



PUBLIC WORKS FOR YOU

PUBLIC WORKS WEEK IS MAY 17-23

Throughout the year (including during a global pandemic), the Webster Public Works Department works to keep the City running. The scope of their work ranges from up-keeping the parks, to maintaining the wastewater treatment plant, and more.

May 17-23 is Public Works Week, and we would like to recognize the department as a whole for doing a great job and keeping Webster going.

About the cover: Public Works Employee Jasmin Armas gave away plants to the community during the 2019 Public Works Open House.

CITY COUNCIL

Donna Rogers
Mayor

Jennifer Heidt
Council Member Position 1

Andrea Wilson
Mayor Pro Tem
Council Member Position 2

Larry Tosto
Council Member Position 3

Beverly Gaines
Council Member Position 4

Edward Lapeyre
Council Member Position 5

Martin Graves
Council Member Position 6

City Hall Main Number
281.332.1826

EMERGENCY
9-1-1

Fire (Non-emergency)
281.332.2711

Police (Non-emergency)
281.332.2426

Public Works
281.316.3700

Webster Way Editor
281.316.3764



CITY OF WEBSTER, TEXAS GOVERNMENT

WEBSTER CITY OFFICES OPEN FULL TIME ON MONDAY, MAY 4

REOPEN TEXAS

On Monday, April 27, Governor Greg Abbott announced his plan to reopen Texas. Phase one of the plan began Friday, May 1. Here is the plan broken down.

- Malls and retailers across Texas can reopen but must keep capacity limited to 25 percent.
- Food court dining spaces, play areas and interactive displays must remain closed.
- Restaurants can reopen dine-in services to 25 percent.
 - Only six people per table, and parties will sit six feet apart. There will be disposable menus and condiments will only be served upon request.
- Movie theaters can open with 25 percent capacity. There must be two empty seats between groups and an empty row between.
- Outdoor sports are limited to four people at a time.
- Churches and places of worship can hold services but Governor Abbott encourages at-risk groups to watch from afar.
 - There must be two empty seats between groups from the same home, and one row between.
- Not reopening: hair salons, barbershops, bars, and gyms. Governor Abbott is hopeful that these businesses will reopen mid-May.

MESSAGE FROM WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Governor's reopening plan strongly encourages the use of face-masks or face coverings while in public, but does not mandate them. Furthermore, local jurisdictions cannot fine those who do not wear face coverings in public. However, it is important to understand that private businesses reserve the right to require customers to wear a face-covering while on their premises, and they have the right to refuse service to anyone who refuses to do so.

Customers who refuse to comply with individual business requirements, and further refuse to leave the premises when requested to do so, may be subject to a criminal trespass warning or arrest.

As always, voluntary compliance is the best method for avoiding conflict. We recognize that there will be some confusion in the upcoming weeks as we all attempt to adjust to new mandates, and we are asking for the community's patience and understanding during this time.

The Webster Police Department is committed to working with our community members and our businesses to ensure a smooth transition back to normalcy. We appreciate the tremendous support from this great community.

INFORMATION FROM HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH:

Coronavirus testing capabilities have expanded & you can now schedule tests to fit availability. Complete the online screening tool bit.ly/2S0HIGc to get tested at a drive-thru or mobile test site. No online access? Call 832-927-7575.





FIREFIGHTERS MEET RECOVERED PATIENT

On January 12, Randy LeBlanc and his family were eating at Delta Blues after church when he started turning blue and became unconscious.

Webster Fire Department on Duty Shift Commander Jason Myers arrived on the scene and found Mr. LeBlanc not breathing and without a pulse, so CPR was initiated.

Engine 14 and Medic 15 arrived within seconds and began patient care. After multiple rounds of CPR, medication administration, and defibrillation, Mr. LeBlanc regained a pulse and began breathing on his own.

Medic 15 transported him to HCA Clear Lake, where he started his recovery. In April, Randy Leblanc and his wife Susan visited the Webster Fire Station to thank the first responders who saved his life.

WFD crew members Jason Myers, Marshall Boyd, Zachery Hon, Nick DeNease, Orlando Zepeda, and Acadian crew members Diego Vargas and Evan Barcak were happy to see Mr. LeBlanc doing well.

DON'T PAY MORE THAN YOU NEED TO

Did you know that **most Texans are overpaying for their electricity?** Together with our city, the Texas Power Switch helps you **secure a better rate** by leveraging the buying power of a large group.

"I had been with my previous provider for years and didn't bother with shopping around. This program was easy to use, and the Texas Power Switch took care of everything."

