH 183 from Ridgmar Meadow Road to Rosewood Street. The project also includes reconstruction of the I-30/I-820, I-30/SH 183, and I-30/Spur 341 interchanges.
Subject to final design considerations, the proposed project would require approximately 15.33 acres of additional right of way and could potentially result in the displacement of five residential and four non-residential properties. Relocation assistance would be available for affected residents and businesses.

The proposed project would result in minor use of historic properties protected under Section 4(f), including contributing elements of the Ridglea Historic District, located along Camp Bowie Boulevard and adjacent local streets in Fort Worth, Texas. The use would occur at the corners of the following contributing properties: 6401 Calmont Avenue, 6345 Calmont Avenue, 6157 Calmont Avenue, 6129 Calmont Avenue, and 2800 Westridge Avenue. The area of the property that would be used by the project is limited to corner clips of these contributing properties, and the size of the area is minor and confined to edge conditions.

Additional minor right-of-way acquisition would occur:

- Along the southern edge of the Ridgmar Oil and Gas Building (2601 Ridgmar Plaza) affecting the median and trees;
- Along the southern edge of the Western Company Headquarters Historic District (6000–6100 Western Place);
- At the east end of the parking lot of the Ridglea Baptist Church Historic District (6037 Calmont Avenue), where no buildings would be affected.

TxDOT anticipates making a de minimis determination for this use under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. Public comments on the effects of the proposed project on the activities, features, or attributes of the aforementioned properties may be submitted as described below.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

Please contact the TxDOT Fort Worth District Office for all the following needs or actions related to this project:

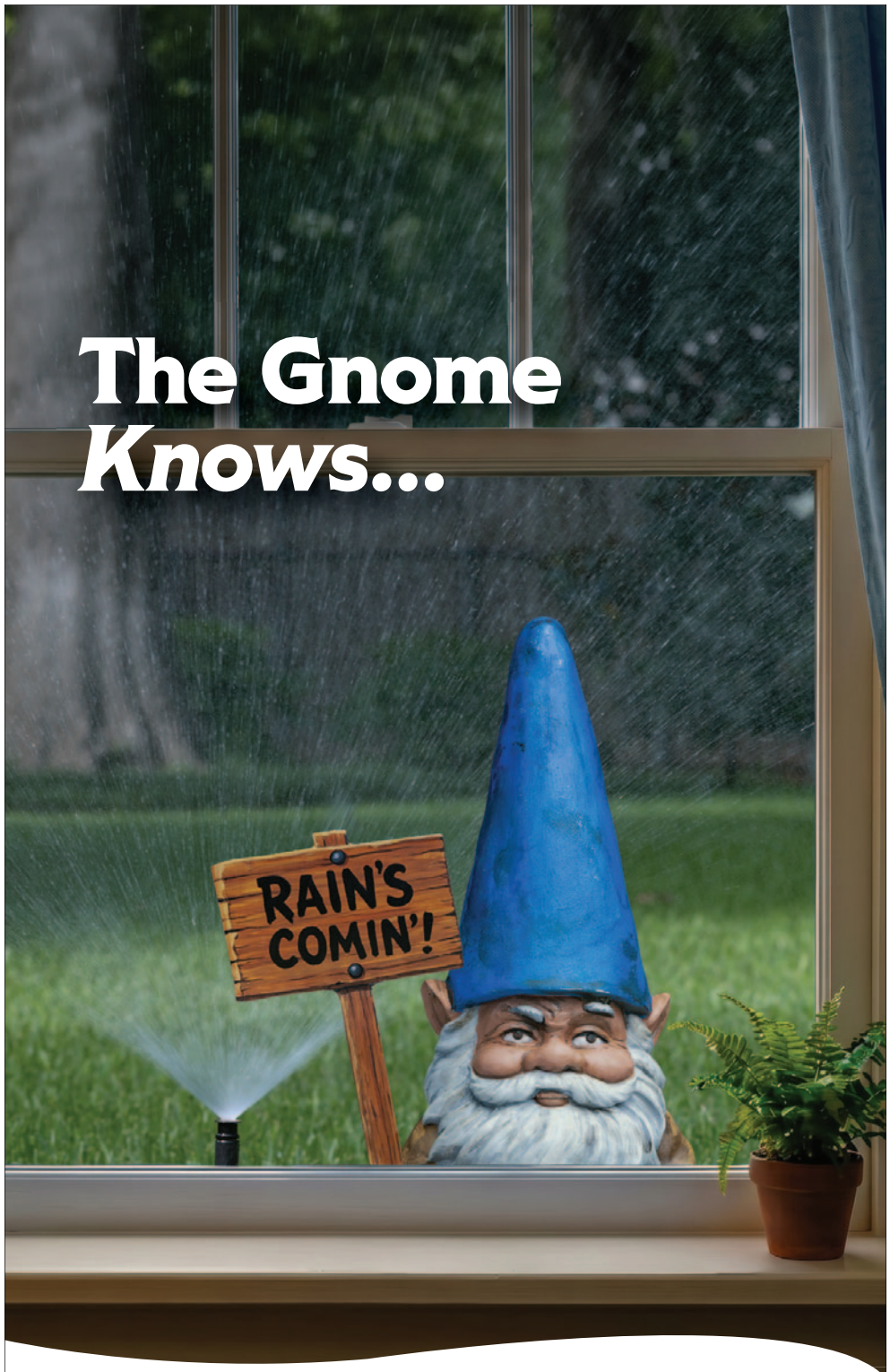
Anil Kaphle, TxDOT Project Manager
2501 Southwest Loop 820
Fort Worth, TX 76133
(817) 370-6561
Anil.Kaphle@txdot.gov

