

**LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY**  
**07/23/2021**

**COFFEE WITH MAYOR & COUNCIL**

The first in-person Coffee with Mayor & Council since the start of the pandemic will be held tomorrow, **Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 – 11 am at the Conference Center**. Coffee and refreshments will be served. The topics to be discussed are: Citizens to Be Heard; Fiscal Year Budget 2022; Allowing 8 ft fences (rather than 6 foot) and Discussion of Capital Facilities Improvements with a tour of the Public Works facility following the conclusion of the meeting at 11 am. The tool Mentimeter will be used to register your opinions on the topics listed above. Bring your cell phone to the meeting to participate! Hope you can join us.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>**

The following is a summary of some of the items discussed and acted upon at this week's meeting:

- FY 22 Budget questions from Council were answered by Assistant City Manager Caldera. Council's consensus was to add Juneteenth as a floating holiday to choose between that and the Battle of Flowers holiday. Also, to remove \$300,000 from the Storm Water fund for adding hydro-turf for three storm water channels. If the tax rate is the same as last year's (53.5 cents per \$100 valuation) the average tax increase due to appraised value increase (FY2021: \$194,783 vs. FY 22: \$209,339) will be an annual increase of \$78.01. The second read to adopt the budget,

which is balanced, will be August 17<sup>th</sup>. Come to the Coffee tomorrow to ask questions about the FY 2022 budget.

- A unanimous vote by the Council to amend the residential and non-residential permitted use table to allow churches in both of these areas.

- Approved Mr. Adolfo Garza's request for Paradise Car Wash on Evers Road to a Planned Development District with B-2 retail and Sustainability Overlay District at 6617 Evers Road with some conditions. You will see some significant improvements to this business in the near future.

- Approved funding of \$13,750 (from the Economic Community Development fund) to the Northwest San Antonio Chamber of Commerce to fund 250 Leon Valley businesses to sign up free on a Community Bulletin Board to enhance their businesses online.

## **COVID DELTA VARIANT SPREADING**

Several hundred thousand eligible Bexar County residents have not been fully vaccinated, though vaccines are still readily available at no cost.

The number of COVID cases has tripled in the last three weeks. The weekly positivity rate has increased steadily, as follows: June 12:1.3%;

June 19: 3%; June 26: 5.8%; July 3: 11.2% and July 10: 13.5%. There

have been "breakthrough cases", where a person who is 100% vaccinated contracts the Delta COVID variant, but mostly mild cases. The variant is at

least twice as contagious as the original virus. The one effective tool

against the COVID-19 variant is to become fully vaccinated. There have not

been any specific changes from Governor Abbott or the Center for Disease Control on what to do, but if you feel that you may be vulnerable, wearing a mask will add a layer of protection. Let's continue to stay safe and healthy and do what is necessary to stop the spread.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the TXDOT Bandera Road Public Virtual Public Meeting from June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 21<sup>st</sup> to help visualize what Bandera Road will look like in 25 years! Results will be shared at an in-person meeting in early 2022 (if COVID infections are under control.

Enjoy your weekend!

Sincerely, Chris

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