-ROBERT, WEBSTER RESIDENT

- Sign up **before May 19** at texaspowerswitch.com You will receive a personal offer by June 5, then you decide.



WEBSTER WAY SUMMER CAMP

Due to Coronavirus, summer camp registration is not open at this time. A decision will be made by City Council in the coming weeks following direction given by the governor.

Visit cityofwebster.com for updates.

Meet the Webster
FINANCE DIRECTOR
ELIZABETH FREE

MBA, CGFO, CPM, CPFIM

On Monday, March 23, Elizabeth Free stepped into the role of Finance Director for the City of Webster.

She has worked as a finance director for cities for 15 years. Most recently, she was the South Padre Finance Director and the Galveston Finance Director, but before that, she was a finance director in Florida.

She had known the previous Webster Finance Director Mike Rodgers from the Government Finance Officers Association of Texas, and he had shared with her that he loved his job and that Webster was a great place to work. So when the position opened up, Elizabeth was eager to join the team.

"It has been a very interesting journey so far," said Elizabeth. "I started right at the time the Coronavirus restrictions started being issued. It has been interesting to watch as the City had to adapt rapidly to the almost daily changes to the rules coming from the President, the Governor, and Harris County."

"I am very impressed by how city management and city staff have adapted and still manage to get things done for the citizens of Webster."

The City adjusted office hours during the pandemic. Still, the finance department



remained staffed so that Elizabeth was always there along with someone to handle the citizens who came in to pay their utility bills and other fees. All of the other finance department and municipal court staff continued to work and made sure that nothing fell behind.

"What I hope to bring to the City of Webster is my experience in bringing technology and process improvements to the finance department," she explained. "I want the residents to know that I am very happy to be here serving them and look forward to working with them for many years to come."

Elizabeth has a Masters Degree in Business Administration (MBA), is a Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO), Certified Public Manager (CPM), and a Certified Public Funds Investment Manager (CPFIM). She is incredibly qualified, and we are happy to have her guidance in Webster.

Houston Physicians' Hospital

Physician-owned Formula = Exceptional Healthcare

Since 2005, when Houston Physicians' Hospital opened its premier facility at 333 North Texas Avenue in Webster, it has differentiated itself from other hospital systems in innovative, winning, highly successful ways. Some of the reasons for Houston Physicians' Hospital's burgeoning growth and third expansion are imbedded in its pioneering ownership structure. This hospital is 85% physician-owned—so physicians are wholly involved in setting the direction of the hospital and work very closely with the entire staff as a team to deliver the best possible outcomes to patients—and the formula works.

Engaged and Invested

This is a healthcare facility where the staff is engaged and invested in providing exceptional care. Top-rated patient experiences and outcomes, best in class physicians, nurses, and staff contribute to a number of accolades and top rankings, such as the highest attainable 5-Star rating for patient experience from Medicare and a ranking of number four in the entire state for this criterion. And, considering the fact that there are more than 500 hospitals in Texas, Houston Physicians' Hospital makes the grade.

When physicians, administration, and staff embrace and carry out a unified vision “to be the healthcare facility where physicians choose to practice, patients want to receive care, and employees prefer to work,” the results are riveting, as this mission statement appears inside the hospital's entrance. Houston Physicians' Hospital is on a growth glide path. While the hospital started with 80,000 square feet with over half of the space allocated for hospital and the remainder designated for medical office, an expansion transpired in 2007 to add MRI, CT, and imaging services. In 2010, the hospital added 11 inpatient beds for a total of 21. Now, in April 2020, Houston Physicians' Hospital will add a three-story hospital addition encompassing 39,000 square feet on the facility's south end and a multi-story parking garage on its north end. This addition will feature expanded hospital facilities, including four operating rooms, increased radiology capability, and dietary and nutritional options.

Physician Led – Patient Focused

Heather Womack, Houston Physicians' Hospital's CEO, along with the physicians, has been a driving force in the hospital's exciting history and an innovator for its future. Even before the hospital opened in 2005, Womack has worked for Houston Physicians' Hospital. She has held several roles and titles in the last 15 years. In fact, she was the hospital's CFO before becoming CEO. Womack points to the physicians as keys to the hospital's success and attributes their direct engagement in what transpires every day inside Houston Physicians' Hospital as the truly innovative factor. Womack states, “The physicians are extremely focused on ensuring our patients get the best patient experience and that permeates across the entire organization. In addition to the day-to-day engagement, our Board is physician-



Houston Physicians Hospital's CEO Heather Womack and Business Development Director Amin Dhalla join Webster's Assistant City Manager Michael Ahrens (center) at Webster City Hall to discuss the hospital's exciting expansion plans.