- If you do not have internet access, you may call between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process.
- Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction.
- Any environmental documentation or studies, maps, and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for inspection by appointment only (call to schedule) Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project. These are requested and may be submitted by mail or email to the TxDOT contact above. **All comments must be received on or before Wednesday, Sep. 2, 2026.** Responses to comments received will be available online at www.txdot.gov (search the project keywords) once they have been prepared.
- General questions regarding the proposed project, virtual meeting, or in-person option.

The virtual public hearing and in-person option will be conducted in English. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the virtual public hearing or in-person option, please contact Flávia Paulino, Fort Worth District Public Engagement Specialist, at (817) 370-3559 or Flavia.Paulino@txdot.gov no later than 4 p.m. CT, Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026. Please be aware that advance notice is required, as some services and accommodations may require time for the Texas Department of Transportation to arrange.

La audiencia pública se llevará a cabo en inglés. Si usted necesita un intérprete o un traductor de documentos porque su idioma principal no es el inglés o tiene alguna dificultad para comunicarse eficazmente en inglés, se le proporcionará uno. Si usted tiene alguna discapacidad y necesita ayuda, se pueden hacer arreglos especiales para atender la mayoría de las necesidades. Si usted necesita servicios de interpretación o traducción o usted es una persona con alguna discapacidad que requiera una adaptación para asistir a y participar en la audiencia pública, por favor póngase en contacto con Flávia Paulino, Especialista de Participación Pública del Distrito de Fort Worth, al (817) 370-3559 o Flavia.Paulino@txdot.gov a más tardar a las 4:00 p.m. hora centra del martes, 11 de agosto de 2026. Por favor, sepa que es necesario dar aviso con anticipación, ya que algunos servicios y adaptaciones pueden requerir tiempo para que TxDOT los organice.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated July 17, 2025, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.



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From the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office

TCSO Warns Local of Inmate-Related Phone Scam

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office is warning residents about a phone scam targeting family members and friends of people who are or have recently been in the Tarrant County Jail. According to the Sheriff's Office, authorities have received multiple reports of scammers calling community members and falsely claiming that a relative in custody must pay additional fees before being released. The callers may request money for alleged bond costs, ankle monitor fees or other charges.

Officials said the scammers often reference individuals who are currently incarcerated or were recently booked into the jail, making the calls appear legitimate. The Sheriff's Office emphasized that it will never contact residents by phone to demand payment for an inmate's release. Legitimate bond information is handled through the court system and licensed bail bond companies, not through unsolicited telephone calls.

