



Welcome From The City of Wharton

Third Quarter 2017 Newsletter

Why Can't I Get Answers?

The City of Wharton allows any citizen to address the City Council at its meetings. The time designated for the public to speak is called "Public Comment" and is generally at the beginning of each meeting.

While Texas law does not guarantee members of the public the right to speak, the City of Wharton sets aside time at each meeting for this purpose.

There are certain restrictions on public comments.

First, each person is limited to three minutes to address the Council.

Second, if the issue a person brings up is not specifically posted on the agenda, the members of the Council are not permitted, by law, to respond other to inform the person that the item will be placed on a future agenda.

This can seem awkward and even rude, but the Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the discussion of any issue unless notice is properly given.

-Provided by Assistant City

Attorney Amy Rod.

On behalf of our citizens, let me welcome you to the City of Wharton, Texas. As the Gateway to the Texas Gulf Coast, Wharton has many thriving businesses and industries that secure a stable tax base. Founded in 1838, the City of Wharton is located along the I-69 corridor just 50 miles southwest of Houston.

Wharton is the perfect place to grow your business and your family. I invite you to see just what Wharton has to offer.

-Mayor Tim Barker

Alabama Sanitary Sewer Project



Due to the aging and deteriorating sanitary sewer lines the City has begun looking to multiple options to replace and repair the infrastructure. The submission of an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture Department of Rural Affairs in 2015 for a grant has resulted in a substantial part of the funding for some much needed sanitary sewer system improvements in the Rust Addition.

The grant was awarded in October of 2016 and has recently gone to bid for construction. The areas of improvement will be Alabama St. between N. East Ave. and Texas St., the alleys between Koehl St. and Speed St. and Koehl St. and Texas St. from Alabama St. to Center St. The repairs will result in approximately 2,355 linear feet of line replacement along with manholes, service connections and site restoration. This will provide much needed relief on the infrastructure as well as resolve numerous maintenance issues. The contractor will tentatively begin work by the end of July 2017. There should be minimal service disturbances and residents will be notified in advance, if interruptions are to occur.

Upcoming City Holidays

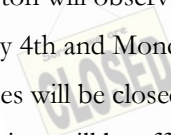
The City of Wharton will observe the following holidays:

Tuesday, July 4th and Monday, September 4th

All City offices will be closed on these holidays.

Garbage services will be affected on both days.

When the normal residential pick-up falls on a recognized holiday, the pick-up for that residential service will be the next regular business day.



City of Wharton
120 E. Caney St.
Wharton, TX 77488

Phone: 979-532-2491
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Public comments on any of the City's projects is encouraged and anyone wishing to do so may attend one of the regularly scheduled City Council meetings. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month at City Hall - 120 E. Caney St.— unless otherwise posted.

We're On the Web!

Pay your Utility Bill or Ticket Online

If you have never been to the City of Wharton website, now is the time to check it out! One of the many useful things you will find is the ability to pay your utility bill or ticket online.

[Simply Click Here](#)

Have your next event at the Wharton Civic Center.



Upcoming Events:

- Plaza Character Breakfast - July 15th
- Wharton Co. 100 Club Banquet -Aug. 17th
- Wharton Rotary Gala - September 30th
- NOW AVAILABLE 7 DAYS A WEEK**
- Big or small event, make sure and book your room today by calling:
979-532-2491 ext. 603
- To find out more about available room rentals:

[Click Here](#)

Did you know?

The Colorado River Bridge was constructed by the Austin Bridge Company, a Dallas-based firm, that built bridges throughout the state in the early 20th century. The bridge is also a registered historical landmark.

Construction:

TxDOT CSJ 0913-09-079 Wharton Sidewalk Accessibility and Historic Streetscape Project: Project is complete pending final inspections and payments. Total grant awarded: \$961,400.

TxCDBG 7216489 Alabama Sanitary Sewer Improvements: The construction contract was awarded to JTM Construction of Rosenberg, TX. Contracts have been signed and a pre-construction meeting is pending. Total grant awarded: \$350,000.

TWDB CW-PIF – Levee Project: The Project Information Form for FY 2017 was submitted 3/2/17 and a response is expected mid-July 2017.

TWDB DW-PIF – Mayfair/Linwood Waterline Replacement: The Project Information Form for FY 2017 was submitted 3/2/17 and a response is expected mid-July 2017.