led, charting the course for our organization since its inception, which has brought us to where we are today, and that leadership will continue to carry us into the future.” Womack is a CEO who makes the rounds at least weekly, dressed in scrubs for this purpose. It's important for her to connect with her staff who treat patients like cherished family members. Houston Physicians' Hospital was ranked number seven on the Houston Chronicle's Top Workplace List, which attests to great leadership and great employee satisfaction for the 300-plus employees who work there. Even though Houston Physicians' Hospital's footprint is growing, its size in comparison to the larger hospital systems is still relatively small, which provides some significant advantages, according to Womack. One example is that physicians are the very best in their specialties and invested in delivering unsurpassed patient experiences and outcomes. Another competitive benefit is the hospital's flexibility, dexterity, nimbleness, and ability to rapidly and continually improve processes and programs to achieve “best in class.” Houston Physicians' Hospital is experiencing phenomenal growth. Already in February 2020, procedures are ahead of the pace set last year, which was a record year. Some of the specialties at Houston Physicians' Hospital include orthopedics, neurosurgery, ENT, gynecology, podiatry, urology, cardiology, and pain medicine.

Transparent Pricing

It's rare to go to a hospital's website and see pricing. While Houston Physicians' Hospital accepts all major insurance plans, it's refreshing and illuminating to view cash pricing for 50 procedures from imaging to knee replacement to shoulder arthroscopy and so much more. As a small independent hospital, Houston Physicians' Hospital is able to manage costs and offer lower costs than large hospital systems for many services. The hospital has been successful in cash pay and bundled payment markets and continues to produce quality outcomes at very competitive pricing. Houston Physicians' Hospital is leading the way with this approach to deliver value and top-notch quality within the healthcare arena. Womack and her team at Houston Physicians' Hospital are Webster innovators who are already planning the next expansion phases to serve the region with their unique brand.

AS SEEN ON INSTAGRAM



On Friday night, this Pearland-area couple picked up dinner from Saltgrass Steakhouse and had a romantic candlelight dinner at Walnut Park. COVID-19 wasn't able to ruin their date night! #WebsterTX



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MAY 2, 2020 ELECTION POSTPONED

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During the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on April 7, City Council voted to approve the postponement of the City's May 2, 2020 General Election until November 3, 2020.

The change came after Texas Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas.

3D PRINTED DONATIONS

In April, Charlotte Craff with re:3D donated 3D printed ear savers to the City of Webster staff. In seven days, the company made over 11,000 ear savers and kept about 600 to donate to the local community.

According to Charlotte, the global 3D printing community has been creating solutions for personal protective equipment since early March. Ear savers are just one of the many innovations that have been created in this short time. re:3D also created designs for face shields, hands-free door pulls, and other items for this effort.

"We specifically started printing large batches of ear savers at the request of the Air Force at the beginning of April," Charlotte said. "We have donated them to groups making cloth masks, grocery store workers, bus drivers, healthcare providers, fast food workers, delivery drivers, and EMS services."

The company is offering free prototyping services for life-saving devices for COVID-19, and they are providing credits and discounted 3D printing services for educators.

More information about their COVID-19 efforts can be found at re3d.org.



THE CITY OF WEBSTER

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Webster, TX 77598

www.cityofwebster.com
281.332.1826



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MAY 2020

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- 5** City Council Meeting
6 p.m. in Council Chambers
- 8** Senior Game Night
CANCELED
- 10** Mother's Day
- 12** Webster Economic
Development Meeting
6 p.m. in Council Chambers
- 19** City Council Meeting
6 p.m. in Council Chambers
- 22** Senior Game Night
CANCELED
- 25** Memorial Day
Offices closed

**Special meetings may be added, and meetings may be canceled if there are no agenda items. Check the City website at cityofwebster.com for meeting information.*

RESIDENTIAL PARKING ORDINANCE



The Webster Police Department recently received a complaint of vehicles parked in driveways blocking public sidewalks in the Edgewater neighborhood.

We wish to remind our residents that residential sidewalks are public right of ways, and it is illegal to park in a manner that obstructs or impedes the normal movement of pedestrians or other traffic on sidewalks. We ask for voluntary compliance with this issue so that all residents can safely enjoy the sidewalks.

According to the Texas Transportation Code, an operator may not stop, stand, or park a vehicle on a roadway side of a vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street (double parking); on a sidewalk (this includes in your private driveway blocking a sidewalk impeding the normal movements of pedestrians or other traffic on the sidewalk); in an intersection; on a crosswalk; in front of a public or private driveway; within 15 feet of a fire hydrant; within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection; in front of a public or private mailbox; or where an official sign prohibits stopping or parking.