Authorities also stressed that the Sheriff's Office does not request payments through gift cards, payment applications, wire transfers or other over-the-phone payment methods. Residents who receive one of these calls are encouraged to hang up immediately and avoid providing any personal, financial or banking information to the caller.

Anyone who believes they have been targeted by the scam should contact their local police department. Residents living in unincorporated areas of Tarrant County should report the incident to Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Dispatch at 817-884-1213.

The Sheriff's Office encourages residents to share the warning with family members and friends to help prevent others from becoming victims of the scam. Officials remind the public to remain cautious of unsolicited calls requesting immediate payment or personal information.

From River Oaks News Staff Writers

NCTCOG Encourages Safe School Travel for New School Year

As students across North Texas prepare to return to the classroom, transportation officials are encouraging families, students and motorists to make school safety a priority during the busy back-to-school season.

The North Central Texas Council of Governments, or NCTCOG, is promoting safe travel through its Safe Routes to School program, a nationwide initiative that encourages students to safely walk or ride bicycles to school while helping communities improve pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

According to NCTCOG, walking and bicycling provide students with opportunities for daily physical activity while reducing traffic congestion around campuses and improving air quality. The agency works with schools and local governments throughout North Texas by providing technical assistance, planning support and funding for projects designed to improve student safety.

Those projects include developing Safe Routes to School plans, educating students and families about pedestrian and bicycle safety, and helping communities build sidewalks, shared-use paths, pedestrian crossings and other infrastructure improvements.

Schools throughout the region are also invited to participate in Walk & Roll to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 7. The annual event encourages students to walk, bike or roll to school safely while promoting healthy transportation habits. Participating schools are eligible for drawings to receive safety-themed educational materials and giveaways.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to review travel plans with their children before the first day of school. Officials recommend making sure children know the safest route to campus, understand where their bus stop is located and know how to safely wait for and board the school bus.

Families also can work with schools and neighborhoods to improve student safety by organizing programs such as Walking School Buses, where groups of children walk together with adult supervision, or by recruiting volunteer “Corner Captains” to monitor key crossing locations.

Transportation officials say adults play an important role by modeling safe behavior. Using marked crosswalks, obeying traffic signals, wearing bicycle helmets and remaining alert while walking or bicycling can help reinforce safe habits for children.

Students also are encouraged to do their part by walking or riding with friends or family members when possible, remaining aware of their surroundings, obeying traffic laws and using designated crosswalks. Older students can help younger siblings learn safe walking and bicycling practices and accompany them along established routes.

For teenagers driving themselves to school, officials stress the importance of allowing extra travel time, avoiding distractions, following all traffic laws and exercising additional caution in school zones where younger children may be present.

Motorists should also expect heavier traffic during school arrival and dismissal times. Drivers are reminded to slow down in school zones, obey posted speed limits and remain alert for children crossing streets, boarding buses or traveling by bicycle.

NCTCOG also promotes school transportation safety through its Look Out Texans campaign, which provides educational resources for drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists throughout North Texas. The campaign includes free classroom materials for students in grades three through five to help teach pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Officials encourage everyone traveling near schools to follow a few basic safety practices:

- Slow down and obey all posted school zone speed limits.
- Watch carefully for children near schools, bus stops and crosswalks.
- Before crossing the street, stop and look left, right and left again while remaining alert for turning vehicles.
- Avoid distractions such as cell phones or headphones while walking, bicycling or driving.

With thousands of students returning to campuses in the coming weeks, officials say planning ahead, remaining attentive and practicing safe travel habits can help ensure a safe and successful start to the school year for everyone on North Texas roadways.

From River Oaks News Staff Writers

City Reminds Residents of Water Utility Payment Schedule

Residents in River Oaks are being reminded about the city's water utility billing schedule, payment deadlines and options available to avoid late fees or service disconnection.

According to information released by the city, billing and due dates are determined by the first number of a customer's account number.