FEMA – Integrated Flood Protection System: Application submitted 12/20/16 under the DR-4266/4269 and we are awaiting a response.

FEMA – Sewer Infrastructure Mitigation: Application submitted 10/13/16 under the DR-4266/4269 and we are awaiting a response.

FEMA – Warning System Mitigation (Siren Warning System): Application submitted 10/13/16 under the DR-4266/4269 and we are awaiting a response.

FEMA – Integrated Flood Protection System: Submitted on 1/20/17 under a second funding opportunity for DR 4272 with a due date that was later extended to July 2017.

FEMA – Sewer Infrastructure Mitigation: Submitted on 1/20/17 under a second funding opportunity for DR 4272 with a due date that was later extended to July 2017.

FEMA – Warning System Mitigation (Siren Warning System): Submitted on 1/20/17 under a second funding opportunity for DR 4272 with a due date that was later extended to July 2017.

Housing:

FEMA – Residential Mitigation (Elevation/Reconstruction of Homes): Application submitted 10/13/16 under the DR-4266/4269 and we are awaiting a response.

FEMA – Residential Mitigation (Elevation/Reconstruction of Homes): Submitted on 1/20/17 under a second funding opportunity for DR 4272 with a due date that was later extended to July 2017.

TDHCA – HOME Reservation Participation : Application was submitted 4/24/17 and we are awaiting a response.

GLO Community Development and Revitalization Program: Waiting for call for application, currently corresponding with the GLO about administrative procurement.

Studies:

TxCDBG 7216124 Planning & Capacity Building Fund (Comprehensive Plan): GrantWorks, Inc. conducted field assessments on June 6-8, 2017. They will begin working with Committees and Departments Heads in the early part of November. To be completed by December 12, 2018. Total grant awarded: \$115,389.

TWDB Contract 1548321873 Water Supply Study : Study for the future water supply completed by Halff & Associates and submitted to TWDB. The study was approved by TWDB and the City is in process of getting reimbursement. Total grant awarded: \$85,000.

USDA Pre-Development Study Grant: The study has been submitted by Halff & Associates and is awaiting approval by the USDA. The Grant is for construction of a water plant which will include a well, ground storage tank and pump station. Total Grant awarded: \$30,000.

A sign down, street lights out, or even too many mosquitos can all be issues that affect our residents. The City of Wharton wants to hear from you. Reporting issues that need attention is as simple as calling City Hall at: 979-532-2491.

House Numbers: Why Are They Required?

House numbers should be clear enough so that police, the fire department, paramedics, etc., can quickly locate your property in an emergency. Numbers are often the only way that first-responders can identify their intended destinations. Also, think of the poor pizza delivery guy who runs late because he can't find your house, or frustrated party guests who have to knock on neighbors' doors before they find yours.

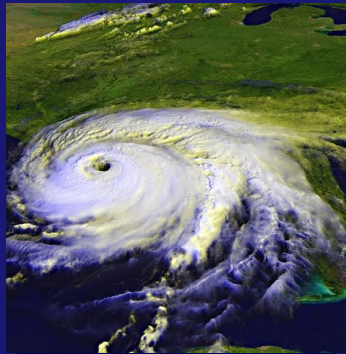
The Fire Inspector recently inspected the entire City and sent out 554 letters to residents in the City who were not in compliance with the local ordinance. The City has the following requirements regarding house numbering:

Chapter 66 - Signs and Advertising; Article I- In General; Sec. 66-25. - Home/Business Address Numbering.

Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property.

- (1) The primary location of the address numbers shall be located as near to the front entrance as possible.
- (2) Numbers shall contrast with their background and shall be Arabic numerals and/or alphabet letters if applicable.
- (3) Numbers and/or letters shall be four inches high with a minimum stroke width of one-half-inch.

In addition to the above building numbering, signs may also be erected for the purpose of identifying the address of residential homes. Such signs shall be no longer than 16 inches in length and eight inches in width and no more than 30 inches in height. Curb numbering can also be used in conjunction with the primary position numbers. These numbers shall have a contrasting background.



2017 ATLANTIC

Arlene	Harvey	Ophelia
Bret	Irma	Philippe
Cindy	Jose	Rina
Don	Katia	Sean
Emily	Lee	Tammy
Franklin	Maria	Vince
Gert	Nate	Whitney

Hurricane Hazards

Hurricanes are among nature's most powerful and destructive phenomena. On average, 12 tropical storms, 6 of which become hurricanes form over the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, or Gulf of Mexico during the hurricane season which runs from June 1 to November 30 each year. By knowing what actions to take before the hurricane season begins, when a hurricane approaches, and when the storm is in your area, as well as what to do after a hurricane leaves your area, you can increase your chance of survival.

While hurricanes pose the greatest threat to life and property, tropical storms and depressions also can be devastating. The primary hazards from tropical cyclones (which include tropical depressions, tropical storms, and hurricanes) are storm surge flooding, inland flooding from heavy rains, destructive winds, tornadoes, and high surf and rip currents.

Storm surge is the abnormal rise of water generated by a storm's winds. Storm surge and large battering waves can result in large loss of life and cause massive destruction along the coast. Storm surge can travel several miles inland, especially along bays, rivers, and estuaries.

Flooding from heavy rains is the second leading cause of fatalities from landfalling tropical cyclones. Widespread torrential rains associated with these storms often cause flooding hundreds of miles inland. This flooding can persist for several days after a storm has dissipated. Winds from a hurricane can destroy buildings and manufactured homes. Signs, roofing material, and other items left outside can become flying missiles during hurricanes. Tornadoes can accompany landfalling tropical cyclones. These tornadoes typically occur in rain bands well away from the center of the storm.

You can download a free printable Hurricane tracking chart [HERE](#).

How do I know which district I'm in?

From the City of Wharton website you can become familiar with the district you are in and who your elected official is. Elections are held every May so to stay up to date residents can view photos, bios and a map of who is serving their district.

[Click Here For More Information!](#)

What's in the Works?

- Valhalla Water Well Rework \$ 147,815
- Water Well Plant Project \$3,765,000
- Wharton Levee Project Phase I \$6,871,265
- City of Wharton Comprehensive Plan \$115,389
- Alabama Rd. Sanitary Sewer Improvements \$420,000
- FM 1301 Overpass Project Phase I \$9.5 million
- 5 Year Street Improvement Program \$1.5 million



Expert in Every Office

David Allen
**Wharton Regional Airport
Manager**
(979) 532-2700

Time employed with the City of Wharton: David started his career with the City of Wharton in September of 2006.

Education: David took his Ground School at San Jacinto Jr. College.

History: David flew with a friend of his & instantly knew he wanted to fly. He joined a flying club, Alvin Aero Club, located at Hobby Airport and began to take flying lessons. In the early 80's he worked with a mission organization called

Royal Harvest International. Which would mainly fly Christian dentist and volunteers into Mexico. A typical mission would leave on a Friday & return on Sunday. He also flew groups into Guatemala. Since the early 80's, he's owned numerous airplanes based at the Wharton airport.

While serving as president of the Airport Board, he proposed some changes & expansion at the airport and at that time he was asked to manage the airport. David has continued to manage the airport since Octo-

ber 2006. He attends the TxDOT Aviation Division annual conference every year where he learns the latest changes with the FAA & keeps up with what the latest equipment vendors have to offer airports.

He has a passion for the Wharton airport & working to make it the best airport we can and hopes to continue to as long as he is able.

Fun Airport Fact:

At any given hour there are over 61,000 people airborne over the USA.

State of Texas Assistance

Registry (STEAR)

The State of Texas gives residents the option to register with the STEAR Program, a free registry that provides local emergency planners and responders with additional information on the needs of their community.

Required Information:

Name, Address, phone number, primary language.

Who Should Register?

- People with disabilities;
- People with access and functional needs such as:
 1. Those with limited mobility;
 2. Those with communication barriers; and
 3. Those who require additional medical assistance during an emergency.

How to register:

Dial 2-1-1 or use a video phone relay option.

More information can be found by visiting:

[211 Texas](http://211Texas.com)



Stay Informed

There is only one way to receive timely notifications in times of emergency. If you have not signed up for the City of Wharton's Smart911.com program you could be missing a very important call! The City issues callouts to alert citizens of emergencies, hazards and even water line breaks when needed. It is just one simple click on the link below to sign up today!

Plan For Any Emergency

Smart911 is a trusted national service allowing residents to give 9-1-1 and first responders any information they would want them to know in an emergency, *before* any emergency occurs.



 **Smart911.com**

Sign up today. Because every second counts.