For accounts beginning with a 1 or 2, bills are created on the 15th of each month and payment is due by 5:30 p.m. on the 30th of the month. In February, the due date is the 28th.

If payment is not received by the deadline, late fees are applied. Customers then have until 5:30 p.m. on the ninth day of the following month to make payment before a $50 administrative fee is added and the account becomes subject to disconnection on the 10th, or the next business day.

For accounts beginning with a 3 or 4, bills are created on the 30th of each month, or Feb. 28 during February billing cycles. Payments are due by 5:30 p.m. on the 15th of the following month.

Customers with overdue balances after the due date have until 5:30 p.m. on the 24th to make payment before a $50 administrative fee is assessed and the account becomes subject to disconnection on the 25th, or the next business day.

The city also encourages residents to take advantage of online payment and automatic draft options. Utility bills may be viewed and paid online through Municipal Online Payments. Payments also may be made by phone at 1-877-883-3752 by following the automated prompts.

City officials are also asking customers to ensure their contact information is current on their utility accounts, including phone numbers and email addresses. Residents must be listed as the primary account holder to make account changes.

For more information or to update account information, residents may contact the River Oaks Water Department at 817-626-5421.

Aug. 6 Meeting (continued from page 1)

The board will also hear committee reports on Lion's Triangle, Heritage Park, Wooldridge Park, McGee Park, Lone Star J.R. Park, Lydick Park and the River Oaks Event Center outside park area before concluding the meeting.

The meeting is open to the public. Residents may attend in person or watch a live video stream through the City of River Oaks website. Citizens wishing to address the board may do so during the public testimony portion of the meeting.

River Oaks News Staff Writers

Final TCPH Back-to-School "Shot Rush" Clinic Aug. 10-15

As families prepare for the start of the new school year, Tarrant County Public Health and the Immunization Collaboration of Tarrant County are offering a series of low-cost back-to-school immunization clinics to help children meet school vaccine requirements.

The annual "Shot Rush" clinics are open to children from birth through age 18, as well as uninsured adults who need recommended vaccinations, no insurance is required, and no one will be turned away because of an inability to pay.

The final clinic will be held Monday, Aug. 10 through Saturday, Aug. 15 at Ridgmar Mall, Food Court entrance, 1888 Green Oaks Road, Fort Worth. Clinic hours are noon to 6 p.m. Monday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Children ages 18 and younger can receive vaccines for $10 per vaccine, while uninsured adults 19 and older may receive vaccines for $15 per vaccine. Accepted forms of payment include cash, checks, Medicaid and CHIP. Credit and debit cards will not be accepted.

For additional information, residents may text 817-776-5574 or visit the Tarrant County Public Health Back-to-School Immunization Clinics page.

River Oaks News Staff Writers

Castleberry Back-to-School Bash Tomorrow!

Castleberry ISD will kick off the 2026-27 school year with several events to help students and families prepare for the first day of classes.

The district's annual Back-to-School Bash will be held Friday, Aug. 7, from 9 a.m. to noon at Castleberry Elementary School, 1100 Roberts Cut Off Road. The free event will feature school supplies, giveaways and community resources for district families.

Lion Night follows from 6 to 7 p.m. Friday in the Castleberry High School Competition Gym, giving students, families and community members a chance to celebrate the new school year.

Meet the Teacher events will be held Saturday, Aug. 8, at all Castleberry ISD campuses. Schedules are:

- Castleberry High School and REACH High School: 9 to 10:30 a.m.
- Irma Marsh Middle School: 9:30 to 11 a.m.
- A.V. Cato Elementary, Castleberry Elementary and Joy James Academy of Leadership: 10 to 11:30 a.m.

The first day of school is Thursday, Aug. 13!

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Weekend Forecast

Friday, August 7:
AM - Sunny, high near 98. South wind around 5 mph.
PM - Mostly clear, low around 78. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday, August 8:
AM - Sunny, high near 98. S/SW wind around 5 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon.
PM - Mostly clear, with a low around 77. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday, August 9:
AM - Sunny and hot, high near 99. South wind 5 to 10 mph.
PM - Clear, low around 77.

Extended Forecast Click Here